



ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
 5251 JOYCE STREET
 VANCOUVER BC V5R 4G8
 TEL: (604) 435-9611 FAX: (604) 439-9413
 EMAIL: parish.smarv@rcav.org
 WEBSITE: www.stmarysvancouver.ca

SEPTEMBER 23, 2012

Pastor's
 Corner

FOCUS AND SOAR!

Have you ever experienced yourself as a bundle of emotions (or passions), each one pulling in its own direction? Your inner self looking like a war field? If so, don't get discouraged. All the great people in the world, and mostly all saints, were people of great passion. St. Francis of Assisi, the most loved saint of all time, was such a bundle of contradictory desires when he was a teenager. He was just like any other teenager, but even more passionate! He was full of sexual desires, aggression, competitiveness, the desire to shine in the military, pleasure seeking. And so was St. Ignatius of Loyola. At the right moment, God gave these saints the power from above to channel, harness, and focus their passionate being.

Let us have a look at this for our own sake. I am following here the homily of Fr. Robert Barron, sermon 298 given in September 2006, when he commented on today's second reading, taken from the Letter of James, Chapter 3. We all have a lot of passions in us. Passion for sex, for aggression, for self-protection, for pleasure, for physical movement for sport, for relationship, for beauty. These passions are not bad in themselves! For a Catholic, they are ok; they are God's gift to us. They give us energy, drive, and purpose. But they do not have by themselves a regulating mechanism. Left to themselves, they will grow into an absolute, each of these passions asking to take up all our attention, all our energy. Take the passion for food and drink as an example. When you are really, really hungry and thirsty, these desires demand immediate satisfaction, at all costs.

Pastor's Corner Continued...

Pastor's Corner Continued...

You cannot take your mind away from it, until the thirst and hunger are satisfied. Then what? Another passion comes in and takes over. So we do experience our lives as a series of overlapping passions, each one claiming to be served first. There is war within our inner self. And St. James in today's reading said that the inner self is causing a war in our relationship with others. "You do not have what you want, therefore you kill to get it."

What is the solution? We need a power from above that can order our passions, focus them on a higher perspective and use them in such a way that our lives can take off. The philosopher Plato said that we are like a chariot being propelled by a multitude of wild horses. Unless these horses are harnessed together, they will destroy the chariot by pulling each toward its own way. The horses need a charioteer who will organize them so that they can powerfully drive the chariot. Then our lives get unity, power and direction. We Catholics call this charioteer, the gift of wisdom. St. Thomas Aquinas said the gift of wisdom, that we all have received with the Holy Spirit at Confirmation and Baptism is the power to see then everything and mostly our very life, from the viewpoint of God, from the hilltop. This gift cures our vision weakened by original sin, and our will. It enables to see what God wants of us and it gives us the desire to do it.

Two practical advices: One, pray for the rekindling of that gift of wisdom. Get your baptism renewed by teaching, sacraments and baptism with the Holy Spirit. Number two, pray for the desire to be used by God. It is another of the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit.

God bless you, Fr. Pierre

PARISH NEWS

NEW PARISH CENTRE

Our Parish Building Committee is in need of volunteers with expertise in the areas of communications, marketing, and fundraising. If you have these skills and wish to be part of this committee, please email your resume to the parish office at parish.smarv@rcav.org. Deadline is Sept. 30.



PARISH NEWS

SPARK (GRADES 6 & 7) – FAQ

God left us with Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth, yes that's right, the Bible! But many times we can get confused or bored when reading it. Well, don't worry because SPARK knows how to make it relatable and exciting for you! Join us on Monday, September 24th at 6:30pm in the Church basement for some games, Power Points, skits, and so much more!



FIRE (GRADES 8 & 9) – MUSIC & ME

Do you like music? Who's your favorite artist? What is your all-time favourite song? What does your music say about you? Come and join us as we dive into the world of music with games, skits, pizza and tons of fun. Bring your favorite songs on mp3 to share and bring a friend if you can. Friday, September 28 at 6:30pm in the Church Basement.

FIRE & FLAME (grades 8-12) – TAG & CLIMB

Are you ready to tag & climb? Next Friday, October 5, St. Mary's Youth Ministry is going laser tag and rock climbing and you don't want to be left behind. You better be quick because we have only limited spots available.

First come, first serve or should we say 'You snooze you lose'? The cost is \$15 and the registration forms are available from the Youth Ministry web-site and at the parish office. Questions? Contact Arda at arda@marysyoung.com.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Knights of Columbus, St. Mary's council 9th Annual Fr. Michael J. McGivney Memorial Fundraising Golf Tournament will be held on Sunday Sept 30 starting at 9am at Sunshine Woods Golf Centre, 10646-64th Ave., Delta. Net proceeds will be donated to candidates for priesthood. For more info, please contact Gabby at 778-322-8884.



PARISH NEWS

DO YOU WANT TO READ THE BIBLE?

If you want to read the Bible, but don't know where or how to begin, then "A Quick Journey Through the Bible" is for you! This DVD series by Jeff Cavins makes reading the Bible easy and exciting! You will learn the major people, places, events and themes of the Bible. Perhaps for the first time in your life, you will know the "big picture" of salvation history. The series consists of 8 DVD's; each 30 minutes long. They will be shown in the Church basement on Sundays (Sep 23/30, Oct 7/14/28, Nov 4/11/18) at 6:20pm (after the 5pm Mass). *No need to register, no cost involved, no discussion groups. Just come, sit back and enjoy!*

MAN ALIVE!

Come to MAN ALIVE! Participate in the first ever one day Catholic Men's Conference on Saturday, October 27th and explore and enrich your faith for personal, family and Church renewal. Tickets are available online at rcav.org/manalive, or after Mass.

CFC SINGLES FOR FAMILY AND LIFE




Our community provides a supportive environment to help singles live a full and meaningful life with Christ at the center of it. If you are unmarried (never been married), between 20-40 years of age, you are invited to attend a Christian Life Seminar. For more info, please email ourjoyinCHRIST@gmail.com or call Marianne at 778-385-5926.

DIOCESAN NEWS

COMING HOME TO THE CHURCH

To prepare for a major evangelization initiative for the upcoming Year of Faith, Ryan Henning of Phoenix brings a presentation on why Catholics leave the Church, why they return, and practical steps to welcome them home. There will be a free seminar to inspire, inform, and equip, open to anyone interested in sharing their faith: Sept. 28th from 7pm- 9pm at St. Patrick's, Vancouver. Register at www.rcav.org/evangelization, 604-683-0281.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

- Sun Sep 23:** 2:00pm CFC-YFL (Rectory Basement)
2:00pm Knights of Columbus (Seminar Room)
2:00pm Light of Jesus (School Gym)
6:30pm Bible Study (Church Basement)
- Mon Sep 24:** 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
6:30pm YM-SPARK Gr 6-7 (Church Basement)
- Tue Sep 25:** 7:00pm Christian Meditation (Rectory Basement)
7:30pm Ablaze (Church Basement)
- Wed Sep 26:** 6:00pm Novena Our Lady of Perpetual Help (Church)
7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)
7:30pm Neo Catechumen (Church Basement)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)
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- Thu Sep 27:** 7:00pm Mass/Adoration (Church)
7:00pm RCIA (Church Basement)
7:00pm Theology of the Body (Seminar Room)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)
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- Fri Sep 28:** 3:00pm & 6:15pm Divine Mercy (Church)
5:30pm CFC-SFC (Seminar Room)
6:00pm Fast & Pray (Rectory Basement)
6:30pm YM- FIRE Gr 8 & 9 (Church Basement)
6:30pm Dev & Peace (Rectory Dining)
7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)
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- Sat Sep 29:** 10:00am YM Basketball (School Gym)
1:00pm CFC-FFL (Church Basement)
2:30pm Baptism (Church)
3:00pm Legion of Mary (Rectory Dining)
6:30pm CFC (School Gym)
7:30pm Neo Catechumen (Seminar Room)
- Sun Sep 30:** 1:00pm Handmaids (Seminar Room)
2:00pm Light of Jesus (School Gym)
6:30pm Bible Study (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-9:30am, 4:15pm- 4:55pm, 6:10pm- 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.

RCIA: Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. Contact soberg@rcav.org.

PREP: Catechism Program for children attending public schools on Tuesdays or Wednesdays 6:30pm-8:00pm

Coordinator: Stefan Oberg E-mail: soberg@rcav.org.

TEEN PREP: Interactive Catechism Sessions for Teens on Tuesdays 6:30pm-8:00pm

Coordinator: Stefan Oberg E-mail: soberg@rcav.org.

YOUTH MINISTRY: 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

E-mail: parish.smarv@rcav.org

Website: www.stmarysvancouver.ca

PASTORS & STAFF:

Pastor

Fr. Pierre Leblond, O.P.

Assistant Pastor

Fr. Gabriel de Chadarevian, O.P.

Assistant to Pastors

Vesna Jankovic

Office Manager

Ossie Fernandes

Youth Ministry/Volunteer Coordinator Arda Akoglu

Youth Ministry Assistant

Ana Alfonso

RCIA/PREP Coordinator

Stefan Oberg