



**ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
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**December 12, 2010**

**Pastor's  
 Corner**

**THE BELIEVERS ARE THE TRULY  
 REALISTIC ONES!**

Are you wearing pink socks for pink Sunday? Pink, because it is not yet the full glorious joy that will be given us at the Second Coming of Christ, or at the moment of our reception in heaven after our death. Now, some of you may think, "Father, don't bring us back to the old school theology, the pipe dream, the "pie-in-the-sky"- after you die "spirituality."

So many "wise guys" and so-called theologians have adopted the Marxist view that the Christian hope for heaven results in a dangerous dualistic spirituality. By hoping for the new heaven and new earth promised by Christ, we would become detached from the cares and love of the present world. They say that the Christian hope is like a drug that turns us away from the tasks of social justice.

Nothing could be further from the truth. Those who desired heaven the most or those who changed this world the most, and those who believed that this hope is an illusion and that we can make this world a satisfying one without God, are precisely those who hurt this world the most. "The most dangerous people," said Fr. Robert Barron, "are the most optimistic ones." They believe that "all can be made well here below. Given the right socio-political and socio-economical reforms or revolutions, given the right scientific advancements, everything will fall into place, justice will be done and everyone will be happy. People who believe that are ready to do anything, to go to any extreme to make it happen: Marx, Lenin, Stalin, Mao, Hitler. Lenin said "You have to crack a few eggs to make an omelette." He is actually responsible for the death of twenty million people. All these people did not understand what is the Christian hope. That it is not about being optimistic or pessimistic. It is not about saying "All will be well in the end. Things will work out fine." Christian hope acknowledges that if there is nothing after death, then nothing is fulfilling, because everything in this life is incomplete and transient. "Heaven and earth will pass away, but my word will remain" says the Lord.

*Pastor's Corner Continued...*

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Then is our hope a pipe dream? No, because hope enables us to experience already in this life, the transforming power of the Resurrected Christ. Hope is not a virtue that we can produce by reasoning or by manipulating our emotions. It is a gift that results from the inrushing of grace in us. "It is a supernatural or theological virtue by which our lives are ordered towards heaven and the things of heaven as our ultimate goal", says Fr. Robert Barron on his website wordonfire.org. Through that grace, we intuit or present the world to come, or the face-to-face relationship with God and with the world community. And that perception cures us from the fear of death and the sadness of this life. We began to live "purpose-driven-life," empowered by the fire of the Holy Spirit, confident that nothing, no one, no power, can overcome God's plan for us.

You want proof? The people who desired heaven the most are those who changed the world the most: Mother Teresa, Martin Luther King, Dorothy Day, Pope John Paul II. Without a single bullet being shot, John Paul II abolished the Berlin Wall and dismantled regimes without great violence.

*God Bless you, Fr. Pierre*

**PARISH NEWS**

**Jr. YOUTH MINISTRY (grades 6 -8) - CANCELLED**

Jr. Youth Ministry (SPARK) has been cancelled for Monday, December 13. We will resume on Monday, December 20.

**Sr. YOUTH MINISTRY- EVENT CANCELLATION**

Sr. Youth Ministry Christmas Party has been cancelled. We are working on it to make it even better in the new year. Keep in touch!

**PETITION**

Thank you for your signatures on our petition to increase the minimum mandatory sentences for crimes against children. We have collected 1304 signatures and have forwarded it to the appropriate authorities. Now please join us as we pray for the safety of our children and the laws to change!

**ARC**

Jesus invites you to come and experience healing, freedom, empowerment and peace through adoration, confession and praise and worship music and singing. Please join us on Saturday, December 18 at 7:30pm in the Church.



**PARISH NEWS**

**ST. MARY'S PENITENTIAL SERVICE**

There will be an Advent Penitential Service on Friday, December 17, following the 7pm mass (approximately 7:45pm). There will be several priests available to hear confessions, so please avail yourself of this opportunity.



**THE ANNUAL GIVING CHRISTMAS**

St. Vincent de Paul Society is coordinating a Giving Tree this Christmas. The branches are covered with gift tags and you may select one or more. This will indicate your commitment to purchase a gift(s) for a child aged newborn to 16 years old. Please bring the unwrapped gift and place it under the tree during the weekends of **Dec 11/12** and **Dec 18/19**. We, along with other interested ministries in St. Marys, will then distribute them to children who would otherwise be without gifts at Christmas. Thank you again for helping these loved ones, your generosity will make this another successful Christmas.

**NEW WINTER ITEMS FOR THE HOMELESS**



St. Mary's St. Vincent de Paul Society and St. Mary's Street Ministry need really warm stuff-winter gear including hats, gloves, socks, scarves, ear muffs, toques. We will be collecting donations of **NEW** winter items during December as part of our outreach program for the homeless. Please drop your donations into the box in the foyer marked "**Socks, Gloves, Scarves and Toques.**" **Please note that we are NOT collecting any other clothing at this time.** Again we thank you in advance on behalf of the poor, with your generosity we will have another great year.

**2011 SUNDAY ENVELOPES**

The 2011 envelopes are now ready to be picked up from the Church basement; please do so as soon as possible. Envelopes that are not retrieved will be reassigned to someone else. You will notice your envelope number changes every year, as assigned by the computer program. **Therefore it is vital that you do not use any other envelopes as of January 1, 2011, other than the 2011 box you have just claimed.** Do not "lend" your envelopes to other family members, friends or visitors; there are visitor envelopes in the church foyer available for this purpose.

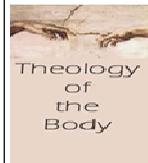
## DIOCESAN AND COMMUNITY NEWS

### VANCOUVER EAST DEANERY PENITENTIAL SERVICES

Dec 9– Corpus Christi 7pm, St. Joseph’s (Vietnamese) 7pm  
Dec 10– Our Lady of Fatima 7pm, St. Joseph’s (Vietnamese) 7pm  
Dec 14– Our Lady of Sorrows 7pm  
Dec 15– Holy Cross 7pm, St. Joseph’s (English) 8pm  
Dec 16– St. Francis of Assisi 7pm  
Dec 17– St. Theresa’s 7pm, **St. Mary’s 7:45pm**  
Dec 21– St. Jude’s 7pm  
Dec 22– St. Helen’s 7pm



### THE HUMAN PERSON IN THE LIKENESS OF GOD



**Theology of the Body:** “*The human person, in the image and likeness of God*” according to Pope John Paul II. Come and discover God’s original design for us, our call to holiness, and our destiny with him in heaven. Fr. Alan Boisclair will present an 11 week course, starting Jan. 12 at St. Andrew’s Parish, Vancouver or Jan. 13 at Christ the Redeemer Parish, West Vancouver. The cost is \$50 and includes the textbook “Man and Woman, He Created Them – A Theology of the Body.” For info: [www.rcav.org](http://www.rcav.org).

### MISA DE GALLO (PRE-CHRISTMAS NOVENA)

A special novena of evening masses will be celebrated at St. Patrick’s (2881 Main St.) from December 15-23. Festive music, Filipino food and guest preachers will make this novena a memorable event and an ideal spiritual preparation for Christmas. Masses will be celebrated at 7pm, Monday to Friday, Saturday at 4:30pm and Sunday at 5pm. Everyone is welcome.

### ATTEND THE MISSION AT HOLY NAME OF JESUS

Fr. Philip Chircop, S.J., will conduct a parish Advent Mission, the theme being Christmas- a Festival of Incarnation, at Holy Name of Jesus Parish, Cambie & 33rd Avenue, December 13–15, 7 p.m. He will also be preaching at the 9am Masses.

### 7TH ANNUAL ADVENT VIGIL

Join us in a Silent Stand for Justice for those who are silenced, homeless or pushed out, the hungry, the unemployed, the forgotten. Everyone is invited to join the following Wednesdays, noon hours, in Advent. Dec. 15 – Downtown Main Library Branch, Robson St. entrance; Dec. 22 – Cathedral Square, NE corner Richards & Dunsmuir. For further information call Sr. Elizabeth Kelliher, 604-685-9987

## THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

**Sun. Dec 12:** 12:30am LOJ (School Gym)  
1:00pm CFC-FFL Youth (Church Basement)  
6:30pm Young Adult Bible Study (Rectory Dining)

**Mon. Dec 13:** 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)  
6:30pm Jr YM -SPARK (Church Basement)

**Tue. Dec 14:** 6:30pm Prep Catechism (School)  
6:30pm Baptism Prep (Church)  
6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining)  
7:00pm Christian Meditation (Rectory Basement)

**Wed. Dec 15:** 6:00pm Novena Our Lady Perpetual Help (Church)  
6:30pm PREP Catechism (School)  
7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)  
7:00pm RCIA (Church Basement)  
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room)  
9:00pm Benediction (Church)



**Thu. Dec 16:** 7:00pm Mass/Adoration (Church)  
7:00pm Pastoral Council (Rectory Dining)  
9:00pm Benediction (Church)



**Fri. Dec 17:** 9:00am Lectio Divina/Bible Study (Rectory Dining)  
3:00pm & 6:15pm Divine Mercy (Church)  
6:00pm CCO (Church Basement)  
7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)  
**7:45pm PENITENTIAL SERVICE** (Church)  
9:00pm Benediction (Church)



**Sat. Dec 18:** 2:30pm Knights of Columbus (School Gym)  
3:00pm Baptism (Church)  
3:00pm Legion of Mary (Church Basement)  
5:00pm Handmaids (School Gym)  
7:30pm ARC (Church)

**Sun. Dec 19:** 12:30am LOJ (School Gym)  
1:00pm CFC-FFL Youth (Church Basement)  
6:30pm Young Adult Bible Study (Rectory Dining)

## 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 PERPETUAL HELP:**

Wednesday 6:00pm

**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  
Sunday 6:30pm (*Young Adult Bible Study*)

**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: Erwin Mow E-mail: [stmarys.prep@yahoo.ca](mailto:stmarys.prep@yahoo.ca)

**YOUTH MINISTRY (YM)** E-mail: [stmarys\\_ym@yahoo.com](mailto:stmarys_ym@yahoo.com)

Coordinator: Arda Akoglu Website: [www.saintmarysyouth.com](http://www.saintmarysyouth.com)

**ST. MARY’S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Principal: Ms Brenda Krivuzoff Website: [www.stmary.bc.ca](http://www.stmary.bc.ca)

Phone: (604) 437-1312

Fax: (604) 437-1193

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS:** Monday to Friday: 9:00am to 5:00pm

Phone: (604) 435-9611

Fax: (604) 439-9413

**PASTORS & STAFF:**

**Pastor**

Fr. Pierre Leblond, O.P.

**Assistant Pastor**

Fr. Gabriel de Chadarevian, O.P.

**Executive Assistant to Pastor**

Vesna Jankovic

**Office Manager**

Ossie Fernandes

**Youth Ministry/Volunteer Coordinator**

Arda Akoglu