



ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
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May 29 2011

Pastor's
 Corner

WHY DO YOU BELIEVE?

“Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you, for the reason for your hope.” This is from the second reading, 1 Peter 3:15. This is something the first pope, Peter the Rock, asked from any lay Catholic. For him and for the Catholic tradition over the centuries, faith is not just an inner experience of the individual. It is a faith you are able to speak about and articulate to others. St. Peter is telling us it is not enough to have the faith, you’ve got to be in a position to defend it, to propagate it, to explain it to others when they ask.

This is very difficult because we live in this very privatized religious culture- “well, religion is your little thing.” And also because it is not ‘good etiquette’ to talk about it publicly. A lot of us have lost the capacity to speak about the faith. The enemy has won a big battle here, against us. If someone asks you a direct question about the faith, do you feel confident that you can give a good, convincing, compelling answer? If someone challenges the faith, are you able to defend the faith? That faith seeker may never have the courage, the chance, to ask a priest.

One of the marks of the presence of the Holy Spirit, is the willingness, the capacity to speak boldly, clearly and confidently about the faith, to proclaim it and give reasons for it. We have almost killed this capacity by giving in to a wishy-washy expression of the faith, suggesting to others that we don’t really know what we are really talking about, and that it does not matter! Yes, St. Peter asks us to defend the faith “with gentleness and reverence.” (1 Peter 3:16); but he didn’t mean with hesitation and doubt. We need to learn our faith better. We need to learn ways to express it succinctly and clearly in our daily life. Last Thursday, May 19, we invited Eric Chow, from Catholic Christian Outreach, to share with the pastoral council members how they do it on university campuses.

Pastor's Corner Continued...

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C.C.O. is willing to help us, at St. Mary’s, to apply their practical expertise in a parish setting, at the workplace, in our extended families. Look for some cool workshops next year.

In the recent decades, we, the Canadian Catholics, have compromised our catechesis, our theology, turning away from our own rich theological traditions, and turning to the slogans and convictions of the popular culture.

So study, think, read, argue, learn how to meet objections to the faith; enter into the lively give and take of arguments and discussions. Our forthcoming, new expanded parish website will give you good links to help you do this. Most of all your studies and research need to be activated by the grace of the Holy Spirit. Ask Him– He is not a private agent. He is a public agent.

God Bless you, Father Pierre

p.s. I am indebted to Fr. Robert Barron. Check out his homily #381 on his website wordonfire.org

PARISH NEWS

SPARK (GRADES 6 - 8) – PICNIC

Hotdogs, games, sun, fun and friends. This is how we celebrate the arrival of spring and summer. Join the Jr. Youth Ministry on our picnic day. We’ll meet 6:30pm in the church basement on Monday, May 30. Don’t miss out and don’t be late!!



YOUTH MASS NEEDS HELP

Youth Mass needs your help. We need young adults and adults to serve as Eucharistic Ministers at Youth Mass. This is a great honor to hold the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ and to give communion. If you are interested in serving as a Eucharistic Minister for the Sunday 5pm Mass, and are at least 21 years of age, please fill out a yellow Parish Participation Form from the church foyer and return it to the Parish Office.



JOB OPENINGS

We have two job openings in our parish: A part-time, 20hr/week position for a Youth Ministry Assistant Coordinator and a 10 hr/week position for a PREP Coordinator. The job descriptions and more details are posted on our website. Please do



PARISH NEWS

CATHOLIC FORUM

Invites you to explore "Why we pray to Virgin Mary when she is not God", on Tuesday, May 31 at 7pm at St. Mary's Church. Presentation and discussion will be led by Fr. Glenn Dion. Info: Dr. Paul Ungar 604-588-5696 or Cathy Neugebauer email: v e 7 c l d @ s h a w . c a or http://groups.yahoo.com/group/vancatholic/.

TALITHA KOUM FUNDRAISER CONCERT

Westcoast Harmony Chorus: 4 part harmony sung a capella by a dynamic and diverse group of about 40 women. Fresh from winning GOLD medals at the Regional competition in Calgary will perform at St. Mary’s on Saturday, June 4 at 7:45pm in aid of Talitha Koum. Tickets available after all Masses: Adults \$15, Students \$10, under 5 free.

ST. MARY'S FAMILY FAIR

The Catholic Women’s League is hosting the St. Mary’s Family Fair on Sunday, June 5th in the school gym from 10:30am-4pm. A fun filled event for everyone: entertainment, food, kids corner, book & garage sale, silent auction, crafts, and much more. Admission is free and you will also have a chance to win a Grand Prize. It’s a great way to support and participate in parish activity and spend a fun time with family and friends. A schedule of the entertainment including all the different, exciting performances are posted in the foyer, so mark your calendar and don’t miss this fun event. Thank you in advance for your support

WORSHIP LEADER

Youth Ministry is looking for a worship leader who will be responsible for praying and leading worship for Jr. & Sr. Youth Ministry events. Youth event performances will last approximately 15-20 minutes. You must be a practicing Catholic in full communion with the Catholic Church with a minimum of 2 years experience playing guitar. You will need strong voice and capability of leading others in song, ability to pray spontaneously, ability to direct others to produce a Christ centered worship environment, ability to take instruction and feedback and most importantly- interpersonal skills, and the ability to relate to teens. If you think you have what it takes, we dare you to take this challenge and apply for this amazing volunteer position. For more information please contact Arda at 604-435-9611 ext.6 or stmarys_ym@yahoo.com.



PARISH NEWS

PARENTING WORKSHOP

Inviting all parents and caregivers to the 6th Parenting Workshop at St. Mary's. Topic will be on "Love and Anger in Parenting". This will be on Friday, June 3rd at 7-9pm in the Church Basement. Kindly bring food for sharing.

DIOCESAN & COMMUNITY NEWS

PRO-LIFE MASS & VIGIL

Peaceful, prayerful vigil for unborn children and their parents will be held on June 4. Mass - 9 a.m. at Sts. Peter and Paul Parish, 1430 W. 38th Ave., Vancouver, followed by Rosary at Women's Hospital.

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA NOVENA

You are invited to make the 9 day Mass/Novena to St. Anthony of Padua from June 5-13 at 7:30pm at St. Anthony's, 1345 W. 73rd Ave., Vancouver. On June 13, procession starts at 6:30pm followed by Mass/Novena and fiesta refreshments.

INTRODUCTION TO IGNATIAN SPIRITUAL EXERCISES

A Retreat will be presented and facilitated by Rob Des Cotes and Fr. Elton Fernandes, S.J. at St. Augustine's Parish, 2028, W. 7th Ave., Vancouver, June 9 and 10- 7 to 9 pm and June 11- 9:30 am to 4:30pm. The retreat will limited to 30 people, priority given to members of the parish. To inquire about registration please contact 604-874-6246 or imago@shaw.ca.

SEPARATION, DIVORCE AND ANNULMENT SEMINAR

A presentation by Roy MacIntyre, M.A., Counsellor of Catholic Family Services, and followed by questions and answers. This event will be held at the Immaculate Conception Parish, 8842 - 119th Street, Delta on June 18 -10 a.m. to noon. Cost \$10. All are welcome. For more information and registration call 604- 443-3220.

SUMMER IN THE CITY (OF GOD) FAITH FORMATION

St. Mark's College registration is now open for the Summer courses July 4-15. Join us as we explore biblical and theological foundations of Catholic practices and devotions. Check out all the offerings at <http://stmarkscollege.ca/programs/continuing-education/summer-institute> or email registrar@stmarkscollege.ca or continuinged@stmarkscollege.ca for more information. Register by phone, mail or in person at 604-822-6862.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Sun. May 29: 10:00am Migrant Ministry (School Gym)

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

Tue. May 31: 6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining)
7:00pm Catholic Forum (Church)
7:00pm Christian Meditation (Rectory Basement)
7:30pm Ablaze (Church Basement)

Wed. Jun 1: 10:45pm Fairhaven Mass (7557 Sussex)
6:00pm Novena Our Lady Perpetual Help (Church)
7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)
7:00pm RCIA (Church Basement)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)



Thu. Jun 2: 7:00pm Mass/Adoration (Church)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)



Fri. Jun 3: 3:00pm & 6:15pm Divine Mercy (Church)
6:00pm CFC-FFL Youth (Rectory Basement)
6:00pm CFC-SFL (School Seminar Room)
7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)
7:00pm Parenting Workshop (Church Basement)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)



Sat. Jun 4: 9:00am 2000 Hail Mary (Rectory Dining)
9:45am Bible Study (Church Basement)
11:00am CFC-SFL (School Gym)
3:00pm Baptism (Church)
3:00pm Legion of Mary (Church Basement)
6:00pm CFC-FFL (Rectory Basement)
7:45pm Concert for Talitha Koum (Church)

Sun. Jun 5: 9:00am Youth for Christ (Church Basement)
10:30am CWL Family Fair (School Gym)

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.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