

ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH 5251 JOYCE STREET VANCOUVER BC V5R 4G8
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# WANTED: Lungs for God's Rescue Operation

Have you ever been a victim—or a cause—of real violence or real hatred? Did you loose a loved one through premature death? Are you dealing with serious health problems in your own life? Sooner or later, one of the above will happen, or most probably has already happened. Life is messy! We live in a world gone wrong. Everything is broken, everything is compromised. Not hopeless though! But humanity behaves like a dysfunctional family: one person's problems awake another person's problems. I am hurt, therefore I hurt you. You hurt somebody else. And on and on...

All this is reflected in today's readings of Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord. Where is the hope? The Passion is the story of God's Rescue Operation! He did not want to solve the problem from on high, at a safe distance. He went into our mess, got his hands dirty and his heart pierced. He went through the worst of our messy life and absorbed everything in his Divine Mercy. Like a cotton ball, like a wound dressing, he stood between the murderer and the victim and absorb the blow. One could say that he was and is like a filter who absorb the poisons of our dirty waters in himself and release pure, life giving water. Just like our lungs who burns the blue blood of its toxins and release oxygen-rich blood to the body, constantly, silently.

Now God is sending us also to his Rescue Operation. He did open a path through the mess. We have to "complete" his work and reap the benefits. Here is a story that illustrates it. Mother Teresa was walking through a back alley in a very poor

Pastor's Corner Continued...

neighbourhood. She heard some human cries for help from a garbage bin. She did not run away but came and looked in. An old lady had been put there to die...by her own son. Mother Teresa pulled her out and brought her into her house for the dying. Not only did she gave her a few more weeks to live, but she went to look for her son, managed, with God's grace, to bring the son back to his mother, had them forgive one another and reconcile. The old lady died in peace.

If God had not created Mother Teresa, that woman would have died a terrible death, eaten alive by rats and maggots, rejected by her own son. And the son would have drag this guilt of `murdering` his mom. All his life-long, he would have been angry at himself. He would have created more mess in our messy world. He would have thrown his anger at innocent people or given himself to drug addictions.

God was not content to "create" Mother Teresa. He also created you! Are you willing to help him clean this messy humanity? Are you willing to become the lungs of the world, of your community and family? Be a Simon of Cyrene for Christ and for us. Inhale and exhale the very Breath of God, purifying, life-giving Breath of God.

God bless you. May this week be a Holy Week! Fr. Pierre

P.S. My gratitude to Fr Robert Barron, Fr. Ron Rolheiser, OMI and Vernon Robertson whose inspiration I am sharing with you.

#### PARISH NEWS

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- ⇒ St. Mary's School has openings for Grade 5 & 7 for September 2012. If interested, please contact the school at 604-437-1312.
- ⇒ Divine Mercy Novena and Chaplet leaflets will be distributed by the Knight of Columbus before and after Church services on Good Friday.

#### ST. MARY'S YOUNG ADULT GROUP



Are you a young adult between 18 to 35? Did you hear about St. Mary's Young Adult Group? Every 2nd and 4th Saturday, our Young Adult Group has events and activities designed to get all young adults involved in their faith, have fun like never before, meet new people and serve the Lord. Follow us on www.facebook.com/marysyouth or join the mailing list by emailing arda@marysyouth.com. Are you ready for this?

## SPARK (GRADES 6-8) - LIVING THE OPTION

Life gives us so many options! How do we know which one to



choose? How do we know it's the way we are called to live? Is there an instruction manual for this??? As a matter of fact, there is!!! And SPARK wants to share it with you! Join us on Monday, April 2nd at 6:30pm in the church basement for a night of fun, faith and fellowship! Come and learn to live the best option!

## **LOGO DESIGN CONTEST**

Are you creative? Do you want to put your creativity to the test? St. Mary's Youth Ministry wants logo designs for its different groups and we are having a contest to pick them. We need logos for our groups: Spark, Flame, Fire and Blaze (four different logos). Please submit



your design(s) to arda@marysyouth.com\_on or before May 15. The winner will get the boasting rights and a Youth Ministry t-shirt

#### PARISH NEWS

## PROJECT ADVANCE 2012

Calling for volunteers! We need volunteers to assist in 2012 Project Advance. If you are a new parishioner, come join us and show your support for the parish. If you have participated in the previous year, we need your support to make it more successful. Volunteer cards available at the foyer; please return all cards by April 14. There will be an information/training meeting on April 16 at 6pm at the Rectory. Kudos to all parishioners of St. Mary's and in particular to those who contributed to 2011 campaign. Your generous donations made it possible to achieve our parish's goal of \$92,000. Total pledges was \$97,053 which enabled the parish to cover the administrative costs and receive a rebate for its efforts. Thank you in advance and we look forward to working with all of you in this year's campaign.

#### **DIOCESAN & COMMUNITY NEWS**

#### **LEGION OF MARY**

The 75th anniversary of "The Legion of Mary", Archdiocese of Vancouver, will be celebrated on April 14, 10:30am at Canadian Martyrs Church, 5771 Granville, Richmond. Active & auxilliary members please attend. Everyone is welcome! For more information, please contact Cathy, 778-926-4882

## Youth Day: Rejoice!

Youth Day 2012 is coming on May 4 and May 5 at Archbishop Carney Regional Secondary School in Port Coquitlam. Join hundreds of teens for an awesome weekend of faith, fellowship, and fun! Register now with your parish youth ministry or Catholic high school: early registration deadline is April 23. For registration info and promo materials, visit www.oyyam.com

## BECOMING THE MAN GOD CREATED YOU TO BE

June 15, with speaker Fr. Larry Richards at St. Mary's, Vancouver. Tickets are available only through the parish reps listed on Evangelization/Events website http://www.rcav.org/Evangelization/Events/

### **ENRICH YOUR FAITH**

Archdiocesan Formation Institute offer one-day faith formation and ministry training courses for adults. Topics include: Church history, apologetics & more. Apr 21, from 10am to 4pm. Cost: \$35. For more information visit: www.rcav.org/oc/spring

#### THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

10:00am Handmaids (School Gym) Sun. Apr 1:

1:00pm Light of Jesus Meeting (Rectory Dining)

1:30pm CFC-YFC (Church Basement)

7:30pm Neo Catechumens (Church Basement)

5:30pm Migrant Ministry (Rectory Living Room) Mon. Apr 2:

6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)

6:30pm Jr YM—SPARK (Church Basement) 7:00pm CWL Exec Meeting (Rectory Dining) 7:00pm Lay Apostles (Rectory Living Room) 7:00pm Healing Prayer (Rectory Basement)

5:00pm Altar Servers (Church) Tue. Apr 3:

6:30pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining)

7:00pm Christian Meditation (Rectory Basement)

6:00pm Novena Our Lady Perpetual Help (Church) Wed. Apr 4:

7:00pm RCIA (Church Basement)

7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)

7:30pm Neo Catechumens (School Gym)

7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room)

8:15pm Benediction

HOLY THURSDAY (no 8am Mass or Thu. Apr 5:

morning lauds) Church open all day from

9:00am-10pm

7:00pm MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

followed by Adoration & Confession until

10pm (Church)

Easter Vigil

GOOD FRIDAY (no 8am or 7pm Mass) Fri. Apr 6:

Church open all day from 9:00am-10pm

10am-2:30pm Confession (Church)

3:00pm CELEBRATION OF THE

LORD'S PASSION (Church)

3:00pm CELEBRATION OF THE

LORD'S PASSION (School Hall) followed by Veneration & Confession to 10pm (Church)

7:00pm Stations of the Cross (Church)

**HOLY SATURDAY**(no 8:30am or 5pm Mass) Sat. Apr 7:

> Church open all day from 9:00am-10pm 3:00-5:00pm Confession (Church)

9:00pm Easter Vigil

EASTER SUNDAY (Regular Mass times, with Sun. Apr 8:

an extra Mass at 3pm) No confessions before or after Mass

#### 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 fol-

lowed 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@marysyouth.com Coordinator: Arda Akoglu Website: www.marysyouth.com

ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Website: www.stmary.bc.ca Principal: Ms Brenda Krivuzoff

Phone: (604) 437-1312 Fax: (604) 437-1193

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Monday to Friday: 9:00am to 5:00pm

Fax: (604) 439-9413 Phone: (604) 435-9611

**PASTORS & STAFF:** 

**Pastor** Fr. Pierre Leblond, O.P.

Assistant Pastor Fr. Gabriel de Chadarévian, O.P.

**Executive Assistant to Pastors** Vesna Iankovic Ossie Fernandes Office Manager Youth Ministry/Volunteer Coordinator Arda Akoglu