



ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Pastor's
Corner

Sunday, April 15th, 2007

Dear Parishioners,



This past Holy Week has been rather tiring for both Fr. Pierre and I, given the number of Masses, Confessions and Triduum celebrations. Nonetheless, it can be said that it has been a very fulfilling experience for me, and I know, for Fr. Pierre as well! And, why so? Because of the number of *powerful* experiences that I came across through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, as many penitents came back after years of staying away from the Sacrament, and many came to the Sacrament seeking healing and forgiveness for grievous and perhaps even crippling sins that had kept them bound, sometimes for years, either in a life of guilt, or a life of anger and pain. And, through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, I believe that many were indeed touched and healed from their past lives such that they could begin afresh again in growing in their relationship with God. And this is precisely the beauty of what we are celebrating this 2nd Sunday of Easter, or Divine Mercy Sunday. On this Divine Mercy Sunday, we are celebrating two things especially:

1) The love and mercy that God the Father has for each and everyone of us, as expressed through His Son freely undergoing suffering and death for us, and

2) God the Father having the last say even through our crippling past life experiences, such that even they can be turned into life through Our Lord's Resurrection from the dead! Here is an excerpt taken from the notebooks of Sister Faustina explaining to all of us these two implications of what today's Divine Mercy Sunday feast day is all about.

"On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day all the divine floodgates through which grace flows are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet. My mercy is so great that no mind, be it of man or of angel, will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity." (Diary of Sr. Faustina, 699). (Contd.....)

(Pastor's corner contd....)

And so, brothers and sisters in Christ, on this 2nd Sunday of Easter, as we continue to celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord from the Dead and all that this has the potential for in our lives, let us take the opportunity to turn to Him, rend our hearts open in utter trust of His mercy for us, and seek Him with sincere yearning in our hearts through the Sacrament of the Eucharist, and the Sacrament of Reconciliation, that He may indeed transform those dead, dark and hidden things of our lives into Resurrection Life. Amen. *God Bless! Fr. Mark.*



THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

- Sun. Apr. 15:** 2:00pm St. Michael's Liturgy (7451 Sussex Ave)
- Mon. Apr. 16:** 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
7:00pm Meditative Prayer (Rectory Basement)
7:00pm Visioning Committee (Rectory Library)
- Tue. Apr. 17:** 12:00pm Seniors Lunch Bunch (Rectory Dining)
6:30pm Teen PREP (Rectory Basement)
6:30pm Elementary PREP (School)
6:45pm Gr 2 Parents-School& Tue. PREP(School Gym)
6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
- Wed. Apr. 18:** 6:30pm Elementary PREP (School)
6:45pm Gr. 2 Parents - Wed. PREP (School Gym)
6:30pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:00pm RCIA (Rectory Dining)
7:00pm CWL Meeting (Rectory Basement)
7:30pm Marriage Prep Class (Church Basement)
9:30pm Benediction (Church)
- Thu. Apr. 19:** 7:00pm Pastoral Council (Rectory Dining)
7:30pm Charismatic Prayer (Church Basement)
- Fri. Apr. 20:** 3:00pm Divine Mercy (Church)
6:30pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:15pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
9:30pm Benediction (Church)
- Sat. Apr. 21:** 9:30am Gr.2 1st Communion Rehearsal (Church)
10:00am Legion of Mary (Church Basement)
10:00am Respect Life Yard Sale (Parking Lot)
12:30pm Bible Sharing (Church Basement)
1:30pm Special Class 1st Communion Rehearsal (Church)
7:00pm Christian Life Program (Church Basement)
- Sun. Apr. 22:** 2:00pm Willingdon Park Liturgy (4435 Grange St)
3:00pm First Communion for Gr. 2 & Prep



PARISH NEWS

PARISH PICNIC VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

Our Parish Summer Picnic is scheduled on Canada Day (**Jul. 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.

ARCHDIOCESAN YOUTH DAY 2007: AS I HAVE LOVED YOU

Youth Day 2007 is happening on Fri. May 4 & Sat. May 5 at Archbishop Carney High School in Port Coquitlam. This is a great opportunity for Teens in Grades 8 to 12 to have an awesome weekend of faith, fellowship, and fun! To register, please contact Eli Bautista at (604) 435-9611 or at stmarys_ym@yahoo.com on or **before Apr. 18**. For more info, visit www.youthmin.com.

FIRST COMMUNION SUNDAY

Next weekend, around 100 children in our Parish will receive First Communion at several of our Masses. In response to the challenge of our Parish Mission Statement, they want to help those neighbors who are in need. We will collect **NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS at all Masses on Apr. 21/22** and these will be donated to the Collingwood Neighborhood House in the name of the 1st Communion children. Please drop off your donations in the boxes in the Church foyer. We thank you in advance for supporting this endeavor.

ANNUAL RESPECT LIFE YARD SALE

Sat. Apr. 21 from 10am - 3pm here in St. Mary's parking lot. Your donations of garden items, jewelry, dishes etc. will help our Respect Life group to assist others. For info call Gert 604-433-6497 or bring items on Sat. morning to the parking lot but **NO CLOTHING PLEASE**. Come! Bring your friends and support a worthy cause.



CONDOLENCES

Please pray for the soul of our dearly departed:

Evelyn Sosa : Funeral was held on April 11th.

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



PARISH & COMMUNITY NEWS

TODAY APR. 15 IS 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 II Aug 17, 2002.

CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH SEMINAR

In response to the Directives of the Archdiocesan Synod, Corpus Christi Parish is sponsoring a very important seminar, "Reflections on the Post-Synod Pastoral Planning" on **Thu. Apr. 26**, 7-10:30pm at the school gym. Guest speakers are Mr. Chuck Luttrell who will talk on "Role of the Laity in the Catholic Church" and Dr. Greg Barcelon, PhD, who will talk on "The Challenges of the Post-Synod Pastoral Planning and Implementation". Question & Answers after their talks. As these two topics are very important for all of us to fully understand, all parish leaders are urged to come and attend.

"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

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** - Space is Limited! At stmarks.campusministry@gmail.com or call the college at 604-822-4463.

ST. ANDREW'S PARISH SPRING FAIR 2007

Sat. Apr. 28, 10am - 3pm, Church Hall & Victor Gallo Gym, 480 East 47th Avenue, Vancouver. Bring your Family and Friends! *White Elephant, *Silent Auction, *Family Entertainment, *Games, *BBQ, *Ethnic Food, and *****more. Fun for the whole family. For more info. Call Marilyn 604-436-4410 or Helga 604-327-5251.

VOCATION LIVE-IN

May 11 - 13 for boys or young men interested in the priesthood or consecrated life, at the Seminary of Christ the King in Mission BC. For more information, call 604-826-8715.

CYCLING FOR CHILDREN

Do you enjoy cycling? Do you want to help the developing world? Are you seeking fellowship and fun? Then this event is for you! **Jul. 7 & 8**.

Day 1: Agassiz to Langley (Overnight at TWU)

Day 2: Langley back to Agassiz.

To participate, you are required to try to raise \$500 from donors, *or* Recruit 2 new child sponsors, *or* One child sponsor and \$250. If you would like to participate or volunteer in this summer's BC cycling event, please contact Ginny at.....

falcons@shaw.ca or Mark Douglas @ 604-513-9594 or styles_of_success@shaw.ca. Money raised will build a library and science building for a Catholic college in Cameroon, Africa.

Sponsored by Christian Child Care International. For more information go to... www.ccare.ca

CRUISE WITH FR. GEORGE EDATTUKARAN

China Tour with Yangtze River Cruise & Hong Kong (18 days 16 nights), Aug. 18 - Sep. 4. The group will be accompanied by Fr. George Edattukaran. For more info. Call Dora 604-984-3020 or email: doracroner@shaw.ca.

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