

COMMUNITY NEWS

LITTLE FLOWER ACADEMY-4TH ANNUAL ALUMNAE SPRING REUNION
Thu. May 11 -- 6:00pm - 7:30pm - at Vancouver Lawn Tennis and Badminton Club (1630 West 15th Ave). Reminisce, reunite and catch up with old friends! No host bar. RSVP by May 8 to 604-738-9016 or to alumnae@lfbac.org.

MEET JESUS FACE TO FACE

Fri. May 12 - Sun. May 14 - All Catholic young adults (19-35) are invited to join Father Scott for a weekend at Rosemary Heights, to enhance your faith. Includes inspiring talks, reflection, praise & worship, mass and adoration. For more information, email catholicadults@yahoo.com or call 604-641-0872.

VOCATION LIVE IN

Fri. May 12 - Sun. May 14 -- For boys or young men who are interested in the priesthood or the consecrated life. This weekend event will take place at the Seminary of Christ the King, Mission, BC. For more info call 604-826-8715.

HOW TO PRAY FOR YOUR SONS, DAUGHTERS AND LOVED ONES

Have your loved ones stopped practicing the faith? Do they no longer believe in God? Then this seminar is for you! If you missed this seminar here at St. Mary's on Sat. Apr 22, then you have another opportunity. It will be offered from 10:00am - 4:15pm at **St. Luke's Parish in Maple Ridge on May 13**. Contact Vernon to pre-register for materials (seminarofhope@hotmail.com or 604-929-4511).

MAYFAIR AT VANCOUVER COLLEGE

Sat. May 13 -- 10:00am - 4:00pm -- Come & enjoy the annual Vancouver College Mayfair. Mayfair is an old fashioned Spring Carnival complete with a food fair, games, rides, bingo, flea market, merchandise tents, silent auction, plants & flowers and much more. We hope to see you, your family and guests there. You'll have lots of fun! Come to 5400 Cartier Street (1 block east of Granville & 39th). Info: Francis Yuen at 604-436-6745.

REDEEMER PACIFIC COLLEGE DINNER/AUCTION

Sat. May 13 -- 6:30pm - Trinity Western University in Langley. Keynote speaker is Senator Gerry St. Germain. The Sweeney Family Singers will provide the entertainment. Info and tickets are available at info@rpcollege.bc.ca or 604-888-7727.

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MOTHER TERESA

June 1 - 4 -- Father Sebastian Vazhakala, MC, founder and Spiritual Director of the Lay Missionaries of Charity, will hold the retreat *In the Footsteps of Mother Teresa* at Rosemary Heights Retreat Centre. For more information please call 604-301-0655.

COMMUNITY NEWS

JOB OPPORTUNITY -- Religious Education Coordinator

The Diocese of Victoria is seeking an individual to: **Coordinate** Advisory Committees, including Children's Catechesis, Youth, Adult Faith Formation, and other related programs. **Collaborate** with Parish Educators and Religious Education Coordinator for Schools in promoting a common vision. **Exercise** leadership in ongoing formation of Parish Religious Education Coordinators and catechists, at all levels. Qualifications: A degree with graduate or post-graduate studies in Theology, Pastoral Studies or Religious Education with experience in the life of the Church through leadership in either education or parish pastoral fields.

Salary: According to Diocesan salary guideline, qualification and experience. Start Date: June 1, 2006 Deadline: April 24, 2006
Office of the Bishop, 4044 Nelthorpe St., Victoria, BC V8X 2A1
Fax: 250-479-5423 or e-mail: chancery@rcdvictoria.org

PARISH INFORMATION

MASSES Mon - Fri 8:00 am; Saturday 12:00 pm
Saturday 5:00 pm (**Anticipation**)
Sunday 8:15 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 pm, 7:00 pm

RECONCILIATION Saturday 11:15-11:45 am; 4:15-4:45 pm;
Sunday 11:30-12:00 pm

(An appointment for reconciliation may be made at any time)

HOLY COMMUNION Available to shut-ins. Contact Parish Office.

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL

Thursday - 7:55 am; Saturday - 11:55 am

FIRST FRIDAY

Mass & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 8:00 am and 7:30 pm
Benediction 11:45 am and 9:00 pm

BAPTISM To register your child, contact Parish Office.

MARRIAGES One of the couple must be a registered Catholic parishioner of St. Mary's. Contact the Parish Office at least six months prior to your wedding date and prior to registering for the required diocesan Marriage Preparation Course.

PREP Religious education program for children attending public schools.
Coordinator: Eli Bautista Tuesday and Wednesday 6:30-8:00 pm

ST. MARY'S YOUNG ADULT COMMUNITY (SMYAC)

Leaders: Jonquil Francis and Eileen Carlson

Contact: smyac_team@yahoo.ca Website: www.stmarys-smyac.com

YOUTH MINISTRY E-mail: stmarys_ym@yahoo.com

Coordinator: Eli Bautista Website: www.saintmarysyouth.com

ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL Kevin Smith (Principal)
K-Grade 7 (604) 437-1312 Fax (604) 437-1193 Website: <http://www.stmary.bc.ca>

PARISH OFFICE HOURS Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Pastor: Fr. Guy Rivard, OP
Assistant Pastor: Fr. Pierre Leblond, OP
Parish Office: Margherita Bordignon/Ossie Fernandes
Custodian: Zdravko Jankovic



ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

5251 JOYCE STREET
VANCOUVER, BC, V5R 4G8
TEL: (604) 435-9611 FAX: (604) 439-9413
EMAIL: stmarys@telus.net



2nd Sunday of Easter

April 23rd, 2006

Dear Parishioners:

Not once, but three times in today's gospel, the Risen Lord says to his disciples, huddled together in a locked room for fear of the Jewish authorities: "Peace be with you." Presumably, they found peace – not because of what he said, but because he was actually standing there in front of them, saying "Peace be with you."

What would it take for us to find peace? Lasting peace? It would have to be something big, something like Jesus appearing before us and saying to us: "Peace be with you." Or something equivalent. In a nutshell, it would take a very strong indication, in one way or another, that **everything, absolutely everything, either is, or is going to be – okay.**

Now, what would it take to produce such a conviction in us? Personally, I can think of only one thing that would make me so bold as to believe, and to affirm such a thing. If I can believe that everything that Jesus of Nazareth said was true, then I can believe that everything is, or will be, okay. So what does it take to believe that everything that Jesus of Nazareth said was true? Two things, I believe: reasons to believe, and the gift of the Spirit.

I have reasons to believe; the main one being that Jesus was raised from death. My experience of living in faith has provided me with many more. Reasons for believing however, in and of themselves, are not enough. The second requirement is the **gift** of faith, the gift of the Spirit. All of the disciples, from the first twelve, right down to us, all of us have believed because we have received these two things: reasons to believe, and the gift of faith.

In this Easter season, I pray that God will continue to provide us all with reasons to believe and with the gift of faith. I know from experience that the gifts will come to those who ask for them, and that, living in faith, we shall live in peace. Blessed be God, the provider of reasons to believe, and of faith itself.

Blessed be God forever. *Fr. Guy*

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

- Sun. Apr 23:** 10:15am Willingdon Park Liturgy (4435 Grange St)
3:00pm Grade 2 First Communion (Church)
- Mon. Apr 24:** 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
6:00pm Jr. YM Leaders (Rectory Dining)
7:00pm Contemplative Prayer (Church Basement)
- Tue. Apr 25:** 12:00pm Seniors Lunch Bunch (Rectory Dining)
6:00pm Legion of Mary (Rectory Basement)
6:30pm PREP (School and Rectory Basement)
6:45pm Confirmation Rehearsal (Church)
7:15pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining)
7:30pm Young Adults Bible (Rectory Library)
- Wed. Apr 26:** 6:30pm PREP (School)
6:30pm Marriage Prep (Church Basement)
7:00pm Exodus Ministry (Rectory Basement)
7:00pm Confirmation (Church)
7:30pm St. Vincent de Paul (Rectory Dining)
- Thu. Apr 27:** 7:00pm Development & Peace (Rectory Dining)
7:00pm Ballroom Dancing (School Gym)
7:30pm Charismatic Prayer (Church Basement)
- Fri. Apr 28:** 3:00pm Divine Mercy (Church)
6:00pm Jr. Legion of Mary (Rectory Basement)
6:45pm Line Dancing (School Gym)
7:00pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining)
7:30pm K of C Council (School Seminar Room)
- Sat. Apr 29:** 8:00am Tai Chi (Church Basement)
12:30pm Bible Sharing (Church Basement)
2:00pm Sr. YM Event (Rectory Basement)
- Sun. Apr 30:** 2:00pm Jr. YM Open Gym (School Gym)
3:00pm Baptisms (Church)

MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS HEALING MINISTRY

Tue. May 2 -- 7:30pm - 10:00pm -- at St. Mary's Church Basement. Bro. Romualdo Salvacion, Servant Leader of the Mary Help of Christian Healing and Deliverance Ministry will give a talk entitled God's Love, God's Gift, God's Grace. This seminar will speak on God's unconditional love for each of us. Witness God's blessing touching each heart through the gifts of healing and counsel with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Admission is free -- come and learn how many lives have been touched, re-awakened and deepened in spirituality and have returned to the sacraments of the Church. For more information on this ministry go to www.soulmissionlive.com.

PARISH NEWS/EVENTS

2005 INCOME TAX RECEIPTS - available for pick-up in the foyer!!

PROJECT ADVANCE 2006 -- UPDATE

Please take a moment to read the 2006 Project Advance Brochure inserted with this week's bulletin and also available at the registration table in the foyer. It outlines in detail the causes that will be supported by the campaign and a sample of a monthly gift plan. There will also be a video presentation at all masses this weekend to give you more in depth details of this year's goal. Committee members will be available to collect returned pledges and to register new donors **AFTER** all masses until the end of May. Thank you in advance for your support and participation in this important event.

YOUNG ADULT BOWLING NIGHT

Fri. Apr. 28 -- 7:00pm -- St. Mary's Young Adult Community would like to invite all young adults, aged 18 - 39, to our next social event -- Bowling Night. We will meet in the parking lot at the front of the church at 7:00pm. Please bring \$10 for the games. For more info please contact smyac_team@yahoo.ca.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Jr. YM Open Gym

Sun. Apr 30 -- 2:00pm -- We are inviting all Grade 6 - 9 students to our monthly Open Gym to experience another afternoon of fun and exercise. Meet us in the School Gym.

Sr. YM and the Spirituality of the Simpsons

Sat. Apr 29 -- Youth in Grades 9 - 12 are invited to join our Sr. Youth Ministry we watch "The Simpsons". There will be a discussion on how we can learn from the Simpsons and their spirituality. Meet at 1:30pm in front of the Church.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SPRING DINNER DANCE

Sat. May 13 -- Tickets are now available to parishioners at \$20.00 per ticket. For tickets, call Richard at 604-439-9229 or Manny at 604-430-3647.



DO YOU LIKE TO PLAY SOFTBALL?

If you are a young adult (aged 18-39) and are interested in being on a team that encourages Christian fellowship and fun, then you are invited to play for St. Mary's. For more information, please e-mail smyac_team@yahoo.ca.



COMMUNITY NEWS

PILIPINO MASS

Mon. Apr 24 -- 7:30pm at Corpus Christi Parish (6350 Nanaimo Street). The regular monthly Monday Pilipino Mass will be celebrated by Fr. Mario Marin and co-celebrated by Fr. Amador Abundo. All are welcome. Coffee and tea follows.

NOTRE DAME PRESENTS -- "GUYS AND DOLLS"

This spectacular Broadway musical hit will be presented by ND High School. The stories in this musical comedy are based on the colourful life of the New York City streets in the 1930's. Memorable songs and dazzling production numbers will be featured in the Fr. Joe Cuddy Auditorium at 2855 Parker Street. **Free matinees for seniors on April 25 and 26 at 12:00noon.** Beverages and goodies included! Evening performances are at **7:30pm on April 25, 26, 27 & 28.** Tickets are \$10 each. Questions? Call Sandra Patrick at 604-255-5454. Hope to see you.

WOMEN OF FAITH AND PEACE

Sat. Apr 29 -- 9:00am - 4:00pm at St. Augustine's Elementary (2145 W 8th Ave, Vancouver). Registration (\$15 regular, \$10 seniors and students) includes entry to all presentations, lunch, and two coffee breaks. Cheques payable to: Sisters' Association - Archdiocese of Vancouver and send to Sr. Vikki Marie, OSC, 1143 E Pender St, Vancouver, BC V6A 1W6. To help us estimate our lunch order, please register by April 17. (See poster in foyer or call: Sr. Vikki 604-255-1555 for a registration form).

DAY OF REFLECTION

Sat. Apr 29 -- 9:45am - 4:00pm -- at St. Joseph the Worker (Richmond, BC). "Thy Kingdom Come: Christian Meditation and the Way of Love." Guest speaker: Michael Hryniuk Ph.D. Spiritual Transformation. We will explore the power of meditation to illumine the path of love in our lives in Christ by leading us more fully into a personal experience of spiritual communion with God, a caring community with others and the common life of a just society. Cost is \$20. Bring a bag lunch. Info: contact Phyllis at 604-274-4493 (pctoneill@shaw.ca) or Mary at 604-535-0528 (mclord@shaw.ca).

WCCCLC 10TH ANNIVERSARY FUNDRAISING REUNION DINNER

Western Canada Chinese Catholic Living Camp (WCCCLC) invites you to the "10th Anniversary Fundraising Reunion Dinner" on **Saturday May 6** in the school gym of St. Paul's Parish, Richmond. Buffet dinner starts at 7:00pm and will be followed by activities including entertainment, silent auction and raffles. Tickets: \$22/peroon. Children under 5: free. Info: Joseph Lee at 604-839-5193 or Patricia Ma at trishama@yahoo.com.