



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

January 9, 2011

**Pastor's
 Corner**

WHY IS THE DEAD SEA DEAD?

WHY ARE WE LIKE DEAD MAN WALKING?

This is not a silly question! Jesus was baptized at one of the lowest points of the Jordan River, just before it falls into the Dead Sea. That sea, which is in fact a lake, is the lowest point on earth. It receives water from above, but doesn't give out at the other end, because there is nothing lower. The water tends to stay at the lowest altitude possible, therefore the Dead Sea accumulates dirt and waste from above— in this case, from everywhere around. It cannot get rid of the waste. The sun causes the water to evaporate, but the dirt stays there, and the water becomes very salty, saltier than the Pacific Ocean. So salty that there is no life in it. On the other hand, the higher lake at the upper side of the Jordan, the Sea of Galilee, is brimming over with life and fish. It gives all the water it receives to the Jordan River. If you don't give what you have received, you lose it, you become dead.

You see how this applies to Jesus' baptism. He did not choose to be baptized in the clean water of the upper Jordan, but in the very murky waters of the lower Jordan. By this baptism, He assumes our murky, sinful condition. He absorbs it like a sponge and releases clean water, pure life. He is like a divine filter, a divine lung which receives the bad blood, burns the waste and releases clean blood.

We too are called to be the lungs of the world. We are to put ourselves between the aggressor and the victim, as Jesus did on the Cross. We are to absorb the blow and release life.

Pastor's Corner Continued...

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The hope of the Jewish nation was that the waters would spring up from on high, from the temple, one thousand meters above the sea level (almost as high as Grouse Mountain.) From there it would purify everything, and give life to everything, including the Dead Sea (see Ezekiel.) Jesus, the New Temple, chose another way. He purified the waters, by going to its lowest and dirtiest point, where the people of God entered the Holy Land a thousand years before Him, and He is inviting us to claim back the spiritual Holy Land; the Church which is filled with Christ who fills everything, Himself being filled by the Father.



God Bless you, Fr. Pierre

PARISH NEWS

Jr. YOUTH MINISTRY (gr 6 -8) – MISSION POSSIBLE

MISSION POSSIBLE "Your mission...should you choose to accept it..." Wait a minute, you already accepted your mission when you were baptized, but some of us don't even know about it and that's when it gets dangerous. Join the Jr. Youth Ministry for a mission briefing and of course all the pizza you can eat. Join us on Monday, January 10 at 6:30pm in the church basement. Don't worry, this bulletin will not self destruct in 5 seconds!

PARENTING WORKSHOP

You are invited to a Parenting Workshop on "Building a Positive Relationship with your Child" presented by Joy C. Jose, Pastoral Counselor & Parent Educator, on Friday, January 14 from 6-9pm in the Church basement. This workshop will be part of a series of six workshops. It will help you discover that the way you parent your child has a great deal to do with how your parents raised you. It also presents an overview of child development and the discovery of your child's uniqueness so that you will learn to truly appreciate your children for who they are and be sensitive to their needs. All are welcome.

PARISH NEWS

WEBSITE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



Our parish is updating its website and we want to make sure that it remains a dynamic and ever expanding tool of communication to help us achieve our Mission. The possibilities and opportunities are limited only by our imaginations. We are looking for parishioners with different skill sets who would like to be part of this exciting project, helping to steer our parish in the right direction on the information superhighway. Skills that may be beneficial are (but not limited to): good communication skills, creative writing, photography, graphic design, web-design, good visual skills and organizational skills. If you are interested please contact Arda at 604-435-9611 ext. 6 or at stmarys_ym@yahoo.com for more information.

ABLAZE GROWTH SEMINAR

Ablaze resumes on Tuesday evening at 7pm in the Church Basement.



DIOCESAN AND COMMUNITY NEWS

CATHOLIC BIBLE SEMINAR

The Spring 2011 Session of the Catholic Bible Seminar will be held at St. Paul's Parish Hall, 8251 St. Alban's Road, Richmond, on the weekend of **February 11, 12 13, 2011**. We will continue with the "The Book of ISAIAH" and the presenter is once again the well known Biblical Scholar Father Jim Nisbet of Spreckles, California. Registration fees are: Single Adults \$55, married couples \$100. Special youth and daily fees are available. Flyers are available at the church entrance. Please Pre-Register early as space is limited. For more information, call Gerry or Zela Maingot at 604-882-9205.



KNOW WHY YOU BELIEVE

Attend "Catholic for a Reason" or choose another one day course, open to all, in Church History, Evangelizing Catholics, Theology of the Body, or Basics of the Faith. The Archdiocesan Winter Institute, Jan. 29 at St. Patrick's in Vancouver, offers general interest and ministry training courses for RCIA, PREP, Liturgy of the Word with Children, and Youth Ministry. Learn your faith and pass it on! Cost: \$35/40, lunch included. Info and registration: www.rcav.org/winter, 604-683-0281.

DIOCESAN AND COMMUNITY NEWS

NOTRE DAME OPEN HOUSE & PLACEMENT EXAM

The Open House will be held January 13 and the Placement Exam will be January 15 from 8:30am–Noon. More info at 604-255-5454 or www.ndrs.org.

ST. THOMAS MORE OPEN HOUSE & PLACEMENT EXAM

The Open House will be held January 18 at 6:30pm in the school gym. The evening is open to both parents and grade 7 students. The Placement Exam will be January 24 beginning at 1:30pm. In order to write this exam, parents must complete an application form which may be obtained from the STMC office during office hours, or download from the website at www.stmc.bc.ca.

VANCOUVER COLLEGE OPEN HOUSE

Vancouver College is holding its annual Open House on Thursday, January 20 from 6:30 – 8:30 pm. This is an excellent opportunity for parents and students to learn more about the school. Vancouver College, established in 1922 by the Christian Brothers, is the only all boys K-12 independent Catholic school in BC. This faith and learning community offers a unique educational experience that develops the whole person - body, mind, and soul. There are openings in September 2011 for K, Gr. 4, 7, and 8 and at other grade levels as they occur. We encourage Catholic boys currently in Grade 6 at a public school to apply for Grade 7.

THE HEALING OF THE FAMILY TREE

Jan. 28, 29 & 30th IC School Gym. IC Prayer Group in celebration of their 18th anniversary & the Life in the Spirit present Father Denis Phaneuf from the Saskatoon Diocese with Moira Noonan from the Diocese of San Diego who will teach us about the many disorders and problems which are typical to families from generation to generation. The teaching is scripturally based and calls for healing and deliverance prayer. The retreat will commence with a Healing Mass on Friday @ 7:30pm in preparation for the Retreat. Tickets \$20.00 (limited numbers available) For tickets & more info, call Lennie David @ 604-597-8227 or lennieptl@telus.net

TRIVIA NIGHT WITH DINNER

Jan. 21 at Our Lady of Sorrows Hall, 555 South Slocan St., Vancouver. \$25/person, includes pasta dinner & salad. Dinner 6:30pm. Game starts at 7pm. Advance registration required. Email ltesan@gmail.com or acharltan@ndrs.org.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Sun. Jan 9: 2:00pm Light of Jesus (School Gym)
2:00pm CFC (Church Basement)
6:30pm Young Adult Bible Study (Rectory Dining)

Mon. Jan 10: 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
6:30pm Jr YM (Church Basement)

Tue. Jan 11: 6:30pm Prep Catechism (School)
6:30pm Baptism Prep (Church)
6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining)
7:00pm Christian Meditation (Rectory Basement)
7:00pm Ablaze Growth (Church Basement)

Wed. Jan 12: 2:00pm Willingdon Mass (4435 Grange)
6:00pm Novena Our Lady Perpetual Help (Church)
6:30pm Prep Catechism (School)
7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)
7:00pm RCIA (Church Basement)
7:30pm Street Ministry (Rectory Basement)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)



Thu. Jan 13: 7:00pm Mass/Adoration (Church)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)



Fri. Jan 14: 3:00pm & 6:15pm Divine Mercy (Church)
6:00pm Parenting Workshop (Church Basement)
7:00pm Mass (Church)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)



Sat. Jan 15: 12:45pm Bible Study (Church Basement)
1:00pm Handmaids (School Gym)
3:00pm Legion of Mary (Rectory Basement)
3:00pm Knights of Columbus (Church Basement)

Sun. Jan 16: 1:00pm CFC-FFL Youth (Rectory 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, see website or contact 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

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

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