



ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
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February 28, 2010

**Pastor's
 Corner**

FROM SELF RELIANCE TO HOLY DEPENDANCE

Here's what to give up this Lent: the doubt that goes, "I can never get closer to God because I'm too sinful, too flawed, too weak". This is a lethal attitude, for it is based on the false presumption that we can possess something of our own—that does not come from God—by which we can please God. Nothing could be farther from the truth. Only what is from God can please God. But as long as such error persists, we estrange ourselves from God. Lent is not about lamenting our inadequacy. Rather, it is a graced moment to receive from God what he is eager to give us so that we can live the friendship with him that he desires. (Fr Peter Cameron, OP, Magnificat March 2007)

How can we know that "we are dust" (Ash Wednesday) and still trust in God's love for ourselves? "The trouble is that we try to compensate for the lack we find in ourselves by attempting to be self-sufficient. Seized by a strange contradiction, we strive to please God by proving that we can get along without him". (Fr Peter Cameron, OP, March 2010 Magnificat)

We cannot do this for a long time without falling into hopelessness. We begin to feel separated from him, we may even wonder if God hates us! Then we are ready to renew our act of love and confidence in God's love for us. Then we are ready to perceive in the Transfiguration more than "a mere show of power that we could only admire from afar". We see the Transfiguration as "an invitation to depend upon Jesus as Jesus depends upon the Father". (Fr Richard Veras, Magnificat August 2009)

On his way to the Cross, when Jesus fell to the ground, he said to his mother, "See, I am making everything new (according to Blessed Anne Catherine Emmerich). Jesus knew that the mystery of his Transfiguration was being shared by all who would come to him.



PARISH NEWS

SR. YOUTH MINISTRY (grades 8-12) – PRAYER

Does God ALWAYS answer your prayers? He does mine!!! So are you doing something wrong? Is there more to learn about prayer? If you think so, then join the Sr. Youth Ministry on Monday, March 1 at 6:30pm in the rectory basement. Pizza, games, fellowship and more!!! Bring a friend if you can and they will be grateful that you did.



WORLD YOUTH DAY

Millions of youth will be gathering in Spain for World Youth Day in 2011 to meet youth from all over the world, to worship together, grow in their faith, have lots of fun and to be with the Pope. Do you want to be part of this amazing experience? If you are in grade 8 or older and want to find out more, please join us for our information meeting on **Saturday, March 6 at 10:00am** in the rectory library. We encourage the parents of the youth to attend this meeting as well.



CWL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE PANCAKE BREAKFAST

The Catholic Women's League of Canada invites all of you to a sumptuous **pancake breakfast** on Sunday **March 7, from 9am to 1pm**, at the **School Gym**. This event is a great opportunity for women to meet the CWL Ladies. Come and see for yourself what the sisterhood of faith, fun and fulfillment can do for you.



HANDMAIDS OF THE LORD CHRISTIAN LIFE PROGRAM

The Handmaids of the Lord, a ministry of the Couples for Christ extends its invitation to all single mature women, widowed, single moms, separated or divorced to a Christian Life program. It's an integrated course which runs for 9 Saturdays starting Mar 6 at the St Mary's Gym from 9 to noon. This will help you renew your understanding of God's call to be able to foster a deep, loving and strong relationship with the Lord. Admission free. Contact Girlie Umali 604-7830203 or Mila Zipagan at 778-6864635.

ST MARY'S SCHOOL REGISTRATION

We are pleased to offer Full-Day Kindergarten in September 2010. Registration packages will be handed out at the meeting on Thursday March 18 at 7:00 pm in the church basement.(packages **are not handed out from the school or parish office**).

PARISH NEWS

THE GREAT ADVENTURE BIBLE STUDY

The next study, entitled **Matthew: The King and His Kingdom**, focuses on Jesus as the fulfillment of the promises of the Old Testament.



It builds on the foundation laid in the Old Testament to inaugurate the Kingdom of Heaven on earth. Set in the rich context of Jesus' Jewish culture, this video study by Jeff Cavins will help you understand the universal truths of the Kingdom of God; it will help you understand more fully God's will for us today. Start date is March 13, for 24 Saturdays in March to Dec 2010 in the church basement, from 12:45pm to 3pm (after the Saturday noon mass). The schedule will be posted on the bulletin board in the church foyer. There will be a month-long break in July. Cost \$30. Register: Sign-up sheets at the church foyer or email stmarysbiblestudy@gmail.com.

CARITAS IN VERITATE

Have you had a chance to read the latest Encyclical of Pope Benedict XVI? It is rich in teachings on social justice. Want to do some studying during Lent? Join CCODP as we spend the next four Mondays studying Caritas in Veritate from 7pm to 9pm at Holy Spirit Parish in New Westminster on March 1, 8, 15 & 22. For more information contact nhalpin@devp.org. All are welcome!

DIOCESAN AND COMMUNITY NEWS

CATHOLIC FORUM

All are invited to attend the discussion and presentation by Archbishop Miller entitled, "Christians Learn about God and from God". The forum will be held on Tuesday March 23 from 7pm to 8:30pm at St. Mary's church.

THE SACRAMENTS AS THE WELLSPRING OF LIFE

Please join in our Treasures of the Faith series on Sat, March 6 from 9:30am-3:30pm at St. John the Apostle (5457 Trafalgar St. Van). Lunch will be served. Cost is by donation. Please call Madonna House 604-267-1757, or e-mail: madonna02@shaw.ca

HARMONIES OF HOPE—BENEFIT CONCERT FOR HAITI

Catholic high schools finest choral programs will be holding a benefit concert on Friday, March 5 at 7pm at Centennial Theatre (2300 Lonsdale Avenue, North Vancouver). All proceeds will go directly to Haiti disaster relief through CCODP.

DIOCESAN AND COMMUNITY NEWS

LENTEN PILGRIMAGE

Come join us on a 3 Day Lenten Pilgrimage to the National Sanctuary of Our Sorrowful Mother in Portland, Oregon on March 20th., 21st. & 22nd. The price is Cdn \$278.00. Accompanying chaplain is Fr. Jun Reyes. For information or to make a reservation, contact Sampaguita Travel Bureau at (604) 874-9533, e-mail lennieptl@dccnet.com, or call (604) 594-7296. Seats are limited, first come first served.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Feeling stressed and need a break? How about a private weekend getaway for the two of you at a nice local resort in White Rock? Attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend April 9-11. Call or email Steve & Mary 604-876-7298 or sbohnen@interchange.ubc.ca.



REDEEMER PACIFIC PRESENTS

Ronda Chervin will speak on "Feminine, Free and Faithful-Masculine, Loving and Faithful" on March 12, 7-9pm. Tickets are \$15 per person or \$5 for students.. RSVP Judy at 604-888-7727 or judy@rpcollege.bc.ca.

LENTEN RETREAT

St. Joseph's Parish, 1612 East 18th Ave, Vancouver is offering a Lenten Retreat on March 9 at 7pm - Topic: "Running the Race of Faith with Perseverance" and on March 10 at 7pm- Topic: "Enduring our Cross, because of the Joy of Heaven". (Retreat Master Fr Gabriel de Chadarevian, OP).

ADULT FAITH EDUCATION

Archdiocesan Spring Institute registration now open. Register on line at: www.rcav.org/ore.

RETRouvaille

Rediscover Your Marriage – Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi with a long i) simply means 'rediscovery'. The program offers the chance to rediscover yourself, your spouse, and a loving relationship in your marriage. Tens of thousands headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending. Retrouvaille is not a spiritual retreat, not a sensitivity group, not a seminar, not a social gathering. For confidential information about or to register for the program beginning with a weekend on the 30th of April, 2010 email 1009@retrouvaille.org OR call 604-530-6710 OR visit the web site at www.HelpOurMarriage.com.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

DUE TO TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES WE ARE NOT ABLE TO PUBLISH THIS SECTION ON OUR ONLINE BULLETIN. PLEASE VISIT OUR EVENT CALENDAR TO GET MORE INFO

<http://stmarysvancouver.ca/event/2010/03/26/month/all/all/1>

PARISH INFORMATION

MASSES:

Monday - Friday: 8:00am
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 8:00am and 7:00pm**
** followed by Adoration at 7:45pm & Benediction at 9:00pm
Saturday: 12:00noon; 5:00pm is **Anticipation Mass**
Sunday: 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:15am, 1:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm

CONFESSIONS

Sunday: Before & After all Masses
Saturday: 11:15am to 11:55am, 4:15pm to 4:55pm, 6:10pm to 7:00pm
Weekdays: After ALL Masses (except Thursday Evening Masses)
--- An appointment for confession may be made by phone

HOLY COMMUNION Available to shut-ins. Contact Parish Office.

FIRST FRIDAYS: Adoration Throughout the day after 8:30am

Masses: 8:00am & 7:00pm

Benediction: 9:00pm

BAPTISMS: To register your child, contact the Parish Office.

BIBLE STUDY: Tuesday @ 6:45pm; Friday @ 9:00am; Saturday @ 12:40

MARRIAGES:

Contact the Parish Office at least six months prior to the wedding date to register for the required diocesan Marriage Preparation Course. One of the couple must be a registered Catholic parishioner of St. Mary's for at least one year before contacting the Parish Office.

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Thursdays: 8:00am Saturdays: 12:00noon

RCIA: Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. Contact the Parish Office.

PREP: Catechism Program for children attending public schools

TEEN PREP: Interactive Catechism Sessions for Teens

Coordinator: Eli Bautista Tuesday and Wednesday 6:30 to 8:00pm

E-mail: stmarys.prep@yahoo.ca

ST. MARY'S YOUNG ADULT COMMUNITY (SMYAC)

Leaders Jason Costa and Jonquil Francis

Email: smyac_team@yahoo.ca Website: www.smyac.com

YOUTH MINISTRY (YM) E-mail: stmarys_ym@yahoo.com

Coordinator: Arda Akoglu Website: www.saintmarysyouth.com

ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Ms Brenda Krivuzoff (Principal) Website: www.stmary.bc.ca

Office Phone: (604) 437-1312 Office Fax: (604) 437-1193

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Mondays to Fridays: 9:00am to 5:00pm
Saturdays: 11:00am to 2:00pm

Pastor: Fr. Pierre Leblond, O.P.

Assistant Pastor: Fr. Marcel Dumont, O.P.

Executive Assistant to Pastor: Vesna Jankovic

Youth Ministry/Volunteer Coordinator: Arda Akoglu

Office Manager Ossie Fernandes