



ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
 5251 JOYCE STREET
 VANCOUVER, BC, V5R 4G8
 TEL: (604) 435-9611 FAX: (604) 439-9413
 EMAIL: stmarys@telus.net
 WEBSITE: www.stmarysvancouver.ca

March 21, 2010

**Pastor's
Corner**

STOP COLLECTING ROCKS!

Rachel's Vineyard is a retreat for women and men who have been involved in abortion. It is a powerful way to be free of the burden of guilt and to start living. At the beginning of the retreat, the participants are given a heavy rock which symbolizes their personal guilt. They are to carry it everywhere and at all times, whether they are inside or outside. They even have to take their meals with it, and take it in the shower too!

After a while, they realize how their guilt is preventing them from being attentive and efficient while doing their daily chores. When they are ready, at any time during the retreat, they can get rid of their guilt; of the rock. They have to invent their own way of doing it. Some throw the rock off a cliff; *some place it on the altar at the beginning of mass.*

At one point, they act out today's Gospel about the woman caught in adultery. It is not difficult for them to play the role of the adulterous woman, caught in the middle of a closed circle formed by men. Then each of them get to play the role of the accusers. They indeed have their rock, their guilt that they can use to throw at the woman who is being accused. They feel the temptation of using their own personal guilt as a weapon to stone another person like themselves. They also get a chance to play the role of Jesus who forgives and who has no rock, no stone. Later they share their discoveries.

This is so much like real life. The more we are loaded with guilt, even unconscious feelings of guilt, the more we tend to accuse others, to presume bad intentions in their heart, even when they do good. There is one way to stop accusing and to start living in communion with others: it is to give our guilt to Christ. Let us do that this week at the sacrament of reconciliation, Wednesday the 24th of March at St. Mary's Church, after the 7:00pm mass. We will be six priests, *collecting rocks for Jesus.*

God Bless you, Fr Pierre

PARISH NEWS

JR YOUTH MINISTRY (Gr 6-8) – CHECK THE MIRROR

If being a Christian was a crime, would there be enough evidence to convict you? Do your friends who don't go to church know you are a Catholic, or do you hide it like a government secret? But even if you tell people you are a Catholic that might not be good enough. After all how we live, act, speak and treat other people often makes more of an impact on people's perception of Christ than our words do. Join us for our Jr. YM event as we discuss when other people look at us if they see us or Christ. **When:** Monday, March 22 at 6:30pm **Where:** Church Basement.



FREEDOM - YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

Are you intimidated or afraid of going to confession? Do you even know why you need to go to confession? Do these fears and lack of knowledge make you pile up your sins? Well, we have great news for you. **FREE-DOM** is here. A powerful, one-of-a-kind reconciliation event for **youth** (grades 8 - 12) and **young adults**. Music, skits, drama, teaching and an examination of conscience are part of the energetic and emotional program that prepares the participants for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. **When:** Friday, March 26 at 7:00pm **Where:** Church Basement (youth) & School Gym (young adults).



CHANGE TO FRIDAY MARCH 26 MASS

Because of the Freedom event, there will be **no adoration or healing ministry** after the 7:00pm Mass on **Friday, March 26.**

PARISH LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Our Parish Lenten Reconciliation Service this Wednesday, March 24 following the 7pm mass. Please avail yourself of this time for confession, as line ups grow very long during Holy Week. There will be several priests available to hear your confession.

SMYAC GOES CURLING

Saturday, March 27, 2010, 4pm-6pm at the Royal City Curling Club, 75 E 6th. Ave, New Westminster. Circle that date on your calendar and make yourselves available! Bring a friend or two! Join us for fun time of curling! Learn how to with an instructor. Cost is \$5. **Note:** Must bring a pair of running shoes with washed soles in a bag to this event. Please RSVP if you will attend to smyac_team@yahoo.ca.



PARISH 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 7:00pm to 8:30pm at **St. Mary's Church.**

MORNING PRAYER

Monday to Friday, preceding the 8am morning mass, there is Rosary at 7am, followed by Lauds at 7:30am. Please join us and unite in the power of community prayer.

CWL BACKPACK PROJECT

The Catholic Women's League of Canada is collecting **personal hygiene items (travel size)**; toothpaste, toothbrush, hand sanitizer, soap, shampoo, shower gel, body lotion, toilet paper, tissue, comb, candies and granola bars. Please put items in the marked box in the foyer. The collection will run to April 18. If you would like to donate money, place it in an envelope in the collection, marked "CWL". Thank you!

THE GREAT ADVENTURE BIBLE STUDY

There is still time to join the Great Adventure Bible study entitled **Matthew: The King and His Kingdom**, a 24 week DVD series presented by Jeff Cavins. Sessions start at 12:45pm after the Saturday noon mass. Signup sheets are in the yellow folder in the church foyer.



ANNUAL YARD SALE

Will take place on April 24th and is sponsored by our Respect Life group to help women in distress. Your donations of goods (tools, books, dishes, toys, etc) would be greatly appreciated, but **NO CLOTHING** please. Items may be dropped off in the large box in the church foyer starting this week.



CONDOLENCES

Please pray for repose of the souls of our dearly departed :

Kathleen Gilligan: Funeral was celebrated on Tues, March 16

Mary Smith: Funeral was celebrated on Friday, March 19



*Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them O Lord
 Let Perpetual Light Shine Upon Them
 May Their Souls Rest in Peace, Amen*

DIOCESAN AND COMMUNITY NEWS

VISION TV LENTEN PROGRAMMING

Vision TV will air "The Choices We Face" hosted by Catholic evangelist Ralph Martin and Peter Herbeck on Vision TV (Shaw channel #118 and Delta Cable channel #25):

Monday March 29 @ 7pm: The modern notion that everyone will be saved & Tuesday March 30 @ 7pm: The Historical and Biblical relevance of the 'baptism in the Holy Spirit' & Sunday April 4 @ 6:30pm: Canadian native Francois Vautour shares his inspiring personal testimony to God's work in the miraculous healing of his spine. To learn more: www.renewalministries.net.

SPRING INSTITUTE

Sponsored by the Office of Religious Education and the Youth Ministry Office and held at St. Patrick's High School, Vancouver. The institute is open to anyone interested in an experience of learning, community and spiritual growth. Pre-registration is required. For all course descriptions and registration, please visit our website at www.rcav.org/ore click on spring institute or call us at 604.683.0281.

VOCATIONS DISCERNMENT WEEKEND

"Come, Worship the Lord"; a retreat to help Catholic single men 17 and over to focus on worship and prayer to discern their vocations to the priesthood and religious life. The retreat will take place on Apr 9-11 at Rosemary Heights. For more info or to register, please call 604-443-3254 or email vocations@rcav.bc.ca.

FREEDOM TO LOVE CONFERENCE

Come hear the Good News about Pope John Paul's "Theology of the Body". Christopher West, renowned author and speaker on John Paul's masterful insights into human life and love, is coming to Vancouver for the "Freedom to Love" Conference sponsored by Couples for Christ on Saturday May 22, 2010 from 8am-5pm at Glad Tidings Church, Fraser Street, Vancouver. Registration fee is \$30 until Mar 31, and \$40 thereafter. For more info call 604.270.9463, email cfcvan@cfc.ca or www.bc.cfc.ca to obtain a registration form.

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.



THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Sun. Mar 21: 2:00pm St Michael's Liturgy (7451 Sussex Ave)
4:00pm Knights of Columbus (Church Basement)
Mon. Mar 22: 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
6:30pm Jr Youth Ministry (Church Basement)
7:00pm SMYAC Leaders
7:30pm Marian Prayer Group (Rectory Library)
Tue. Mar 23: 6:30pm PREP (School)
6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
7:00pm **CATHOLIC FORUM** (Church)
7:00pm Canceled- Christian Meditation

Wed. Mar 24: 6:30pm PREP (School)
7:00pm RCIA (Church Basement)
7:00pm Mass/Adoration /Confession (Church)
LENTE RECONCILIATION SERVICE
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room/Sacristy)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)



Thu. Mar 25: 6:30pm YM Leaders (Rectory Library)
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)



Fri. Mar 26: 9:00am Scripture & Coffee Bible Study (Rec.Dining)
3:00pm & 6:15pm Divine Mercy (Church)
6:30pm Stations of the Cross (Church)
7:00pm Mass/ Adoration
7:00pm Singles for Christ (Rectory Basement)
8:00pm Archdiocesan Freedom (see notice)



Sat. Mar 27: 9:30am Handmaids of the Lord (School Gym)
9:30am Christian Meditation (Rectory Dining)
12:45pm Bible Study (Church Basement)
1:30pm Couples for Christ- SFC (School Gym)
3:00pm Baptisms (Church)
3:00pm Legion of Mary (Rectory Dining)
3:00pm Knights of Columbus (Church Basement)
7:00pm Couples

for Christ (School Gym)

Sun. Mar 28: 9:45am Willing-
don Liturgy (4435 Grange

PARISH INFORMATION

WEEKDAY MORNING MASSES: Monday - Friday: 8:00am
Weekday Morning Rosary 7:00am / Weekday Morning Lauds 7:30am
WEEKDAY EVENING MASSES: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 7pm
followed by Adoration at 7:45pm & Benediction at 9:00pm
SATURDAY MASS: Our Lady's Mass 12:00noon
SUNDAY MASSES: Anticipated Mass Saturday 5:00pm
Sunday: 8:00am / 9:30am / 11:15am / 1:00pm / 5:00pm / 7:00pm
NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL
Thursday: 8:00am & Saturday: 12:00noon
FIRST FRIDAY: Adoration throughout the day after morning mass
CONFESSIONS:

Weekdays: After all Masses (except Thursday Evening Mass)
Saturday: 11:15am to 11:55am, 4:15pm to 4:55pm, 6:10pm to 7:00pm
Sunday: Before & After all Masses
An appointment for confession may be made through the parish office
HOLY COMMUNION: Available to shut-ins. Contact Parish Office.
BAPTISMS: To register your child, contact the Parish Office.

MARRIAGES:

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

BIBLE STUDY: Tuesday 6:45pm / Friday 9:00am / Saturday 12:45pm

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

Tuesday and Wednesday 6:30pm to 8:00pm

Coordinator: Eli Bautista 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

Principal: Ms Brenda Krivuzoff 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 / Saturday: 11:00am to 2:00pm

PASTORS & STAFF:

Pastor: Fr. Pierre Leblond, O.P.

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

Executive Assistant to Pastor: Vesna Jankovic

Office Manager: Ossie Fernandes

Youth Ministry & Volunteer Coordinator: Arda Akoglu