

## THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

### **Sunday Dec 16: 3rd Sunday of Advent**

12:00pm Migrant Ministry (School Gym)  
6:30pm YM FLAME (Gr 8-12) Church Basement)

### **Monday Dec 17:**

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

### **Tuesday Dec 18:**

6:30pm CWL (School Gym)  
7:00pm Christian Meditation (Rectory Basement)  
7:30pm Ablaze (Church Basement)

### **Wednesday Dec 19:**

5:00pm L'Arche Mass (7401 Sussex)  
7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)  
7:30pm Neo Catechumen (Church Basement)  
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room)  
9:00pm Benediction (Church)

### **Thursday Dec 20:**

7:00pm Mass/Adoration (Church)  
9:00pm Benediction (Church)

### **Friday Dec 21:**

6:00pm Fast & Pray (Rectory Basement)  
7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)  
**7:40pm Advent Penitential Service (Church)**  
9:00pm Benediction (Church)

### **Saturday Dec 22:**

9:30am DNA (Rectory Basement)  
10:00am YM Basketball (School Gym)  
3:00pm Legion of Mary (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

**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](mailto: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](mailto:soberg@rcav.org).

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

Coordinator: Stefan Oberg E-mail: [soberg@rcav.org](mailto:soberg@rcav.org).

**YOUTH MINISTRY:** E-mail: [ana@marysyouth.com](mailto:ana@marysyouth.com)

Assistant: Ana Alfonso 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: 8:45am to 6:30pm

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

E-mail: [parish.smarv@rcav.org](mailto:parish.smarv@rcav.org)

Website: [www.stmarysvancouver.ca](http://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**

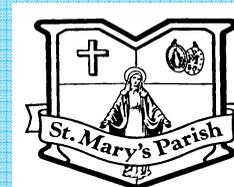
Stefan Oberg

**Youth Ministry Assistant**

Ana Alfonso

**Receptionist**

Rocelyn Catris



## ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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TEL: 604-435-9611 FAX: 604-439-9413

EMAIL: [parish.smarv@rcav.org](mailto:parish.smarv@rcav.org)

WEBSITE: [www.stmarysvancouver.ca](http://www.stmarysvancouver.ca)

## DECEMBER 16, 2012

### Pastor's Corner

## CATHOLICS' GIGANTIC SECRET

On a powder snow day, early morning at Whistler ski lifts line, you see a lot of expert snowboards and skis with skulls and death slogans on them! Or they display the female body of a seductress or a dominatrix. Many of these young expert skiers have a digital camera on their helmet to film their daredevil tricks. The joy of skiing in harmony with nature has been replaced by the thrill of attacking nature aggressively at the risk of their lives.

Let us face it. The new culture is hostile to joy. It cannot comprehend joy. It needs danger and competition to feed its revolt. Joy is suspicious. Joy is believed to be naïve. If you welcome life, you also welcome joy. The problem is precisely that we don't want to welcome any gift. We want to grab and possess. We can have pleasure and enjoyment but we can be joyful. Joy is sometimes an amazement at our very existence, a deep gratitude, that persists even in trials and sorrows.

Above all, joy is a gift. At the end of our life, but also every day, we can hear the invitation of the Father, "Enter into the joy of your Master." (Matthew 25:21) At His Last Supper, Jesus said, "I have said these things to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete." (John 15:11) Because it is a gift from God, joy requires us to be humble and rid ourselves of our masks. "By discovering our weaknesses, God will show us a very particular joy: that of knowing and feeling that despite them, and even because of them, He loves us no less (...) so we have to be small in order to taste true joy deeply. If we, from our high positions, refuse to humble ourselves, we will never know joy. On the contrary, we will always need more sadness to feed our own revolt against God, against others...and against ourselves as well." (Sister Marie-Laetitia) Cardinal Danielou said, "There is

Pastor's Corner Continued...

much humility in accepting happiness, and pride needs unhappiness to feed its revolt." So joy is also a choice we need to make every day, renouncing sadness.

The only ultimate and permanent source of joy is God. God is joy. The joy of the Father, loving the Son, and the joy of the Son loving the Father. The Holy Spirit is the Love between them, therefore the Holy Spirit is joy. That joy is being poured out into us, even now. Because eternal life has begun for us in this world. Eternal life is joy, the joy of loving. Yes, give honour to God by being joyful because of the knowledge of His love. Do not grieve the Holy Spirit by letting the world's miseries depress you. Turn away from sin and Jesus Christ will change your sorrows into a joy you never dreamed of.



God bless you, Fr. Pierre

## PARISH NEWS

### YOUTH MINISTRY & YOUNG ADULT COORDINATOR

St. Mary's Parish is hiring a full time YM & YA Coordinator. The job posting can be found on the YM bulletin board in the foyer. Start date late January 2013.

### ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICE

The Parish Penitential Service will be on Friday, Dec 21 at 7:40pm (following the 7pm Mass). There will be 8 priests present to hear confessions. Please avail yourselves of this opportunity.

### CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR MASS SCHEDULE

Dec 24- 5pm, 7pm, 9:30pm, Midnight

Dec 25- 9:30am, 11:15am, 1pm, 5pm

Dec 31- 5pm, 11:30pm (Adoration 10pm)

Jan 1- 9:30am, 11:15am, 1pm

### SPARK (gr 6 & 7) – THE END & THE BEGINNING

As we approach the end of this year and the beginning of a new one, SPARK has just the right event for you! Considering this will be our last event of the year, you can be sure we'll end with a bang! Get ready for the games, open your heart to go deeper in your faith and step out your comfort zone to make some new friends. Join us on Monday, Dec 17th at 6:30pm in the Church basement and don't miss out!



## 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. 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.

### 2013 ENVELOPES

The 2013 offering envelopes are ready for pickup in the Church basement. Please look for envelopes by last name. If your address has changed, please fill out the forms at the envelope table.

### PROJECT ADVANCE

We are now at \$97,000, so close to our goal of \$100,000! You will find envelopes in the pews for your Project Advance donation. Please note any contribution made by end of December can be included as charitable donations in your 2012 personal income tax return. Thank you for your generosity and participation.

### ST. NICHOLAS COOKIES

Grade 6 raised over \$1,000 from the St. Nicholas cookie and Christmas card fundraiser. "Free the Children" will use this money to build wells in Africa. Thank you for your support.

### GRACE THAT REIGNS

We would like to thank Fr. Pierre for inviting Bishop Gilmore to give the Advent retreat with Jacqueline Loh last Saturday. It was a success with over 100 people in attendance. Many were moved and graced. Have a blessed Advent and wonderful Christmas. Don't forget to include your pastors in your prayers this season.

## DIOCESAN & COMMUNITY NEWS

### DEANERY PENITENTIAL SERVICES



Dec 17 @ 7pm- Our Lady of Sorrows

Dec 18 @ 7pm- St. Jude & St. Theresa

Dec 19 @ 7pm- Corpus Christi

Dec 20 @ 7pm- St. Helen

Dec 21 @ 7:40pm- St. Mary

### DEVELOPMENT & PEACE CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Many people are looking for a meaningful way to show they care with a gift, or to share their blessings with others. This year you can make a donation to Development & Peace in someone's name and send them a beautiful card to let them know how their gift will make a difference this Christmas. See [www.devpc.org/christmas](http://www.devpc.org/christmas).

### DONATIONS TO THE MEN'S HOSTEL

The weather is cold and wet. We host about 100 men on a daily basis. We are seeking donations of coffee mugs, winter socks and underwear. Please drop off your donation at 150 Robson St., call 604-443-3292; e-mail [menshostel@rcav.org](mailto:menshostel@rcav.org)

### THINKING OF SEAFARERS DURING CHRISTMAS

You are invited to extend an act of God's love to sailors who will be spending their Christmas in Vancouver, away from their families. A charitable receipt will be issued for donations of \$20 or more. For more info contact Fr. John Eason at 604-682-6774 or Missions to Seafarers 604-253-4421. Donations can also be made online at [www.rcav.org/donate](http://www.rcav.org/donate).

### THE ARCHDIOCESE GOES MOBILE!

The Archdiocese has created an App for iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch devices that enables Catholics to find churches, Mass and confession times, and other information in a convenient mobile friendly format. The free app can be downloaded from the App Store through our website [www.rcav.org/app](http://www.rcav.org/app).



### THE DOOR IS OPEN IS RELOCATING

The Door Is Open is relocating from 373 Cordova Street to 255 Dunlevy Avenue. The move and renovation of the new space is necessary to address the current and future needs of the neighbourhood. Please support The Door Is Open one or more ways: Pray- this is the most powerful gift that we are thankful for and need the most right now. Volunteer- we appreciate your time helping prepare, serve, or just hanging out with our guests. Make a financial contribution- building a modern commercial kitchen and dining hall is expensive. For more info visit [www.rcav.org](http://www.rcav.org) or phone 604-669-0498.