



**ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
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**Feb. 12, 2012**

**Pastor's  
Corner**

**MAKE SURE NONE OF YOUR  
SUFFERING IS WASTED**

We have all experienced a suffering which is useful and another one which makes us feel useless. The first type teaches us something, makes us wiser and prunes us so that we can bear more fruit. It makes us a better person, a better lover, a better father, or a better worker. The second type seems only negative. We cannot make any sense of it, we might even become paralyzed spiritually, emotionally, mentally, physically. We feel we can no longer bring anything to anyone and at the same time we cannot receive anything from anyone.

What is it that is happening in this "absurd" suffering? "It is an invitation in disguise from God to unite our suffering to His for the Salvation of the world. Your suffering, united with the infinite merit Jesus Christ won for us upon the Cross, that suffering united with Christ can work for the Salvation of the world." (from Sister Ann Shields, in her talk at St. Mary's Parish, on January 14, 2012.)

Please read the letter of Pope John Paul II, "On the Christian Meaning of Human Suffering", section 24. Or listen to Sister Ann Shield's CD, "From Death to Life. The Fruit of Suffering in our Lives", section 15-19. Pope John Paul says in section 24 of his letter, "In Paul's letter to the Colossians, we read the words which constitute the final stage of the spiritual journey in relationship to suffering. Paul said, in Colossians 1:24, 'Now I rejoice in my suffering for your sake and in my flesh I complete what is lacking in Christ's affliction for the sake of His Body, that is the Church.' When St. Paul makes this comment, does this mean that the Redemption accomplished by Christ is not complete? No! It only means that the Redemption accomplished through love remains always open to all love expressed through human suffering. In this dimension, the dimension of love, the Redemption which has already been completely

*Pastor's Corner Continued...*

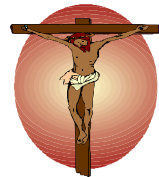
*Pastor's Corner Continued...*

accomplished, is in a certain sense constantly being accomplished. Christ achieved the Redemption completely and to the very limit, but at the same time He didn't bring it to a close!" He could close it down but He has allowed us the privilege of uniting our suffering to His, for the Salvation of the world. What a great mercy for us. What a humble God we have who allows Himself to need us!

John Paul says, "In this Redemptive suffering through which the Redemption of the world was accomplished, Christ opened Himself from the beginning to every human suffering and constantly does so." He says that, "It seems to be part of the very essence of Christ's Redemptive suffering that this suffering requires to be unceasingly completed."

In other words, brothers and sisters, I can offer my suffering, limitations, fatigue, frustration of not being able to do what I would normally do without suffering. The pain of becoming useless, powerless. "We all naturally and humanely fear suffering, all of us, but all suffering, whether it is mental, emotional or physical, however slight or however great, all suffering offered becomes infinitely valuable in the Blood and the merits of Jesus Christ won for us upon the Cross. You are never useless, no matter how afflicted, no matter how incapacitated, you are never useless. No matter how old you are and how unable you are to do things for other people. Not one of us is ever useless. In fact, we may be doing more good for the Kingdom of God, in our suffering than we ever did in all of our works." (Sister Ann Shields) Jesus did more for us in the last day of His life when He was chained, dragged, crucified, then all the other days. John Paul II did more for the future of the Church in his last years when he could barely lift up the consecrated host.

"Brothers and Sisters, take a look at this area of your life and make sure that none of it is useless, none of it is wasted. Join it with Christ for the Salvation of God's people." (Sister Ann Shields)



*God Bless you, Fr. Pierre*

**PARISH NEWS**

**SPARK (grades 6-8) – AROUND THE TABLE**



Do your siblings annoy you? Are you having difficulty getting along with them? Do you always find yourself in trouble and being scolded by your parents? Youth Ministry has found the solution for all these problems and we will be sharing our secret on Monday, Feb 13 at 6:30pm in the Church basement! Mix that with our awesome games and activities and you'll be sure to have a fruitful night with us!

**FLAME (grades 8-12) – ASK ARDA**



How well do you know your faith? Do you have questions that you don't have the answers to? You are in luck! We will make our Youth Ministry Coordinator Arda, sweat with all your questions. You can come and put your written questions in a box and Arda will try to answer them all. There will be consequences for questions he cannot answer, so don't miss the fun. Join us on Sunday, Feb 19 in the Church basement at 6:30pm and bring a friend if you can.

**CATHOLICISM SERIES**

Join Fr. Barron as he travels in an exciting globe-trotting experience, exploring the Universal Church in a way never before seen. This is an amazing opportunity to grow in your faith. The series begins on Feb. 18 from 9:30am-11:30am in the Church basement. To register call 604-435-9611 ext. 3 (Fr. Gabriel OP) or email catholicismsaintmary@gmail.com.

**MAN OF THE SHROUD EXHIBIT VOLUNTEERS**

The Man of the Shroud Exhibit is still seeking volunteers to serve as attendants at the doors, in the parking lot, and inside the exhibit area. Please sign up in the foyer. In addition, there will be a volunteer orientation for all Man of the Shroud volunteers on Sun Feb 19 from 2-4pm. It will include a presentation on "An overview of the Shroud of Turin." All are invited.

**HOLY LAND OLIVE WOOD**

In order to promote steady employment for the minority Christians in Bethlehem & Jerusalem, those families who carve olive wood are seeking our support by purchasing their crafts available next weekend, Feb 18/19 only. The sale is a way of assisting this community and supporting the last minority of Christians to be rooted in the Land of Christ.

## PARISH NEWS

### VALENTINE CHOCOLATE

St. Mary's School will be selling chocolates in the foyer after all Masses this weekend, to fundraise for the school. Please support us!

### VALENTINE'S FOR HOSPITAL PATIENTS

Everyone is invited to join the Respect Life group to hand out valentines at Willingdon Hospital, 4435 Grange St, on Monday, Feb. 13 at 10:30am. Your help would be most appreciated.

### CHALICE

Deacon Leo would like to thank parishioners for their kindness and generosity during his recent visit. There were 118 children sponsored over that weekend! Over 21 years of appeals, he has never seen more children sponsored over one weekend than at St. Mary's, and he sends his deep gratitude on behalf of Chalice and the children in great need.

## DIOCESAN & COUNTRY NEWS




### DON'T MISS THE ARCHDIOCESAN CONFERENCE

Take one dynamic Archbishop, mix in one talented Catholic musician, add one passionate speaker from New Orleans...total them up and what have you got? **Archdiocesan Conference: One Faith. One Body. One Mission.** The Archdiocesan Conference is our annual event gathering Catholics at the Vancouver Convention Centre to inspire and renew their faith, Feb. 17 & 18. This year's line-up has something for everyone: renowned singer-songwriter Matt Maher; the dynamic and humorous Mike Patin speaking on the role of passion in our faith; Fr. Paul Nicholson, a popular speaker who will address the disappearance of men from Western Christianity, and plenty more, including Mass with the Archbishop, a ministry fair and exhibits. For more speaker information, a promo video, and to register go to [www.rcav.org/conference](http://www.rcav.org/conference).

### IS YOUR MARRIAGE IN CRISIS?

Retrouvaille helps couples recover from serious marital problems of all kinds. Learn to regain love, positive communication and respect. If you are experiencing marital crisis, explore this highly successful option before you consider divorce. For info or to register for the weekend of April 13-15, call 604-530-6710, email [1009@retrouvaille.org](mailto:1009@retrouvaille.org) or visit [www.retrouvaille.org](http://www.retrouvaille.org).

## THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

- Sun. Feb 12:** 1:00pm CFC-YFL (Rectory Basement)  
2:00pm CFC (Church Basement)  
2:00pm Light of Jesus (School Gym)
- Mon. Feb 13:** 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)  
6:30pm Jr YM- SPARK (Church Basement)
- Tue. Feb 14:** 6:30pm PREP (School)  
6:30pm Baptism Prep (Church)  
7:00pm Christian Meditation (Rectory Basement)  
7:30pm Family Tree Healing Mass (Church)
- Wed. Feb 15:** 5:00pm L'Arche Mass (7401 Sussex)  
6:00pm Novena Our Lady Perpetual Help (Church)  
6:30pm PREP (School)  
7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)  
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room)  
9:00pm Benediction (Church)
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- Thu. Feb 16:** 7:00pm Mass/Adoration (Church)  
7:00pm RCIA (Church Basement)  
9:00pm Benediction (Church)
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- Fri. Feb 17:** 3:00pm & 6:15pm Divine Mercy (Church)  
6:30pm Dev & Peace (Rectory Dining Room)  
7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)  
7:00pm Easter Vigil Choir (Seminar Room)  
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room)  
9:00pm Benediction (Church)
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- Sat. Feb 18:** 9:30am Catholicism Series (Church Basement)  
10:00am YM Basketball (School Gym)  
10:00am Handmaids (Seminar Room)  
2:00pm CFC-SFC (School Gym)  
3:00pm Knights of Columbus (Church Basement)  
3:00pm Legion of Mary (Rectory Dining Room)  
6:00pm CFC (School Gym)  
6:00pm CFC-FFL (Church Basement)  
7:30pm ARC (Church)
- Sun. Feb 19:** 4:00pm Knights of Columbus (School Gym)  
6:30pm Sr YM- FLAME (Church Basement)

## 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
- 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](mailto:stmarys.prep@yahoo.ca)
- MIGRANT MINISTRY:** (604) 355-9611 [stmarysmigrant@yahoo.com](mailto:stmarysmigrant@yahoo.com)
- YOUTH MINISTRY (YM)** E-mail: [arda@marysyouth.com](mailto:arda@marysyouth.com)  
Coordinator: Arda Akoglu Website: [www.marysyouth.com](http://www.marysyouth.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:**
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|---|----------------------------------|
| <b>Pastor</b>                               | Fr. Pierre Leblond, O.P.         |
| <b>Assistant Pastor</b>                     | Fr. Gabriel de Chadarévian, O.P. |
| <b>Executive Assistant to Pastors</b>       | Vesna Jankovic                   |
| <b>Office Manager</b>                       | Ossie Fernandes                  |
| <b>Youth Ministry/Volunteer Coordinator</b> | Arda Akoglu                      |