



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

Dec. 25, 2011

Pastor's
Corner

DAD IN THE PLAYPEN!

One day, Fr. John Henry Hampsch, C.M.F., was invited by a young couple for dinner. While he was talking with the husband in the living room, he could see the mother busying herself with the cooking pots in the kitchen. Her toddler was hanging around her legs. She grew impatient because she feared spilling some boiling soup on him. After asking the baby many times to stay away from her, she finally resolved to put him in the playpen. Of course, the toddler started crying to get out of it, but the mother was firm. Meanwhile her husband was watching all this with Fr. Hampsch. The young dad felt compassion for his crying toddler and longed to set him free, but he did not want to contradict the order of his wife and teach disobedience to their son. So he forgot about his "dignity" and self-awareness and jumped into the playpen with his toddler. Fr. Hampsch was amazed at the sight! The young dad hugged his baby and sang joyfully over him. The toddler no longer wanted to get out of the playpen and disobey his mom! He had everything he wanted in his "prison."

That, my brothers and sisters, is a beautiful image of Christmas. Before the coming of Christ, we felt imprisoned and cut away from God. By the Second Person of the Trinity, the Eternal Word, had compassion for us and wanted to quench our tears (and yet also wanted to prevent us from being burned by the boiling soup!), so He jumped in our "playpen"... forgetting His "dignity", He became flesh for us, like a little baby, to be close to us and to put joy, right now, in our hearts on this planet, and to bring us out and up to the embrace of God the Father.

Pastors's Corner Continued...

Pastor's Corner Continued...

Like the husband who jumped in the playpen, God came in our midst, as one like us, and rejoiced over us and danced for joy over us. And God the Father sent His angels over Bethlehem to dance for joy over them. He is begging us to enter into this joy! May His joy be in you right now!

Merry Christmas! Fr. Pierre & Fr. Gabriel



*Wishing you a Blessed and Joyous
 Christmas from the Pastors and
 Staff of St. Mary's Parish!*

PARISH NEWS

DANCE SHOW FOR PHILIPPINE FLOOD VICTIMS

A group of young people, some from Mission Ablaze prayer group, will stage a dance and singing show to fundraise for the victims of the flash floods in the Philippines. The show will be on Saturday, January 7th at 7pm in the Church basement. Tickets will be available at the door that evening for \$10. Donations of cash or cheques will be gratefully accepted on site. Envelopes will be provided for those requiring tax receipts. All are welcome.

PARISH NEWS

SPARK (grades 6-8) – CHRISTMAS BREAK



There will be no Jr. Youth Ministry events during the Christmas break. We will resume with a Jr. YM event on Monday, Jan 9. Have a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.

FLAME (grades 8-12) – MOVIE NIGHT



School is on a break and it's time to relax and have fun. So how about a movie night? Join Sr. Youth Ministry on Friday, Dec 30 at 6:30pm in the Church basement for movies, popcorn and tons of fun. Bring a friend if you can.

FLAME (8-12) – SERVICE



Do you want to help those in need? Do you need service hours? Then join the Sr. Youth Ministry as we serve food to the homeless at the Door is Open with the Missionaries of Charity on Wednesday, Dec 28. If you are interested in joining us please fill out the permission form on our website and bring it to the event (www.marysyoung.com/forms)

2012 SUNDAY ENVELOPES

The 2012 envelopes are now ready to be picked up from the Church basement; please do so as soon as possible. If your address has changed, please fill out the form at the envelope table or at the registration table.

"GROWING THROUGH SUFFERING" SR. ANN SHIELDS

Do not let your suffering be wasted. Come and listen to Sr. Ann Shields, an internationally noted speaker and author of many books, like "Deeper Conversion" and radio host of "Food for the Journey." This one day conference will be on Saturday, Jan 14, from 10am to 4:30pm at St. Mary's Church. Tickets \$10. Coffee & snacks are free; pls. bring bag lunch. Info: 604-435-9611 ext. 230 or 604-454-3143 or e-mail: servant_ablaze2011@yahoo.ca.

CHILD-MINDING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

We are looking for volunteer assistants & supervisors to provide child-minding service at Sr. Ann Shields' retreat "Growth through Suffering" on Sat Jan 14 from 9am-4pm. Volunteer assistants must be 14 or older. Volunteer supervisors must be adults with experience in child-minding, and must go through a criminal record check. If you are interested, please email mmoy_ca@yahoo.com or call 604-435-9611 (x230).

DIOCESAN & COMMUNITY NEWS

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE - PHILIPPINES

Flash floods in the Philippines have claimed the lives of close to 1000 people and the government has declared the situation a national calamity. Development and Peace is accepting donations by phone 1-888-234-8533, online at www.devp.org or by sending a cheque made out to Development and Peace (please indicate Philippines Floods) to: Development and Peace, 1425 René-Lévesque Blvd. W, 3rd Floor, Montreal, QC H3G 1T7.

CCO- SUPPORTER APPRECIATION NIGHT

500 students from across Canada will gather in Vancouver for Catholic Christian Outreach Rise Up National Conference and all are invited to witness part of this powerful event. Event is on Dec. 30 at Hyatt Regency Vancouver. For more info e-mail: riseup@cco.ca; call 604-780-7527; visit www.cco.ca/riseup

SAME-SEX ATTRACTION

If you feel attraction for the same-sex, can you remain a good Catholic? For confidential help call Courage/Encourage at 604-916-6192 or email vancouvercourage1@live.ca for more info.

NEW YEAR'S DANCE ST. PAUL'S CATHOLIC SINGLES

New Year's Eve Dance is being sponsored by St. Paul's Catholic Singles Club on Dec. 31 at the Sunrise Community Hall, 1950 Windermere St., Vancouver. Live music. Guests \$45. Purchase tickets in advance. Doors open at 8:15pm For more information call Lina at 604-433-0055.

THE WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

World Day of Migrants and Refugees will begin Jan. 9 with a week of prayer and reflection, culminating Sunday, Jan. 15, with a special Mass celebrated by Archbishop Miller at St. Helen's Parish at 5pm. Join us for a Celebration which follows in the school gym; entertainment and goodies from many different cultures. For more info: e-mail evollet@rcav.org; or visit <http://rcav.org/osj>.

NOTRE DAME - IMPORTANT DATES

Annual Open House is on Jan 11, 6pm-8pm. The placement exam is on Jan 14, 8am -Noon. For more information, call Mrs. Cirillo at 604-255-5454.

ST. THOMAS MORE-IMPORTANT DATES

Annual Open House is on Jan 17 at 6:30pm. The placement exam is on Jan 23 at 1:30pm. For more information please visit the website at www.stmc.bc.ca.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Sun. Dec 25: **CHRISTMAS DAY**
9:30am Mass (Church)
11:15am Mass (Church)
1:00pm Mass (Church)



Mon. Dec 26: **PARISH OFFICE CLOSED**
NO 8:00am Mass
No Bingo
7:00pm Mass (Church)

Tue. Dec 27: **PARISH OFFICE CLOSED**

Wed. Dec 28: 3:00pm St. Michael's Mass (7451 Sussex Ave)
6:00pm Novena Our Lady Perpetual Help (Church)
7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)



Thu. Dec 29: 7:00pm Mass/Adoration (Church)
7:00pm RCIA (Church Basement)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)



Fri. Dec 30: 3:00pm & 6:15pm Divine Mercy (Church)
6:30pm Sr YM -FLAME (Church Basement)
7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)



Sat. Dec 31: 9:15am D & A (Rectory Basement)
10:00am YM Basketball (School Gym)
3:00pm Legion of Mary (Church Basement)
5:00pm Mass (Church)
10:30pm Adoration (Church)
11:30pm Mass (Church)

Sun. Jan 1: **NEW YEAR'S DAY**
9:30am Mass (Church)
11:15am Mass (Church)
1:00pm Mass (Church)
5:00pm Mass (Church)
7:00pm Mass (Church)



PARISH INFORMATION

WEEKDAY MORNING MASS: Monday - Friday: 8:00am

Weekday Morning Rosary 7:00am / Weekday Morning Lauds 7:30am

WEEKDAY EVENING MASS: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 7pm followed by Adoration at 7:45pm & Benediction at 9:00pm

SATURDAY MASS: Our Lady's Mass 8:30am

SUNDAY MASS: 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: 8:30am

FIRST FRIDAY: Adoration throughout the day after morning mass
CONFESSION:

Weekdays: After all Masses (except Thursday Evening Mass)

Saturday: 9:00am to 9:30am, 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.

BAPTISM: To register your child, see website or contact Parish Office.

MARRIAGE:

One of the couple must be Catholic and a parishioner of St. Mary's Parish 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 / Saturday 9:45am

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 6:30pm to 8:00pm

Coordinator: Stefan Oberg E-mail: stmarys.prep@yahoo.ca

MIGRANT MINISTRY: (604) 355-9611 stmarysmigrant@yahoo.com

YOUTH MINISTRY (YM) E-mail: arda@marysyoung.com

Coordinator: Arda Akoglu Website: www.marysyoung.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 Chadarévian, O.P.

Executive Assistant to Pastors

Vesna Jankovic

Office Manager

Ossie Fernandes

Youth Ministry/Volunteer Coordinator Arda Akoglu