



ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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22nd SUNDAY In Ordinary Time
September 3rd, 2006



Dear Parishioners,

When you will read this bulletin, I will be on a 21 day silent retreat in a hermitage at St. Elizabeth Seton House of Prayer, located in Kelowna. I need to re-connect more intimately with the Lord before starting this new year as your pastor. Jesus said, "Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing." (John: 15.5)

Pope John Paul II once said to a large group of bishops, "Your first duty as pastors is not projects and organizations, but to lead your people to a deep intimacy with the Trinity."

Speaking of pastors, we will have a "farewell party" for our pastor, Fr. Guy, on Saturday, Sept. 16 during the evening in the Church basement. I will still be away in retreat at that time, so I want to express my deep gratitude to him in this bulletin.

Dear Pastor, brother, friend, Guy,

Working with you for six years as your assistant pastor was one of the great blessings of my life. You allowed me to work in the fields that I love. You took upon yourself the bigger part of the workload so that I may do Street and Prison ministry, preach retreats and recollection days, have bible study groups. These six years were the most fruitful and happiest of my life. I never had such a good "boss".

By watching you work relentlessly for your parishioners with great dedication and skill, I felt called to imitate you. I will strive to serve them as well as you did. I know I will find great joy in answering this awesome challenge.

When you came to Vancouver, you had no experience in parish ministry. Yet within a few years, you became one of the best pastors I ever met, one of the best organizers, one of the best preachers, one of the best spiritual advisers. You leave a parish community that is more eager for evangelisation, faith education,

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(Pastor's corner contd....)

community life, and social justice.

I wish you would stay longer with us. But we don't want to stand between you and God's call. God bless you as He will bless us through you.

God Bless Fr. Pierre



HOPE YOU ALL HAD A BLESSED SUMMER - Thought for today:

"Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father," says St. James in the 2nd reading. But, he reminds us, true worship of God involves using those good gifts to benefit the less fortunate, the orphans and widows. Good stewardship is not optional; if we are to truly be Disciples of Christ – it is the hallmark of our faith!

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Sun. Sep 03:	2:00pm Youth for Christ (Church Basement)
	3:00pm Baptisms (Church)
Mon. Sep 04:	LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY - PARISH OFFICE CLOSED
	6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
Tue. Sep 05:	12:00pm Seniors Lunch Bunch (Rectory Dining)
	6:00pm Legion of Mary (Rectory Basement)
	6:30pm PREP Volunteers (Church Basement)
	7:15pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
	7:30pm Charismatic Core Group (Rect. Library)
Wed. Sep 06:	10:45am Fairhaven Mass (7557 Sussex Ave)
	6:30pm PREP Staff Meeting (Church Basement)
	7:00pm CWL Executive (Rectory Library)
	7:00pm RCIA (Rectory Dining)
	7:30pm SMYAC Leaders (Rectory Basement)
Thu. Sep 07:	7:00pm Ballroom Dancing (School Gym)
	7:00pm Development & Peace (Rectory Dining)
	7:15pm Hands of Veronica (Rectory Basement)
	7:30pm Charismatic Prayer (Church Basement)
Fri. Sep 08:	10:00am St. Michael's Mass (7451 Sussex Avenue)
	3:00pm Divine Mercy (Church)
	6:00pm Jr. Legion of Mary (Rectory Basement)
Sat. Sep 09:	8:00am Tai Chi (School Gym)
	10:00am Meditative Prayer Group (Rect. Dining)
	10:00am YM Leaders' Planning PREP (Rectory Basement)
Sun. Sep 10:	2:00pm Couples for Christ (Church Basement)

PLEASE SEE THE NOTICE BOARDS IN THE FOYER FOR MORE PARISH AND COMMUNITY NEWS

PARISH EVENTS & NEWS

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING

The Archdiocese of Vancouver has set up a special page on their website with, a) Natural Family Planning facts, b) links to WOOMBBC and Serena websites, c) resources and d) excerpts from Papal encyclicals on NFP. Please pick up a brochure from the Church foyer for more info. Or visit the website at www.rcav.org/OLF/Programs/NFP/index.htm.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY UPDATE

We have had another very successful year helping those in need of food, clothing and furniture. 50 families called on us when they were in need. At Christmas we were able to give out money and presents from the "Giving Tree" to lots of families. Our Sandwich truck is also doing very well. St. Francis de Sales has now taken over the 2nd Friday of the month, for which we are very thankful. St. Jude's continues to look after the 3rd Friday of the month. We thank all the parishioners at St. Mary's who continue to help us in our endeavors to help the poor in our community, without you none of our work would be possible. Next **Sun. Sep. 10th**, the 2nd collection will be for St. Vincent De Paul Society's "help the poor fund". Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

ST. MARY'S DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE PARISH COMMITTEE

1. Will be having a meeting on **Thu. Sep. 7** at 7pm at the Rectory Dining. All members and all those interested in joining D&P are urged to attend this meeting to discuss this season's activities, particularly the Sept. 16 Fall Action Workshop.

2. Vancouver Development & Peace AGM and Fall Action Workshop will be held on **Sat. Sep. 16** at St. Matthew's, 16079 - 88th Ave., Surrey from 9am until 5pm. Agenda includes a business meeting, and the Fall Action Workshop on our new theme - "Canadian Mining called to account". All are welcome. Please bring a mug and a bag lunch. Beverages and snacks provided and Fair Trade items for sale.

3. St. Mary's D & P Parish Committee will be holding an information session and presentation by the BC Committee for Human Rights in the Philippines on **Sun. Sep. 17**, 2pm at the Church Basement. This is first of a series of information sessions being planned on different countries being served by D & P. All are welcome. Refreshments served.

PARISH & COMMUNITY NEWS

RCIA/FAITH INSTRUCTION

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is for:

1. Adult inquirers - non-baptized/ baptized in other faiths (to find out more about Christianity or becoming a Catholic).
2. For adult Catholics, who are baptized, but not catechized and /or did not complete the Sacraments of Holy Eucharist and Confirmation.

If you are interested in the Catholic Faith or know someone who is, the RCIA program is the answer! You may register for RCIA classes which begin **Sep. 6**.

For further information please contact: Arda Akoglu or Carolina Prada at 604-733-3457 or aakog@yahoo.com.

PREP ANNOUNCEMENT

PREP is still accepting registrations for Grade 1 to 12. There are still a few slots for both Tuesday and Wednesday nights. **Deadline for registration is on Sept. 5 at 5pm.** Please pick up your registration forms from the foyer or from the YM bulletin board. **PREP Classes will start on Sep. 12 for the Tuesday night and Sept. 13 for the Wednesday night.**

SOURCE & SUMMIT EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

The Youth Ministry Office, Vocations Office, Serra Club, and Catholic Christian Outreach invite you to this special event at St. Mary's Parish in Vancouver on **Sat. Sep. 23** from 7-10 pm (doors open at 6:45 pm). Come spend an intimate evening with Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. Open to high school teens and young adults, this powerful event will include music, skits, testimonies, prayer, refreshments, confessions, and a Holy Hour. Free admission! For more info, visit www.youthmin.com.

STEM CELL RESEARCH & CLONING:

CUTTING THROUGH THE RHETORIC TO THE FACTS

Today many claims are made about the supposed benefits of using embryonic stem cells to treat all kinds of diseases. The truth is far different. Come and learn about what research has revealed about the value of human stem cells and how they can be ethically used. Father Tad Pacholczyk, a neuroscientist and moral theologian, Director of Education at the National Catholic Bioethics Center. and columnist for The BC Catholic, will give a free public presentation at 7:00 pm on **Sep. 27** at Our Lady of Fatima Parish (315 Walker St., Coquitlam).



COMMUNITY NEWS

JOB OPPORTUNITY

St. Jude School has an immediate opening for a Special Education Assistant. The ideal candidate is a practicing Catholic who holds a certificate in Special Education and has experience working with children. This position is approximately 30 hours per week. For more info., please call Mr. Perry at 604-434-1633.

ALPHA FOR CATHOLICS AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH

Venue: 428 Great Northern Way, Van. Tel: 604-254-2727.

Is Your faith life in need of a lift? Want to learn more about the Basics of the Catholic Faith? Do you have non-catholic relatives you like to bring to the faith? - Mark your calendar: Every Tuesday 6:30-9:30pm, **Sep. 12 to Nov. 28** for a blast of laughter over dinner, talks by world renowned speakers and small group discussions about the faith. To register and info: email Jeremy Wong at wong_jlh@hotmail.com and visit http://www.sfxchurch.ca/youth/alpha_for_catholics.html.

ATTENTION MARRIED COUPLES

The 17th Annual Married Couples Retreat will be held the weekend of **Sep. 15-17**, at Westminster Abbey, Mission. Director: Rev. Paul Curtin, C.Ss.R. (Redemptorist). Theme: "Self-knowledge, Prayer and Compassion: Elements of a Christian Interior Life." Cost per couple \$295. To register call Anne 604-464-1958 or Margaret 604-921-7136. Space is limited.

AGAPE STREET MINISTRY DAY OF REFLECTION

Sat. Sep. 16, 9:30 am Mass, Sacred Heart Church, 897 Keefer St Van. 10am - 1pm Talk: God's Love by Pat & Vicki Conroy, 887 Keefer St. Bring your Bible. All are welcome. Info:604-215-4115

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR SERIES

Tuesdays at 7:30 pm from Sep. 19 - Oct. 30 at St. Stephen's Parish Hall (1360 E. 24th St., North Van). Speakers include: Fr. Peter Chiang, Fr. Augustine Obiwumma, Fr. Pierre Leblond, Fr. Gabriel de Chadarévian, Fr. Joseph Ponti, Fr. Patrick Chisholm. and Fr. Mark Hoo. Call Vernon Robertson at 604.929.4511 to register.

RECLAIMING SELF

An educational group for women who have been or are in abusive relationships, will start on **Wed. Sep.27**. This group meets from 6pm - 8:30pm at 150 Robson Street for 12 sessions. Please call Brenda or Gabriela at 604-443-3220 for info. A personal interview is required.

COMMUNITY NEWS

VOCATIONS IN PROGRESS

We invite single Catholic men (ages 17 & up) to join us as we look at the priestly ministry in light poverty, chastity, and obedience. The next meeting will be held on **Sun. Sep. 10** at 7:30pm in the East Wing of St. Andrews Parish Church, 480 47th Ave. Van. For more info, please call Fr. Hien Nguyen or Fr. Tom Smith at the Vocations Office 604-433-3254. Or visit www.vocationsvancouver.com. *Your questions are Very Important to us.*

HOW TO PRAY FOR YOUR SONS & DAUGHTERS

This seminar by Vernon Robertson is being held on Sep. 16 at St. Joseph's in Mission (10:00 am-4:30pm) and Sep. 30 at St. Francis De Sales in Burnaby (10:00 am-4:30 pm). Call or e-mail Vernon to pre-register for materials: 604.929.4511 or visit the website at seminar.of.hope@hotmail.com.

PARISH INFORMATION

MASSES	Mon - Fri	8:00 am;	Saturday	12:00 pm
	Saturday	5:00 pm	(Anticipation)	
	Sunday	8:00 am, 9:30 am, 11:15 am, 1:00 pm, 7:00 pm		
RECONCILIATION	Saturday	11:15-11:45 am;	4:15-4:45 pm;	
	Sunday	10:45-11:05 am		

(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.smyac.ca

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. Pierre Leblond, OP
Assistant Pastor: Fr. Mark Hoo, OP
Parish Office: Margherita Bordignon / Ossie Fernandes
Custodian: Zdravko Jankovic