



ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Pastor's Corner

Sunday October 7th, 2007

Dear Parishioners, here is an abbreviated true story to share with you this Thanksgiving Sunday entitled, **I found hope:**


"My life was in shambles because of my alcohol and drug addictions. My actions tore my family apart... I was at church, but only because my wife and I were beginning marriage counseling. A trust had long ago been broken and my wife wouldn't take me back unless I went to counseling with her, so I did. I was attending counseling out of obligation. But unexpectedly something happened – I began to truly change. It was a long journey, yet God touched my life... I became a child of God, and I was loving it. I felt new and clean, and I knew God wanted me to live a different life. But I also knew that I was not strong enough to hang out with my old friends who were still living the same old life. Desperate to make a new start, my family and I moved 2000 miles from Missouri to the great north-west... You can imagine our shock when we arrived in Portland, Oregon, to a significantly higher cost of living than we could have ever imagined. And if that weren't bad enough, because of my credit history we couldn't even secure an apartment... My wife and I did not know what else to do, and so we began to pray. We asked God for help. And then things started happening so fast we could hardly keep up with them. God gave me a good job about five miles from where we were camping... The first day on the job I received a raise... As we were staying in the trailer, another worker came to me and asked whether I was looking for a place to live. We were able to work out a fair deal for more permanent housing. I began to realize that God had not run out on me after all – I had just been ignoring the most powerful resource at our disposal: prayer. I had trusted in my own ability, which let me nowhere... Sometimes we find ourselves in situations that seem so unfair – hard times that feel so unjust – wondering how we even got there! But God, in His infinite wisdom and profound mercy is there to help us through the tough times. He will be there in the darkest hour and will see you all the way through to days better than you could have ever imagined. All we have to do is reach out to Him and ask."

(Contd....)

(Pastor's Corner Contd....)

On this Thanksgiving Sunday, perhaps there are some of us here who are going through similar situations or experiences as the individual in this true story. If that is the case, allow me to encourage us at this very moment to say a silent prayer of surrender or rededication to God in our hearts with the words of Mary at the Annunciation, "Let it be done to me according to your Word". Then watch and wait *in faith* for God to turn even death into life in our lives. *God bless, Fr. Mark.*

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

- Sun. Oct. 7:** 2:00pm Youth for Christ (Church Basement)
3:00pm Baptisms (Church) 
- Mon. Oct. 8: THANKSGIVING (Office Closed)**
6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
- Tue. Oct. 9:** 12:00pm Seniors Lunch Bunch (Rectory Dining)
6:30pm Baptism Prep Class (Church)
6:30pm Teen PREP (Rectory Basement)
6:30pm Elementary PREP (School)
6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
- Wed. Oct.10:**  2:00pm Willingdon Park Mass (4435 Grange St)
6:30pm Elementary PREP (School)
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:00pm RCIA (Church Basement)
7:30pm SMYAC Leaders (Rectory Library)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Thu. Oct.11:**  1:15pm St. Mary's School Mass (Church)
7:00pm Development & Peace (Rectory Dining)
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:30pm Charismatic Prayer (Church Basement)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Fri. Oct.12:**  10:00pm St. Michael's Mass (7451 Sussex Avenue)
3:00pm Divine Mercy (Church)
6:15pm Divine Mercy (Church)
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration
7:00pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Sat. Oct.13:** 10:00am Legion of Mary (Church Basement)
12:30pm Bible Sharing (Church Basement)
1:30pm YM "Pitch & Putt" (see announcement)
7:00pm Christian Life Program (Gym)
- Sun. Oct.14:** 2:00pm Couples for Christ Mtg. (Church Basement)

PARISH NEWS

ST. MARY'S PROPERTY AND SECURITY - IMPORTANT

Dear Parishioners, You will notice that we now have New Hard Cover "Journey Songs" Hymnals in the pews. We have invested in these expensive hymnals so that they will last for a longer period of time. Please handle the books with care and replace them gently back in the pew slots. Recently we have had break-ins in the Church/Basement and property stolen. This is YOUR CHURCH - PROTECT IT. Please be vigilant and report any suspicious behaviour to any of the Ushers or regular Parish Volunteers. Thank you for your cooperation.

ROSARY FUNDRAISER FOR PILGRIMS

This Weekend Oct. 6/7. Since October is the month of the Holy Rosary, a limited number of special rosary bracelets and rosary prayer cards will be on sale in the church foyer after all Masses next weekend. By donation. All proceeds will go to support two groups of pilgrims, who will go on pilgrimages to either Quebec City (International Eucharistic Congress) or Australia (World Youth Day) next summer.

YM PITCH & PUTT

St. Mary's Youth Ministry invites all youth in Grades 6 to 12 in their "Pitch & Putt" on **Sat. Oct. 13** from 1:30pm to 4:30pm. This event will be at Central Park in Burnaby. **Permission forms are required** and are available in the YM bulletin board and the YM website.

YOUNG ADULT (ages 18-39) BOOK CLUB

Yes, the Book Club, featuring a book regarding the Catholic faith, will make a comeback in the next week or two. Please stay tuned to next week's bulletin for all the details.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS & CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OCTOBERFEST DINNER & DANCE - FUNDRAISER FOR CHARITY!

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. All proceeds will be donated to Charity.

ST. MARY'S CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR & PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Sun. Nov. 18. Start making your Christmas Crafts for sale at our Annual Christmas Craft Fair and Pancake Breakfast. Table reservations can be made by contacting John Rudland 604-433-0884.

PARISH / COMMUNITY NEWS

GREG MAGIRESCU WILL BE RETURNING TO ST. MARY'S

Award-winning Catholic composer, singer and recording artist, Greg Magirescu will lead the music for the weekend liturgies on **Oct. 20 & 21** at all the Masses. Greg has just released his brand new CD entitled: **"Kyrie Eleison – Meditations From The Heart"**, which will be on sale after every Mass. A portion of all sales will go to further the work of Prison Fellowship International – a ministry which Greg is involved with worldwide.

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.

DAY OF RETREAT FOR THE YOUTH

Theme: "Way to Holiness, Part II. Retreat Master Fr. Anthony Ho. **Sat. Oct. 13**, at Corpus Christi Parish, 6350 Nanaimo St. (corner of E.48th Ave., Vcr.). Starts with Mass at 9am and ends with Exposition and Benediction at 3pm. This is a free retreat for all youth. Snacks & lunch provided. Call Cristy 604-325-3909 to register. Sponsored by The Legion of Mary.

MIRACLES CONFERENCE AND CONCERT

To Spiritually refresh your Heart and Soul - **Bo Sanchez & The Kerygma 5**: International speaker and the most inspiring team of Lay Preachers and Spiritual singers in the Philippines. **Sat. Oct. 13** at Broadway Church, 2700 East Broadway, Vcr. Conference starts from 9am, Holy Mass 4.45pm - 5.45pm and Concert starts at 6pm. Tickets \$25.00 (Includes Conference, Lunch and Concert). For tickets and info call Danny/Beth Guerrero 604-562-2084/778-558-2084 or Sally Ong 604-765-7208. See flyer in the foyer for more details. Sponsored by St. Bernadette's Parish, Surrey.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY - ARCHDIOCESE OF VANCOUVER

Catholic Charities Men's Hostel needs a full-time, male desk clerk for the evening team. You are personable and eager to work with the poor. Please send resume to mruggieran-drews@rcav.bc.ca by **Oct. 18**. Please See Ad on Notice Board.

WANTED: CONGRESS VOLUNTEERS!

The Office of Religious Education is looking for people with a knack for hospitality. If you are planning to attend the Archdiocesan Congress on **Oct. 27**, [held here at St. Mary's](#), and would like to offer some assistance with the event, please contact Kyle Neilson at the Office of Religious Education, 604-683-0281, or by email: ore@rcav.bc.ca.

COMMUNITY NEWS

RUMMAGE SALE

St. Theresa's Parish, Burnaby will hold its annual rummage sale on **Fri. Oct. 19 - from 10am to 8pm, and Sat. Oct. 20 - from 10am to 12noon**. Proceeds from the popular annual sale, sponsored by the CWL of the parish, go to local and overseas charities. The event will be held in the parish hall at Fulwell St. & Canada Way, Burnaby. Refreshments available.

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, call Steve & Mary Bohnen 604-876-7298 or sbohnen@interchange.ubc.ca.



MARRIAGE CONFERENCE: SHOULD THE TWO BECOME ONE?

Attachment & Differentiation in Marriage **Fri./Sat. Oct. 26 & 27**. Douglas College, New Westminster, BC. Speaker: Dr. Daniel Papero, Ph.D. LCSW, Bowen Center for the Study of the Family, Washington, DC. How do we maintain who we are as a person when in a committed relationship without destroying the relationship? How do we enhance the relationship without losing ourselves in the process? This conference explores this topic from a family systems perspective. For conference and public lecture details visit <http://www.livingsystems.ca> or contact the conference registrar 604-215-0675, molly.jonsson@livingsystems.ca. Living Systems:Counselling, Education, Training & Research Society.

PREVENTING HUMAN TRAFFICKING

[Implications for 2010](#). Keynote speaker: Victor Malarek, Canadian Journalist, author of *The Natashas*. **Nov. 2 - 3**, at the Polish Community Center, 4015 Fraser Street, Vcr. To register please see brochures in the foyer or www.humantraffickingforum.ca.

VOCATIONS LIVE-IN

On the weekend of **Nov. 2 - 4** there will be a Vocation Live-In for boys or young men interested in the priesthood or the consecrated life, at the Seminary of Christ the King, Mission, BC. For more info, call 604-826-8715.

FALL MARKETPLACE

Sat. Nov. 3, from 9am to 3pm at St. Paul Parish, **8251 St. Alban's Road, Richmond**. *New Craft and Distributor tables available*

COMMUNITY NEWS

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Assistant Administrator (Part-Time Contract) - Rosemary Heights Retreat Centre in Surrey. The position requires a commitment of approximately 2 to 3 days per week and every 3rd weekend. Full cycle accounting in Quick Books, knowledge of Advanced Excel & Word and the ability to provide superior customer care is essential. Demonstrated experience in organizing and coordinating events would be an asset but willing to train right candidate. This is a contract position that can lead to permanent part-time. Call Mari Lalana for more information at 604-576-8802 or please fax resumes to 604-574-4787.

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