

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Sunday Dec 2: 1st Sunday of Advent

- 10:00am Kids for Christ (School Gym)
- 1:30pm Youth for Christ (Church Basement)
- 6:30pm YM FLAME Gr 10-12 (Church Basement)
- 7:00pm Knights of Columbus (School Gym)

Monday Dec 3: St. Francis Xavier

- 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
- 6:30pm YM- SPARK Gr 6-7 (Church Basement)
- 7:00pm MVA (Rectory Basement)
- 7:00pm Lay Apostle (Church)

Tuesday Dec 4: St. John Damascene

- 7:00pm Christian Meditation (Rectory Basement)
- 7:30pm Ablaze (Church Basement)

Wednesday Dec 5:

- 10:45am Fairhaven Mass (7557 Sussex Ave.)
- 7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)
- 7:30pm Neo Catechumen (Church Basement)
- 7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room)
- 9:00pm Benediction (Church)

Thursday Dec 6: St. Nicholas

- 6:30pm Knights of Columbus (School Gym)
- 7:00pm Mass/Adoration (Church)
- 7:00pm Theology of the Body (School Library)
- 9:00pm Benediction (Church)

Friday Dec 7: St. Ambrose

- 6:00pm Fast & Pray (Rectory Basement)
- 7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)
- 7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room)
- 9:00pm Benediction (Church)

Saturday Dec 8: Immaculate Conception of Mary

- 9:15am DNA (Rectory Basement)
- 9:30am Advent Retreat (Church Basement)
- 11:00am Senior's Anointing Mass (Church)
- 12:30pm Senior's Christmas Lunch (School Gym)
- 1:00pm Migrant Ministry (Seminar Room)
- 3:00pm Legion of Mary (Rectory Dining)
- 6:10pm Living Rosary (Church)
- 6:30pm CFC-FFL (School Gym)

Sunday Dec 9: 2nd Sunday of Advent

- 1:00pm CFC (Church Basement)
- 2:00pm Light of Jesus (School Gym)



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

DIVINE MERCY: Friday 3:00pm & 6:15pm

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: ana@marysyouth.com

Assistant: Ana Alfonso Website: www.marysyouth.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 6:30pm

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.

Pastoral Assistant

Vesna Jankovic

Office Manager

Ossie Fernandes

RCIA/PREP Coordinator

Stefan Oberg

Youth Ministry Assistant

Ana Alfonso

Receptionist

Rocelyn Catris



ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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DECEMBER 2, 2012

*Pastor's
Corner*

GOING FAST AWAY FROM LIFE

One of the many "Bad News, Good News" jokes goes like this: The pilot of a big airliner announces to his passengers, "I have some bad news: our onboard computers are out; we have lost all contact with the ground. We are lost. We don't know where we are or where we are heading anymore. But there is some good news: we are making really good time! A tailwind pushes us faster than expected!"

Of course, if you are heading the wrong way, then, if you go fast, you are going further and further away from your home! Not good news! Chesterton said, "If you are on the wrong path, moving quickly is the worst thing you could do." You are going faster away from your goal! Find your way first, then run.

But we all do the opposite. When we feel lost, we run faster and faster without thinking we may be going the wrong way. Indeed, we are all running faster and faster through life, without really knowing where we are going! We are like a parasite who hooks himself to a fast fish, not aware that this fish is about to be swallowed by a bigger and faster fish. We too will be swallowed!

What do I mean by that? Well, if you are looking for a business partner and you choose a partner who is a loser and a cheat, you will go down in bankruptcy with him. In our lives, we do put our hope in things that look great, powerful, pleasurable, prestigious, but are not meant to last. They become obsolete or pass away. Power, Prestige, Pleasure, Possessions are great, but they don't last. Don't hook your life to them. Connect yourself to the Eternal Power of God! Jesus, God made man, is your link. By becoming a member of His body, through repentance and faith, you are hooked to the Power that runs through all things, that transcends all things and suffuses all things, that Power, that Love, that

Pastor's Corner Continued...

Pastor's Corner Continued...

Wisdom, which endures when everything collapses; Nature, Cosmos, Political Powers, your own body and your own life. Even if it would be the end of the world tomorrow, even if you would die tomorrow, you are safe if you are personally linked to God through faith in Jesus. Watch for Him, wait for Him, find your peace in Him. In all things you do, do it for Him, with Him— in Him. Your being will last forever with Him.

God bless you, Fr. Pierre



PARISH NEWS

CATHOLICS COME HOME PRAY & FAST

Archbishop Miller is inviting all parishioners to choose one day to fast during our Catholics Come Home campaign. Our prayer is for those Catholics who no longer practice the faith that they will return and become faithful members of the Church. We pray also for those who do not yet believe, that they would “come and see” and receive all that God has for them through his Church. The campaign will run Dec 10-Jan 26. You are encouraged to choose one or more days, as you are able, and sign your initials on the calendar. There is no limit to how many people can fast on the same day but we hope to have each day covered, excluding Sundays and Solemnities. Please sign up in the foyer.



CATHOLICS COME HOME PRAYER COMMITMENTS

Please find CCH prayer commitment forms in the foyer that you can fill out and commit yourself to. Keep the form with you, or in your prayer book, as a reminder of the CCH program, and your commitment to pray for its fruitful success.



PARISH NEWS

FLAME (gr 10-12) – FLAME TIME

Come one, come all. It's FLAME time again and we are ready for another event filled with faith, fun and fellowship. Get ready for the games, open your heart to go deeper in your faith and step out of your comfort zone to make some new friends. What's the event all about? Well you'll just have to come and see for yourself. Join us on Sunday, Dec. 2nd at 6:30pm in the Church basement for a night of faith, fun and fellowship.



SPARK (gr 6 & 7) – AT THE MOVIES

It's time for more fun...it's social time! Join us as we pop the corn and pour the iced tea to sit back, relax and enjoy our movie of the month. Why waste money at the movies when we bring the experience to you for free? Join us on Monday, Dec 3. at 6:30pm in the Church basement.



YOUTH MINISTRY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Youth Ministry is looking for generous parishioners who can contribute to the Youth Ministry Scholarship Fund which will support our youth in their education. Every year three youth (one from SPARK, one from FIRE & one from FLAME) will be chosen based on attendance, positive participation and development to receive an annual sponsorship. Will you share your treasure with us? If so please contact Ana at 604-435-9611 ext.247 or ana@marysyoung.com.



ANNUAL CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

St. Vincent de Paul Society is coordinating a Giving Tree this Christmas. The branches are covered with gift tags and you may select one or more. This will indicate your commitment to purchase a gift(s) for a child aged newborn to 16 years old. Please bring the unwrapped gift and place it under the tree during the weekends **Dec 8/9** and **Dec 15/16**. We will distribute them to children who would otherwise be without gifts at Christmas. Thank you for your generosity.



DOMINICAN CHRISTMAS CARDS

Christmas cards printed by the Dominican nuns of the Queen of Peace Monastery are available for sale in the foyer after all Masses. Please support the nuns who spend their lives praying for us!

PARISH NEWS

ST MARY'S SENIORS CHRISTMAS DINNER

If you are **60 or over**, please join us for a delicious turkey dinner with all the trimmings, on Saturday, Dec. 8. Senior's Mass of Anointing will be at 11am, followed by dinner at 12:30pm in the School Gym. St Mary's School Children's Choir will perform, and there may be a visit from the “man in red”. Contact Eileen 604-436-3655 or Nancy 604-437-1312 to reserve your spot. RSVP by Dec. 5.



GRACE THAT REIGNS: ADVENT RETREAT

Most Reverend Ronald Gilmore of the diocese of Kansas and Jacqueline Loh will present: WAITING: Advent, Prayer, Life on Saturday, Dec. 8, beginning with Mass at 8:30am, and continuing in the Church basement to 4:30pm. Healing session will also be available. Cost \$10. Register at: gracemt@gmail.com. Please put “Advent retreat” in the subject line.

ST. NICHOLAS COOKIES

Today after all Masses, grade six students will be selling St. Nicholas cookies for \$1 each. St. Nicholas Day is this coming Thursday, why not buy several treats and surprise family and friends with a reminder of the *real* Santa Claus? Grade six is raising money to support a water project in Africa.



FR. VINCENT'S BOOK

There are still a few copies of Fr. Vincent's book, cost is \$10. Purchase a copy at the parish office, it makes a great Christmas gift!

PROJECT ADVANCE

Thank you for your generous support of our second collection. We are still short of our goal by \$10,000. Please continue to drop off your donations through collection basket. You have until Dec 31 to claim the donations for your 2012 income tax.

TALITHA KOUM SOCIETY BAKE SALE

Peppermint Bark Chocolate, banana bread, and peanut butter balls; these are just some of the tasty holiday gift ideas! Bake sale proceeds will benefit the spiritual houses of healing for women in conflict with society.



Order forms are available in the foyer. Order before **Dec 7** and pick up on **Dec 15**. Contact Kimmie at 604-492-3393 for more details.