ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
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EMAIL : stmarys@telus.net
WEBSITE: www.stmarysvancouver.ca

Pastor's Corner

Sunday, April 8th, 2007

Dear Parishioners,

I was a teenager when my grandma died. I remember saying to myself, "I will never see again those eyes looking at me with tenderness. I will never again feel the caress of those old hands on my cheeks. I will never hear her heart beating as I lay my head against her chest. How will I know that she is still alive, that she is knowing me and loving me?" Her love could not be separated from her body. Seeing her body going down in the grave, I felt betrayed by God.

I believe something like that flashed through the Father's heart on Holy Saturday. Speaking to his dead Son, lying in the tomb, he said, " My Son, My Beloved Only Son, your body has spoken so well about your love for me and for all my children. Your body has spoken so well about my love for them. I cannot let go this body to the corruption of the grave. Your wounds, your human heart are forever inseparable from your Divine Person. I want you back home with your human heart and body. Forever, your body, healed and glorified by the Spirit, will be part of the joyful dance of the Holy Trinity. The whole world will be able to join us forever through your Sacred Resurrected Body. Your wounds will be a Source of Healing and Life Eternal. Your human heart will continue to beat for them. They will become part of you, my Only Son, by being baptized into your Body, by being nourished and loved by your Body. They will read in your "body - language" my love for them, and my love for you. They will experience the caress of Your hands through the hands of your disciples.

Happy Easter ! *Fr. Pierre*

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Sun. Apr. 08: EASTER SUNDAY
2:00pm Couples for Christ (Church Basement)
12:30pm Easter Egg Hunt (School Gym)

Mon. Apr. 09: EASTER MONDAY *(Parish Office Closed)*
6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
7:00pm Meditative Prayer (Rectory Basement)

Tue. Apr. 10:
12:00pm Seniors Lunch Bunch (Rectory Dining)
6:30pm Teen PREP (Rectory Basement)
6:30pm Elementary PREP (School)
6:30pm Baptism Prep Class (Church)
6:30pm Project Advance Meeting (Church Bsmt)
6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)

Wed. Apr. 11:
2:00pm Willingdon Park Mass (4435 Grange St)
6:30pm Elementary PREP (School)
6:45pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:00pm RCIA (Rectory Dining)
7:00pm Hospitality Committee (Rectory Bsmt)
7:30pm Marriage Prep Class (Church Basement)
9:30pm Benediction (Church)

Thu. Apr. 12:
7:00pm Ballroom Dancing (School Gym)
7:30pm Charismatic Prayer (Church Basement)

Fri. Apr. 13:
10:00am St. Michael's Mass (7451 Sussex Avenue)
3:00pm Divine Mercy (Church)
6:30pm YM Easter Hunt (Church Basement)
6:30pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
6:45pm Line Dancing (School Gym)
7:00pm K of C Executive (Rectory Basement)
7:15pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
9:30pm Benediction (Church)

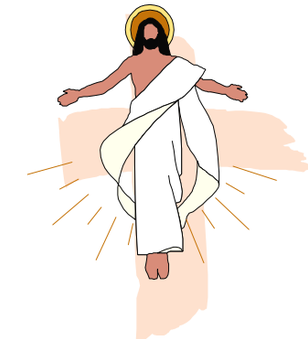
Sat. Apr. 14:
10:00am Legion of Mary (Church Basement)
12:30pm Bible Sharing (Church Basement)
7:00pm Christian Life Program (Church Basement)
7:00pm K of C Dinner/Dance (School Gym)

Sun. Apr. 15:
2:00pm St. Michael's Liturgy (7451 Sussex Ave)

PLEASE SWITCH OFF YOUR CELL PHONES AND DISCARD YOUR CHEWING GUM IN THE FOYER BINS BEFORE YOU ENTER THE CHURCH.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION

EASTER GREETINGS



May God's Holy Light Shine Upon You and Your Families At This Easter Season And Always. Have A Blessed Easter!

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CONGRATULATIONS & BLESSINGS !!

BAPTISMS

March 25: *Niamh Lauren Alvernaz, Isaac Joaquin Bantog, Matteo Mastropieri Gil, Trystan Dylan Amido Bretana, Leanna Gwen Lagos, Angelica Elizabeth Tamawidjaja, Jalen Tomas Tran*

April 1 : *Aaron Mundo Albindia, Allen Mundo Albindia, Arxen Recalde*

RCIA - EASTER VIGIL APRIL 7, 2007

BAPTISMS: *Andrew John Ignatius Aaboe, Selma Feza Philomena Ertek, Terry James Kutcher, Thelma Manuel Faustina Domingo, Anthony Frederick Stevens*

CONFIRMATION: *Serena Amber Bernadette Jang*

CONDOLENCES

Please pray for the soul of our dearly departed:

Joanne Gaudreaux : *Funeral was held in Kelowna last week*

Eternal Rest Grant Unto Her O Lord,
Let Perpetual Light Shine Upon Her,
May Her Soul Rest In Peace, Amen.

PARISH NEWS

PARISH PICNIC VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

Our Parish Summer Picnic is scheduled on Canada Day **(July 1)**. We are in need of volunteers to help in planning this very exciting Parish event. Please contact Eli Bautista 604-435-9611 or at stmarys_ym@yahoo.com if you would like to be involved.

5th ANNUAL KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS EASTER EGG HUNT

Today! Easter Sunday, Apr. 8 after the 11:15am Mass, in the school gym. The Knights of Columbus will be hosting an Easter Egg Hunt for all children between the ages of 6 to 10 years. Children below 6 years will receive complimentary give-aways. Bring your children watch them have fun.

JR. YM EASTER HUNT

It is never too late to celebrate Easter! Jr. YM will have an Easter Hunt this **Fri. Apr. 13, at 6:30pm in the Church Basement**. Hunt for eggs, chocolates and other yummy stuff. Open for all youth in Grades 6 to 8.

ST. MARY'S KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SPRING DINNER DANCE

Sat. Apr. 14 at the School Gym. 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 are available in the foyer. All proceeds go to Charity. We look forward to your support, so bring your family and friends along for an enjoyable evening!!!!

ANNUAL RESPECT LIFE YARD SALE ON SAT. APRIL 21

By donating your unwanted items for the home (books, toys, dishes etc.) and any garden items, you will help our Respect Life Group to assist others. You may bring your items and place them in the boxes marked "GARAGE SALE" in the foyer. NO CLOTHING PLEASE. For info call Gert:604-433-6497.

"DISCERNING YOUR GIFTS" A TALK BY SR. MARIE BOUCHARD

Everyone is born with a bundle of unique gifts, talents, skills, attributes, and abilities. Everything in the bundle is a gift from God; the way these gifts are used gives meaning and purpose to our lives. Would you like to know what is in your bundle?

Come and Listen to Sr. Marie Bouchard's talk on **Sat. Apr. 28**, at 9:30am, in the church basement, followed by Mass at noon. Light lunch will be served. ALL ARE WELCOME! Sign-up sheets for attendance will be available in the foyer after Mass. Sponsored by St. Mary's CWL in celebration of the Feast of its Patroness, Our Lady of Good Counsel.

COMMUNITY NEWS

APRIL 15 - DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

The Extraordinary Grace Promised by Jesus. I want to grant a complete pardon to the souls that will go to Confession, and receive Holy Communion on the Feast of My Mercy (Diary 1109). Whoever approaches the Fount of Life (Holy Communion) on this day will be granted complete forgiveness of sins and punishment (Diary, 300). One should prepare by going to Confession within a week or two of the Feast day. One should receive Holy Communion on that day, venerate the Image and perform a spiritual or corporal work of mercy. Vatican grants indulgence to Divine Mercy Sunday. Three conditions for the Plenary indulgence granted as: (sacramental confession, Eucharistic communion and prayer for the intentions of the Supreme Pontiff) to the faithful who on Divine Mercy Sunday, in any church or chapel, in a spirit that is completely detached from the affection for a sin, even a venial sin, take part in prayers and devotions held in honor of Divine Mercy, or who, in the prayers and devotions held in honor of Divine Mercy, or who, by the presence of the Blessed Sacrament exposed or revered in the tabernacle, recite the Our Father and the Creed, adding a devout prayer to the Merciful Lord Jesus (e.g. Merciful Jesus, I trust in You). How greatly today's world needs God's mercy! May you be a witness to mercy! *John Paul ll Aug 17,2002.*

YOUTH DAY 2007: AS I HAVE LOVED YOU

Youth Day 2007 is coming on Fri. May 4 & Sat. May 5 at Archbishop Carney Reg. Secondary School, Port Coquitlam. Join hundreds of teens for an awesome weekend of faith, fellowship, and fun! Register now with your parish youth ministry or Catholic high school-**early registration deadline is Apr. 20**. Visit www.youthmin.com for registration info & promo video.

BIBLICAL WOMEN: OUR ANCESTORS IN THE FAITH

A day of reflection and study for women facilitated by Dr. Elaine Park, Academic Vice President and Professor of Biblical Studies, Mt. Angel Seminary. Using Scripture as a starting point Elaine will lead retreatants through an extended reflection on women of faith in our Salvation history. This will be a day to challenge, to stretch your faith and to rest in the company of other women. **Sat. Apr. 21**, 9am - 5pm at St. Marks College, 5935 Iona Dr. Vcr. **Please register by Apr. 12** - Space is Limited! At stmarks.campusministry@gmail.com or call the college at 604-822-4463.

COMMUNITY NEWS

DIVORCED, SEPARATED, WIDOWED?

Beginning Experience is offering a healing weekend for those who have experienced the end of a relationship through divorce, separation, or death. It is a caring, accepting, reflective, program allowing spiritual and emotional renewal. The next weekend will be **Apr. 27-29**, at Huston Camp in Gold Bar, WA. The program begins on Friday evening and ends late Sunday afternoon. For info./ register, visit our website at www.seattlebe.org, call (206) 527-1180, or e-mail info@seattlebe.org.

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