



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

April 24, 2011

**Pastor's
 Corner**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,



What is it that we are celebrating today? Why, around the world, churches fill up all day long? Is it just a spring ritual, like the big seasonal house cleaning? Is it a celebration of spring after that long wet winter? Many theologians even a few “Catholic” theologians, have tried to water down the Easter Resurrection to a bland symbol. They say that what we celebrate at Easter, what we really mean when we say, “Jesus Christ is risen”, is simply that the cause of Jesus goes on, the spirit of Jesus lives in His followers, as though the Beethoven Society gathered and they would play the Ninth Symphony and they would say “The spirit of Beethoven is still alive”. If this is all there is to it, we are wasting our time here. Everyone can say that the spirit of their grandma is alive, when they meet to share stories about her! There is no need to make a big deal out of that. It won't save you from dying and from the fear of death.

Another attempt to water down the Resurrection is to say that it is just the return of a ghost. But there are ghost stories in every culture, and it was nothing dramatically new about it, nothing to celebrate for sure! Even in the Gospel account they felt at first they were seeing a ghost. People were familiar with ghost stories in the Old Testament, for example, when Saul conjures up the ghost of Samuel.

Other attempts at minimizing the Resurrection is to say that it is just the resuscitation of a corpse like Lazarus, like the daughter of Jairus. What is the difference? Lazarus comes back to life, yes; but he comes back simply to this life, bound to die again sooner or later. He comes forth from the tomb, still wearing the smelly grave clothes; Jesus leaves His grave clothes in the tomb. Jesus has conquered death: that's why we celebrate it.

Pastor's Corner Continued...

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Jesus has an embodied life, yes, but a transformed one, a much closer image of who God is. A body that shares more closely the characteristics of God's life, of God's way of living and knowing forever. In the Human mind of Jesus, the fear of death has been overcome.

And in us also. If we die with Him, if we enter into His death, we too share His victory. As Jesus is called back out of the tomb to the Father, He bears with Him in principle all of those whom He has grasped. The Resurrection is not simply an event that happened to Jesus. It is not just wonderful for Him only. It is an event that includes all of us. Jesus snaps back to the Father, having embarrassed all the sinful world in His Incarnation and Crucifixion, so that we can now be included in the Divine Life. **If we but say yes to it.**

“Brothers and Sisters,

That is the greatest challenge on Easter: that we have the grace and the courage to jump onboard this Saving Ship. That we have the grace and courage to cling to this Victor who has gone into that which frightens us the most, has conquered it. And if we but embrace Him, we can return with Him to the Father. This is what the Christian Life is all about. The Son has gone to the limit of God's forsakenness to gather us into the Divine Life. That is what Resurrection means”. (Fr. Robert Barron, Sermon 15 on wordonfire.org).

Happy Easter, Fr. Pierre

PARISH NEWS

EASTER MONDAY

Please note the parish office will be closed on Easter Monday, April 25.

READY, SET, LEARN



St. Mary's School is hosting a Ready, Set, Learn early learning parent information meeting on Thursday, May 12 at 7pm in the school seminar room. This workshop is intended for families with **3 year olds** to support their young learners through play-based activities and to gain knowledge about community resources. Parents **must** register with the school office at 604-437-1312 to reserve your spot. Attendees will receive an educational package for home use. Parents only please.

PARISH NEWS

Jr. YOUTH MINISTRY (grades 6 - 8)– EGGS & MORE



What does a bunny and a bunch of colorful eggs have to do with Easter and Jesus? Don't know the answer? Come and find out at Jr. YM. With egg-hunt & egg-painting our night will be full of life and color. Join Spark and discover the new life that we have inherited through the passion, death and resurrection of our Lord. Join Jr. Youth Ministry on Monday, April 25 at 6:30pm in the church basement.

YOUTH DAY 2011 – MAY 6 & 7

Do you know what time it is? Yes it's about that time for you get over to the Youth Ministry Office and register for the biggest event of the year: Youth Day 2011. With musical guest Joia Farmer and speaker Mark Hart, this event will be off the hook. And you wouldn't want to miss that. Team up with the St Mary's Sr. Youth Ministry (grades 8-12) who will be joining hundreds of teens for an awesome weekend of faith, fellowship, and fun! Registration forms are available on the Youth Ministry web-site at www.saintmarysyouth.com under “forms” menu.



“ABLAZE” LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR

Get set ‘ablaze’ in the Spirit through a Life in the Spirit Seminar to be conducted by ‘Mission Ablaze’ Group of St. Mary's. Friday, April 29 -7pm to 10pm and Saturday, April 30 from 9:30am to 4:30pm. Register online at servant_ablaze2011@yahoo.ca or 604-454-3143 (pls. leave your name and contact info) or sign up in the foyer.



EASTER CHOCOLATE DRIVE

St Mary's Street Ministry is now collecting Easter Chocolate for our outreach programs. Please kindly drop them off in the Chocolate Drive Box in the church foyer. We thank you for your generous donations and support.



MIGRANT MINISTRY

The Migrant Workers and Family Outreach Program wishes to invite all caregivers, temporary workers, farm workers and other migrant workers and their families to join us on Sunday, May 8th from 10am-12pm in the school gym, for a dialogue on how the Church community can help with the various needs of immigrants with temporary work permits or those newly arrived in Canada. This is open to all so bring your family and friends.

PARISH NEWS

MOTHER'S DAY LUNCHEON

CWL is hosting the annual Mother's Day luncheon on May 8 in the Church basement from 11am-2pm. Tickets are \$20/adult, \$9/children aged 6-12 and under 6 FREE. This is a great opportunity to take your loved ones for a delicious lunch at a great price. CWL members will be selling tickets next weekend in the foyer after all Masses or you can contact Teresa @ 604-437-7745 for more info or for tickets. Thank you for your support.



RESPECT LIFE ANNUAL YARD SALE

Come to our annual yard sale this Saturday, April 30 from 10am-3pm in the parking lot. The very low prices include many new and like-new things. Proceeds to help women in crisis.



DIOCESAN & COMMUNITY NEWS

GOT QUESTIONS YOU CAN'T ANSWER?

Attend "Catholic for a Reason," or choose any one-day course, in Church History, Evangelizing Catholics, Theology of the Body, or Basics of the Faith. The Archdiocesan Spring Institute, April 30 at Holy Cross Secondary in Surrey. Learn your faith and pass it on! Cost: \$35/40, lunch included. Info and registration: www.rcav.org/winter, 604-683-0281.

BEATIFICATION OF POPE JOHN PAUL II

A special Eucharistic celebration will be held at Holy Rosary Cathedral on May 1 at 2:30pm followed by a reception and a display of photos, at Holy Rosary Hall, featuring the life of John Paul II.

HOW TO PRAY FOR YOUR LOVED ONES

Have your loved ones stopped practicing the faith? Do they no longer believe in God? Then this seminar by Vernon Robertson is for you; at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 2465 Crown St. May 6 from 7-9pm and May 7 from 10-4:30pm. To pre-register for free manual, email: varobertson@shaw.ca; phone: 604-460-0114.

FOCUS ON LIFE

The 13th Annual Gala Dinner featuring Guest Speaker, Jason Jones, filmmaker, philanthropist and producer of the critically acclaimed film Bella, will be held at Hyatt Regency on May 9. Doors open at 5:30, dinner begins at 6:30. Tickets: \$75. To reserve tickets contact Signal Hill at 1-800-774-4625.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH



The pastors and staff of St. Mary's wish you a Happy and Blessed Easter!



- Sun. Apr 24: EASTER SUNDAY**
2:00pm Light of Jesus (School Gym)
- Mon. Apr 25: EASTER MONDAY (Parish Office Closed)**
6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
6:30pm Jr YM Spark (Church Basement)
- Tue. Apr 26:** 6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining)
7:00pm **Confirmation** (Church)
7:00pm Christian Meditation (Rectory Basement)
7:00pm CWL (School Seminar Room)
7:30pm Ablaze- Cancelled
- Wed. Apr 27:** 8:30am Respect Life (Rectory Dining)
3:00pm St. Michael's Mass (7451 Sussex Ave)
6:00pm Novena Our Lady Perpetual Help (Church)
6:00pm Project Advance (Rectory Dining)
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. Apr 28:** 7:00pm Mass/Adoration (Church)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)
- Fri. Apr 29:** 3:00pm & 6:15pm Divine Mercy (Church)
7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)
7:30pm Ablaze Life in the Spirit (Church Basement)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)
- Sat. Apr 30:** 9:30am Ablaze Life in the Spirit (Church Basement)
1:30pm CFC-SFC (School Gym)
3:00pm Legion of Mary (Rectory Dining)
6:00pm CFC-SFL (Rectory Basement)
7:00pm CFC (Church Basement)
- Sun. May 1:** 2:00pm YFC (Church Basement)
2:00pm Migrant Ministry (Rectory Basement)

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 9:45am

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.saintmarysyoung.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