



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
WEBSITE: www.stmarysvancouver.ca

Pastor's
Corner

Sunday September 23rd, 2007



Dear Parishioners,

A few days ago, a parishioner was lamenting the fact that the flowers that she had planted in her yard, and was so proud of, was dug up and stolen from her the next day.

And, here is another incident, a couple of weeks back another parishioner lost a ring at St. Mary's that was very precious to him. It was very precious not so much because it was a diamond ring, although it was that too, but much more so because it was a ring given to him on his 50th birthday by his beloved wife – imagine having to tell his wife that the ring was now lost forever! A week later, he received an envelope through the parish office, and, low and behold, upon opening the envelope, what did he find inside but that diamond ring! Clearly an honest soul who strives to live out his/her (?) Christian faith had *anonymously* returned the ring to the owner. You can imagine how thankful he was, especially not having to face his wife with the news that her precious birthday gift was now gone forever!

I thought it opportune to share these two incidents to you for several reasons: The first is to publicly thank that good and honest parishioner for his/her (?) actions. It is clear that, that *anonymous* parishioner has put his/her (?) Christian faith into action, and not just empty words! The second is that besides such actions being blessed by God, the anonymous parishioner has contributed, *as a Christian*, to cultivating a humane and civilized society where the dignity of the human person, as created in the image and likeness of God, is considered with respect. Why? Because that parishioner returned that expensive ring without expecting anything in return! Such a life lived, and such actions certainly go contrary to the life of whomever it was that stole the flowers from the garden. Where the one respects the dignity of the human person, the other doesn't! You can just imagine how such reckless disrespect of the life of another, when practiced by many, can take us as a society over time! Two very different incidents that result in two very different outcomes!

(Contd...)





(Pastor's Corner Contd....)

Today's Gospel calls attention to our need to be discerning of what it means to call ourselves Christians. Does it mean one that allows us to take advantage of our neighbour while yet calling ourselves Christians? Or does it mean one who, like God, contributes to the continual up-building of human life as deserving of respect from the moment of conception to its natural end? Surely, God withholds His blessings from the former while showering His blessings upon the latter!

God bless, Fr. Mark.



THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

- Sun. Sep. 23:** 10:15am Willingdon Park Liturgy (4435 Grange St)
- Mon. Sep. 24:** 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
7:00pm Christian Meditation Prayer (Rectory Bsmt)
- Tue. Sep. 25:** 12:00pm Seniors Lunch Bunch (Rectory Dining)
6:30pm Teen PREP (Rectory Basement)
6:30pm Elementary PREP (School)
6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
- Wed. Sep. 26:** 6:30pm Elementary PREP (School)
 7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:00pm RCIA (Church Basement)
7:30pm St. Vincent de Paul (Rectory Dining)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Thu. Sep. 27:** 8:30am Respect Life Meeting (Rectory Dining Room)
 7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:30pm Charismatic Prayer (Church Basement)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Fri. Sep. 28:** 3:00pm Divine Mercy (Church)
6:15pm YM Movie Night (See Announcement)
 7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration
7:00pm CCO-Cornerstone (Church Basement)
7:15pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
7:30pm K of C Council (Seminar Room)
9:30pm Benediction (Church)
- Sat. Sep. 29:** 10:00am Legion of Mary (Church Basement)
12:30pm Bible Sharing (Church Basement)
7:00pm Christian Life Program (Church Basement)
- Sun. Sep. 30:** 3:00pm Baptisms (Church) 

PARISH NEWS




ADDITIONAL WEEKDAY EVENING MASS AND TIME CHANGES
Starting **Wed. Sep. 26** all the weekday evening Masses will start at **7:00pm** instead of 6:30pm. An additional evening weekday Mass will be introduced on Thursdays, effective Thursday Sep. 27 followed by Adoration and Benediction at 9:15pm. All parishioners and visitors are invited to avail of this opportunity, to receive and meditate in the presence of the Holy Eucharist at these weekday evening Masses. God Bless.

PREP VOLUNTEERS COMMISSIONING SUNDAY

This Sunday, during the 11:15am Mass, all the PREP Volunteers will be called upon and commissioned by our Pastor. While we acknowledge their willingness to give their time and their talents, let us keep them in our prayers as they teach the children in our Parish. These Catechists will serve for at least a year and will have almost 300 students under their care.


YM MOVIE NIGHT

St. Mary's Youth Ministry will have a Movie Night on **Fri. Sep. 28.** We will meet in front of the School at 6:15pm. This event will be outdoors if it is dry and indoors if it rains. Open to all youth in Grades 6 to 12. 

YOUNG ADULTS (Ages 18-39) MULTICULTURAL NIGHT

Sat. Sep. 29, 7:00pm, meet at the Church parking lot, and we will take the SkyTrain down to Baghdad Cafe (Middle Eastern/Turkish) {430 W Pender St, Vancouver}. Please r.s.v.p (or for other info) us here at smyac_team@yahoo.ca by Thu. Sep. 27, so that we can make proper reservations! All are welcome!

SMYAC OPEN HOUSE

On a First Friday Coffee Night, **Fri. Oct. 5,** 8:30pm. Rectory Basement. Mark this date on your calendar, as this is one special Coffee Night session in which you can meet the Young Adult Leadership Team. Stay tuned for more details on next week's bulletin. 

RCIA - AN OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE IN THE LORD'S WORK!

We are looking for volunteers to provide refreshments or bake for one Wednesday a month for the RCIA group to welcome its new members. For more information, please contact Arda at 604-733-3457. Thanks & God bless.

PARISH / COMMUNITY NEWS

RCIA/FAITH INSTRUCTION

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults is designed for:

1. Adult inquirers, that is, for the non-baptized/baptized in other faiths (if you wish to find out more about Christianity or becoming a Catholic).
2. Adult Catholics, who are baptized, but not catechized and/or did not complete the other Sacraments of Initiation (First Communion and/or Confirmation).

3. All are welcome, so 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 this coming September. For further info. please contact: Arda Akoglu or Carolina Prada at 604-733-3457 or aakog@yahoo.com.

ST. MARY'S - CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE: MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Would you like to become an active member of a women's ministry, focused on serving and supporting the needs of our parish in a fun environment? CWL members will be available in the foyer after all masses this Sunday, to provide information and answer any questions about our organization. Sign up sheets will be available. Meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. New members are always welcome.

OCTOBER 7 - FEAST OF OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

To celebrate this feast, Rosary Bracelets and Rosary Prayer Cards will be sold after all masses on **Sat./Sun. Oct. 6 & 7**. Rosaries are hand-crafted by parishioners. Sales are by donations and the funds will help offset the travel cost of St. Mary's Pilgrimages in summer of 2008.

CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC CONFERENCE

"The Fulfillment of all Desire" - a journey to complete union with God - that's the theme of this year's Catholic Charismatic Conference on **Sep. 28 & 29**. Ralph Martin, a well-known international speaker and writer will be the keynote speaker with Archbishop Roussin celebrating the closing mass. It will be held in the Broadway Church, Vancouver. For tickets (\$10ea.)/info., phone 604-597-8227 or email fireblade@shaw.ca

FILIPINO FIESTA

A special Filipino celebration and Mass in honour of San Lorenzo Ruiz, the only canonized Filipino saint, will be held **Sat. Sep. 29** at St. Patrick's Parish, 2881 Main St. (at 13th Ave.), Vcr. Mass in Tagalog and English at 4:40pm followed by a procession and pot-luck reception.



COMMUNITY NEWS

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY - Archdiocese of Vancouver

Required immediately - Full-time accounting clerk with solid accounting knowledge and ability to prepare monthly financial statements. Enrollment at Intermediate level of professional accounting degree preferred. Ability to work with minimum supervision required. Minimum of 8 years experience in accounting essential. Reply in writing to: Human Resources, Archdiocese of Vancouver, 150 Robson St., Vancouver, BC, V6B 2A7. Fax: 604 683-3208, Email: mruggierandrews@rcav.bc.ca

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI - "Tony 'n' Tina's Wedding" - Fundraiser

2 Shows only. **Fri. Sep. 28 and Sat. Sep. 29**. Includes, Wedding Ceremony, Reception Music, Dancing, Sumptuous Italian Meal, Over 20 of Vancouver's zaniest characters, And the most fun you've had at a wedding. Special parishioner and their friends and family price \$75 - Tickets are limited and available at SFA office or Hoarse Raven Theatre 604-258-4079. Regular tickets at Ticketmaster 604-280-4444 or www.ticketmaster.ca.

"MAKING MOTHERHOOD SAFE" LECTURE

On **Sat. Sep. 29**, Dr Robert Walley will give the annual Christ the King Lecture on the topic "Making Motherhood Safe" at the Seminary in Mission, B.C. The free lecture begins at 10am and finishes at 3pm, with a 90-minute lunch break. The lecture is open to all. For more info, call 604-826-8975.

STAND UP FOR LIFE - JOIN LIFE CHAIN

Sun. Sep. 30, from 2 - 3pm, at: **1.** Women's Hospital, Oak St. & 30th. Ave. **2.** Vancouver General Hospital, Oak St. & 12 Ave. For more information call 604-733-6266.

CARE SUPPORT GROUPS FOR THE SEPARATED AND DIVORCED

10 sessions from 7 - 9pm. **Men's group** starting **Oct. 10** at Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish, Surrey. **Women's group** will start again in Spring 2008. To register and for individual counseling please call Catholic Family Services at 604-443-3220.

CATHOLIC ENGAGED ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

Oct. 19 - 21. Helping engaged couples understand the Sacrament of Marriage and their vocation. Register at 604-451-3300 or visit www.ceewest.com.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

Oct. 19 - 21. Attention Married Couples! You deserve to give each other a weekend to enhance your couple love. For more info. or to register, contact Steve & Mary Bohnen 604-876-7298 or sbohnen@interchange.ubc.ca.



PARISH NEWS

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS & CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OCTOBERFEST DINNER & DANCE - BOOK YOUR DATE NOW!

This year the St. Mary's K of C & CWL are joining hands together in bringing to **you** wonderful Parishioners and Friends of St. Mary's, a joyful evening of good food! good DJ dancing music! and fellowship. **Sat. Oct. 20**, in the school gym. Reception at 6:30pm, Dinner at 7pm followed by dancing. So put on your dancing shoes, come with a voracious appetite and a Fun mood! Tickets \$20 per person. Stay tuned for more details!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



PARISH INFORMATION

MASSES Mon. - Fri. 8:00am; Sat. 12:00 pm
Wed. - Fri. 7:00pm followed by Adoration & Benediction at 9:15pm
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 Before and after all Masses.

(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: 9:15pm

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)

Leader: Jonquil Francis and Joseph D'silva
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