



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

Sunday October 21st, 2007



Dear Parishioners, I often have parishioners come to me distraught because a loved one has taken a wrong path in life and persists in doing so without any let-up in sight. Based on these experiences and in light of today's readings, I would like to share with you a true story:

There was a man who as a child was physically abused by his father and as such grew up to be rather distrustful of others and cynical of life. Not only that, when he married and became a father, he was also rather short when it came to fulfilling his duties towards his immediate family. Oftentimes, he would turn to the bottle to mask the pains of his past life. The culmination of these things very soon led to a distancing between him and his family. Things remained rather bad for a very long time, so much so that even his children despaired of him ever being united with the family. The only figure who trusted, prayed, and never lost hope was his wife. Over the years, the children grew up and went about their own lives...

One late night, suddenly woken up from bed, this man experienced God's presence in a powerful way. The next morning, thinking that it was all a dream and going about his usual routine of reading the morning paper, he suddenly came upon a front page news noting of a similar experience by a woman in North Vancouver. He looked up her name in the White Pages and called her up and was told by her that maybe God had a plan for him... That began a gradual change in his life that lasted for some 12 years. He began coming to Church every Sunday, and prayed the Divine Mercy and the Rosary with his wife every evening and at 3 p.m. He also gradually mended his relationship with his children by taking every opportunity to spend time with them. Yes, he could still be cynical from time to time, but they were certainly much less frequent and less severe.

He was suddenly called to the Lord last year, but before he died, while waiting for the plane to airlift him at 3.30 p.m. for a medical emergency, a priest was able to come to his side to hear his confession exactly at 3 p.m. While on the plane en route to the operating table, he prayed with his favourite rosary - the Divine Mercy Rosary.

(Contd....)

(Pastor's Corner Contd....) He never made it through the operation, however. But, to this day, his family, and especially his wife, remain ever so thankful for his devotion to the Divine Mercy and the promise it held at the hour of death.

That man was my father. And I share this with you only to once again underline the point that ceaseless prayer and an unshakeable hope in Christ can indeed move mountains even in seemingly impossible situations. *God bless, Fr. Mark.*



THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

- Sun. Oct. 21:** 2:00pm St. Michael's Liturgy (7451 Sussex Avenue)
- Mon. Oct. 22:** 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
 6:30pm Youth Ministry Leaders (Rectory Library)
 7:00pm Meditative Prayer (Rectory Basement)
- Tue. Oct. 23:** 12:00pm Seniors Lunch Bunch (Rectory Dining)
 6:30pm Teen PREP (Rectory Basement)
 6:30pm Elementary PREP (School)
 6:45pm Gr.2-1st Communion Parents (School Gym)
 6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
 7:45pm PEC Meeting (Rectory Library)
- Wed. Oct. 24:** 6:30pm Elementary PREP (School)
 6:45pm Gr.2-1st Communion Parents (School Gym)
 7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
 7:00pm RCIA (Church Basement)
 7:30pm Saint Vincent de Paul (Rectory Dining)
 9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Thu. Oct. 25:** 8:30am Respect Life (Rectory Dining)
 7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
 7:30pm Charismatic Prayer (Church Basement)
 9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Fri. Oct. 26:** 3:00pm Divine Mercy (Church)
 6:15pm Divine Mercy (Church)
 6:30pm YM Boooooofest!!! (Church Basement)
 7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration
 7:15pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
 9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Sat. Oct. 27:** 9:00am Congress Mass (Church) followed by morning & afternoon sessions - pre-registration required
 10:00am Legion of Mary (Rectory Basement)
 12:30pm Bible Sharing (CANCELLED)
 7:00pm CFC-Christian Life Program (Church Bsmt)
- Sun. Oct. 28:** 10:15am Willingdon Park Liturgy (4435 Grange Street)
 3:00pm Baptisms (Church)



PARISH NEWS

YM BOOOOOOOFEST!!!

Come and join St. Mary's Youth Ministry in their Boooooofest!!! It will be a night of fun, pumpkins, pizza, games and even a movie. Please wear something **orange and black**. This is open to all youth in Grades 6 to 12. It will be this **Fri. Oct. 26** from 6:30pm to 9:30pm in the Church Basement. See you all there!



SMYAC (Ages 18+) MULTICULTURAL NIGHT

Sat. Oct. 27. Meet at front parking lot at 7pm. This month's theme: Thai. We'll be "breaking bread" at the Green Basil Thai Cuisine (4623 Kingsway, Burnaby). For carpooling and r.s.v.p, please contact smyac_team@yahoo.ca by **Thu. Oct. 25.**

YOUNG ADULT COFFEE NIGHT FAITH FORUM (Ages 18-39)

Fri. Nov. 2, 8:30pm, Rectory basement. All young adults are invited to join us in discussion on the topic: God's Warriors on Christianity. Light refreshments will be served. For all info., please contact smyac_team@yahoo.ca

FAREWELL RECEPTION FOR SR. KATHERINE NICKERSON

On **Sun. Nov. 4,** following the 9:30am Mass, there will be a reception to honour Sister Katherine Nickerson for her many years of devotion to St. Mary's parish. She is returning to Halifax to live in the Sisters of Charity mother house. Anyone who would like to attend this reception is welcome.

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.



YOUNG ADULT BOOK CLUB

This is the last week to get a copy of the book! Cost: \$17.37 plus tax. We have picked "Mother Teresa: Come Be My Light" for this edition. If you are interested in obtaining a copy (or you would like more info), please contact smyac_team@yahoo.ca. We will discuss the book at an upcoming date!



AN INTRODUCTION TO JOHN PAUL II's THEOLOGY OF THE BODY

Presented by Vito Tinaburri. Did you realize that the meaning of life is not "out there somewhere", but rather is written into the very make-up of our bodies; particularly our sexuality? Find out why as we explore this life-changing teaching of John Paul II every **Thu. Evening, Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29.** Location: St. Mary's School Seminar Room (enter at the school's main entrance next to the gym entrance) Time: 7:00pm-9:00pm.

PARISH / COMMUNITY NEWS

THIS WEEKEND'S MASSES - CHOIR LEAD BY GREG MAGIRESCU

Award-winning Catholic composer, singer and recording artist, Greg Magirescu will lead the music for this weekend liturgies **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.

DOMINICAN 800th ANNIVERSARY MASS CELEBRATION:

The Dominican Order began in 1206 with the founding of the Dominican Nuns through to 1216 with the founding of the Dominican Friars. **There will be an 800th Anniversary Celebration of the Dominican Family with Archbishop Raymond Roussin, SM at the 1.00pm, Sunday, November 4th Mass. Everyone is Welcome!**



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.

ALL SOULS DAY SERVICES AT OCEAN VIEW FUNERAL HOME

Ocean View Funeral Home & Burial Park will once again be hosting All Souls Day services at the Main Chapel on **Fri. Nov. 2:** 10am Croatian service, 12pm Italian service, 2pm English service, 3pm Polish service, includes "Liturgy of Word and Song", Blessing of Graves & mausoleum crypts will follow each service.

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. Forms are available on the notice board in the foyer.

COMMUNITY NEWS

NEED FOR WINTER CLOTHING AT COLLINGWOOD HOUSE

Collingwood Neighbourhood House (CNH) is getting low in winter clothing for the homeless. If you have CLEAN, CASUAL winter clothes to donate, ***please hand them over to the CNH Reception***-opposite St. Mary's Church on any Friday.

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 **Nov. 2-4**, at the Huston Camp and Conference Center in Gold Bar, WA. The program begins on Friday evening and ends late Sunday afternoon. For information or to register, visit our website at www.seattlebc.org, call (206) - 527-1180, or e-mail registrar@seattlebc.org.

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 at \$25.00 each.* For application, call 604-277-3213.

V.I.P. (VOCATIONS IN PROGRESS)

We invite single Catholic men (ages 17 & up) to join us as we look at **"A Calling to Imitate Christ through Scripture."** The meeting will be held on **Sun. Nov. 4**, at **St. Andrew Parish 480 E. 47th Ave. Vancouver** (In between Fraser and Main Street) which starts at **7:30pm**, in the Luminous Hall. For more info. please call Fr. Hien Nguyen or Fr. Tom Smith at the Vocations Office 604-443-3254. Or visit: www.vocationsvancouver.com *Your questions are Very Important to us.*



HEARING THE VOICES OF PEOPLE WITH DEMENTIA

THE CENTRE FOR RESEARCH ON PERSONHOOD IN DEMENTIA (CRPD) SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK AND FAMILY STUDIES UNIVERSITY OF BC - Colloquium Presentation by: **Dr. Kerstin Stieber Roger, Assistant Professor - Department of Family Social Sciences University of Manitoba, Thu. Nov. 8**, 5:00 - 6:30pm. This talk will describe empirical qualitative data from a study that asked people with Alzheimer's and Huntington's about their experiences of memory loss. Four main themes: heredity and family, disabling declines, social changes, and thinking to the future. Jack Bell Building, Rm 200 - 2080 West Mall, University of British Columbia. This presentation is free and open to the public. For info. call CRPD at 604-822-6872 or www.crpdc.ubc.ca.

COMMUNITY NEWS

HOLY ROSARY CATHEDRAL VOCAL CONCERT

Sun. Dec. 2 at 7pm. Classical & Contemporary Songs & Poems about Mary's Life. Program Includes: A Celtic Prayer, Breath of Heaven, Children's Music, Vergin Tutto Amor, Balm In Gilead, Udvozlegy Maria, Bells of Bethlehem, Ave Maria. Sacred Classical Soloist: Adeleina. Marianministries@gmail.com. Also singing for the 8pm Mass: original & new compositions. 646 Richards Street, Downtown Vancouver near the Bay Dept. Store. Please see the BC Catholic Newspaper for a list of all H.R.C. concerts.

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

Sunday & Weekdays - Before and after all Masses.
Saturday - 11:15-11:45am; 4:15-4:45pm;

(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
7:00pm 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
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