



ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
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Pastor's
Corner

Sunday, March 4th, 2007

Living in the Power of the Holy Spirit



Dear Parishioners, last week Fr. Pierre spoke to you about the means to overcome temptations. He gave the wonderful allusion that through our baptism we are connected to the Resurrected Body of Christ as branches are connected to the vine. As such, it is through our truly believing in, and claiming the victory of, Christ's resurrection in our lives, that we can already trust that the power of Christ is slowly working in our lives to turn us away from temptations that can keep us feeling degraded, soiled and humiliated.

This week, we will reflect on how is it that we can claim the victory of Christ's resurrection for ourselves so that we can turn away from temptations. The means to do so is to 1) surrender ourselves to the reality of the Holy Spirit that is already dwelling in our lives through the waters of baptism, and 2) to pray for the outpouring and fruition of the gifts of the Holy Spirit that has already been given to us at baptism. The Holy Spirit is not just an intellectual concept of the 3rd person of the Trinity that we assent to at baptism and confirmation. Rather, the Holy Spirit truly strengthens us and fortifies us against the forces of temptation and sin. After his resurrection, Christ told his disciples in Acts 1.4-8 that they would be baptised with the Holy Spirit and will receive *power from on high*.

And, what is this power of the Holy Spirit for? 1) One of the results of the power of the Holy Spirit is to *convict us of sin*. This is an ongoing ministry and work of the Holy Spirit that helps us to turn away from the temptations that can lead us to sin so that we can grow in *holiness* of character. 2) The power of the Holy Spirit also helps us bring forth the fruits of the Holy Spirit in our lives. One of the fruits of which is *self-control*, that is, the means to identify temptations and to stay away from them. Other fruits can also be charity, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, and chastity. 3) Finally, the power of the Holy Spirit will also help Christians to have the desire and conviction to witness the Good News of Our Lord Jesus Christ to others. As Acts 1.8 reminds us, "you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses...to the ends of the earth."
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It is for the above reasons, therefore, that we are to continually nurture the presence of the Holy Spirit dwelling in our lives. For the guarantee is given to us by our Lord himself that, if we do so, we will indeed see the fruits of His resurrection coming alive in our lives. Amen. *God Bless, Fr. Mark.*



THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

- Sun. Mar. 04:** 11:15am PREP Special Classes (School)
 2:00pm Youth for Christ (Church Basement)
 3:00pm Baptisms (Church)
- Mon. Mar. 05:** 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
 7:00pm Meditative Prayer (Rectory Basement)
- Tue. Mar. 06:** 12:00pm Seniors Lunch Bunch (Rectory Dining)
 6:30pm Mass and Lenten Retreat (Church)
 6:30pm Teen PREP (Rectory Basement)
 6:30pm Elementary PREP (School)
 6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
 7:30pm Charismatic Core Group (Rectory Dining)
- Wed. Mar. 07:** 10:45am Fairhaven Mass (7557 Sussex Street)
 6:30pm Elementary PREP (School)
 6:30pm Mass and Lenten Retreat (Church)
 7:00pm RCIA (Rectory Dining)
 7:00pm CWL Executive (Rectory Library)
 7:00pm Street Ministry (Rectory Basement)
 7:30pm Marriage Prep Class (Church Basement)
 7:45pm Vigil Choir Practice (School Seminar)
- Thu. Mar. 08:** 6:30pm Mass and Lenten Retreat (Church)
 7:00pm Ballroom Dancing (School Gym)
 7:30pm Charismatic Prayer (Church Basement)
- Fri. Mar. 09:** 10:00am St. Michael's Mass (7451 Sussex Ave.)
 3:00pm Divine Mercy (Church)
 7:00pm **FREEDOM TEEN RECONCILIATION**
 6:45pm Line Dancing (School Gym)
 7:15pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
 7:30pm K of C Executive Mt. (Rectory Bsmt)
- Sat. Mar. 10:** 8:00am Tai Chi & Qi Gong (School Gym)
 10:00am Legion of Mary (Church Basement)
 10:00am Christopher Leadership (Church Bsmt)
 10:00am PREP Staff Mtg. (School Seminar Room)
 12:30pm Bible Sharing (Church Basement)
 2:00pm Talent Show Auditions (Church Bsmt)
 7:00pm Christian Life Program (Church Basement)
- Sun. Mar. 11:** 11:15am PREP Special Classes (Church & School)
 2:00pm Couples for Christ (Church Basement)



PLEASE SWITCH OF YOUR CELL PHONES BEFORE YOU ENTER THE CHURCH.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.

PARISH EVENTS

ST. MARY'S PARISH RETREAT

Fr. Archibald R. Gonsalves, Carmelite Order of Priests from Goa-India, will be preaching the lenten retreat from **Tue. Mar. 6 - Thu. Mar. 8.** Unfortunately Fr. Silvester D'Souza, who was initially scheduled to conduct the retreat was unable to obtain a Canadian entry visa. Fr. Archibald is highly qualified, multilingual and has a Ph.D. in Moral Theology. He has been involved in Lecturing, Research and has held many Executive Administrative positions within the Order and in educational institutions. He has received awards/recognition for his research work as well as published his own books and articles. **The retreat will start with Mass at 6:30pm on all 3 days.** This is a great opportunity for spiritual healing of our Minds, Bodies and Souls in preparation for Easter! Make a commitment to attend!!



"FREEDOM" FOR HIGH SCHOOL TEENS AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH

The Youth Ministry Office invites all high school teens to our 8th annual FREEDOM reconciliation event. FREEDOM will take place on **Fri. Mar. 9 from 7 - 11pm.** Participants will experience first-hand the healing power of Christ through music, prayer, testimonies and teachings, and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. There is no admission charge and no pre-registration. Visit www.youthmin.com for info.



TEENS' MINISTRY OPEN GYM

St. Mary's Teens' Ministry will have another Open Gym next **Sun. Mar. 18 from 2pm to 4pm** in the School Gym. This is ONLY for youth in Grades 9 to 12. See you there!

TALENT SHOW 2007 AUDITIONS

Have a talent that you would like to showcase? SMYAC will be hosting a Talent Show to be held on **Apr. 28. Audition for the show will be held on Mar. 10, and 17 from 2pm to 5pm in the Church Basement.** The theme for this year is Broadway. All talents and ages welcome. Limit 5 minutes per audition. For more information or if you would like to be a volunteer contact: Joyce Azarcon 778-855-3137 email smyactalent2007@gmail.com.



SMYAC MULTICULTURAL NIGHT

Sat. Mar. 17. Time to be determined. All young adults (ages 18-39) to its next Multicultural Night, to take place at an establishment of Irish origins. More details to come next week.

CONGRATULATIONS & BLESSINGS !!

BAPTISMS: Feb. 25 : *Emma Nicole Follett*



Mar. 4 : *Tyler James Bardell, Ronnel Dwayne Baylon
Charles Xavier Mendoza, Jerrick Matthew Sison*

WEDDINGS: Jan. 20 : *names removed upon request*

Feb. 10 : *James Smith and Tresing Casidsid*



CONDOLENCES

Please pray for the souls of our dearly departed:

Maria Cecchetto: *Funeral was held* Feb. 6.

Cleofas Rosaldo : *Funeral was held* Feb. 15.

*Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them O Lord,
Let Perpetual Light Shine Upon Them,
May Their Souls Rest In Peace, Amen.*



PARISH / COMMUNITY NEWS

49th INTNL. EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS - Quebec City, 2008

The Chancery has sent prayer cards (in the foyer) to invite people to give their spiritual support to the preparations for the IEC from **Jun. 15 - 22, 2008.** www.cei2008.ca for more info.

NEW!! ST. MARY'S READER'S CORNER

Do you wish to cultivate your knowledge of our faith? Nourish your mind and soul? Discover our catholic heritage and identity? You are invited to visit the **St. Mary's Reader's Corner** in the Church Foyer to view recommended Catholic literature. *Like good ground that has received seed and then in due season returns it a hundredfold, a heart that has found joy in God will not be able to resist returning joy (glory) to Him. - St. Francis de Sales.*

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL REGISTRATION FOR 2007 - 2008

New families who wish to enter St. Mary's School in September 2007 must attend our Information Night regarding registration on **Wed. Apr. 4** at 7pm in the School Gym. You must attend this meeting if you are interested, we DO NOT give out information packages from the school office.

ATTENTION ALL MARRIED COUPLES!!!!

The next Marriage Encounter Weekend in the Vancouver Archdiocese will be held **Mar. 30-Apr. 1.** The weekend is a great gift that you can give to each other. For info or to register contact **Steve & Mary Bohnen 604-876-7298/sbohnem@interchange.ubc.ca/ www.wvmecanada.org** for more information.

COMMUNITY NEWS

WAY OF THE CROSS FOR YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS

Starting **Mon. Mar. 5** at 6:30 pm and continuing every Monday until **Apr. 2** at St. Francis de Sales Parish (6610 Balmoral St. Burnaby) we will be having Stations of the Cross for all *Youth in Grades 8 - 12* and *Young Adults between the ages of 18 - 35.* After we will go to Tim Horton's for coffee. Everyone is welcome, call Danielle at 604-910-0428 or email danielle@sdfs.ca.

COMMUNICATION SKILLS TRAINING

Seven week program for interpersonal communication; improvement in talking/listening effectiveness. Prerequisite for: (i) Training as CARE peer counselor, (ii) Couple enrichment program (starting May 7'07). **Starts Mon. Mar. 5,** St. Francis de Sales Parish, 6610 Balmoral St., Burnaby, 7 - 9pm. Fee \$90 per couple / \$60 individual. To register call 604-443-3220. Website: www.rcav.bc.ca/cfs. Conducted by Catholic Family Services.

CFC-PROLIFE CONFERENCE: "CELEBRATE LIFE"

Couples for Christ invite all interested adults and youth in all parishes to a ProLife Conference from **Mar. 10 - 11,** at St. Monica Parish Centre, 12011 Woodhead Rd., Richmond. Keynote speaker is Camille de Blasi-Pauley, one of the most sought-after speakers for pro-life movements. The Conference starts with Mass at 8:00am. Participants may select two of four breakout sessions in the afternoon: "The Talking Table" (Chuck Lutrell); "God in the Bedroom" (Kyle & Denise Neilson); "Playing God?" (Pavel Reid) and "Pure Passion" (Camille). \$25 fee per participant (excl.meals). Pre-Registration is required please email cfcvan@cfc.ca or call Lyn Castillo 604-270-9463/604-270-1988 or Edith Dinglasan 604-273-2426/ 604-240-6770.

LEGION OF MARY INVITATION

Mar. 10 attend and participate in, 1. Welcoming Archbishop Raymond Roussin, SM and 2. Legion Congress with Bishop David Monroe as the main speaker. Mass at 9am at Holy Rosary Cathedral followed by reception at the Hall. For more information please call Chai or Cristy 604-325-3909.

ST. ANDREW'S PARISH LENTEN RETREAT

With Fr. Salvador Reyes on **Thu. Mar. 15 - Mar. 17.** Masses at 8:15am and 7pm (Thursday & Friday) and 5pm (Saturday). Retreat talk after each Mass. Please come to refresh your faith.

TALK ON "DIVINE MERCY : THE HEART OF THE CATHOLIC FAITH"

By Dr. Robert Stackpole, **Mar. 31** , 10am - 3pm, Immaculate Conception Parish Hall, 8842 119 St., Delta. Free Admission - Light lunch. For info : Sharmila 604-588-5777, Theresa 604-589-3908, Ruby 604- 507-0657.

CHARITY FUNDRAISER

ST. MARY'S KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SPRING DINNER DANCE

Mark your date!!! **Sat. Apr. 14** doors open 6:30pm, dinner at 7:00pm, followed by dancing to the music of the hottest DJ in town. A great evening of fun and entertainment. No alcoholic beverages. Tickets \$ 20.00 per person will be available in the foyer. Stay tuned for further information. All proceeds go to Charity. We look forward to your support, so bring your friends along for good time!!!!



PARISH INFORMATION

MASSES

Mon. - Fri. 8:00am; Sat. 12:00 pm
Wed. & Fri. 6:30pm followed by Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament & Benediction at 9:30pm

Saturday 5:00pm (**Anticipation**)
Sunday 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:15am, 1:00pm, 7:00pm

RECONCILIATION Saturday 11:15-11:45am; 4:15-4:45pm;
Sunday 10:45-11:05am

(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 - 8:00am; Saturday - 12:00pm

FIRST FRIDAY Adoration Throughout the day after Masses

Masses: 8:00am followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
6:30pm followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Benediction: 9:30pm

BAPTISM To register your child, contact the 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.

RCIA Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. Contact the Parish Office.

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

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 9:00am - 5:00pm
Pastor : Fr. Pierre Leblond, OP
Assistant Pastor : Fr. Mark Hoo, OP
Youth and PREP Coordinator : Eli Bautista
Parish Office: Margherita Bordignon / Ossie Fernandes