



ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Pastor's
Corner

Sunday April 13, 2008

Is your faith an artificial limb?

“For some people
religion is like an artificial limb.
It has neither warmth nor life;
And although it helps them stumble along,
it never becomes a part of them.
It must be strapped on each day.”

*Author unknown, quoted by
Fr. Mark Link, S.J. in Mission*



There are two kinds of religion. One that is man-made. It is reduced to a set of rules and rituals. That is the religion of the pharisees in today's Gospel. Many of us have reduced the catholic faith to a religion like that. We wear our faith like an artificial limb. It has neither warmth nor life; and although it helps us stumble along, it never becomes a part of us. It must be strapped on each day.

Then there is the other kind of religion, the God given one that Jesus speaks about in today's Gospel. “The true Shepherd calls His own sheep by name and leads them out.... The sheep follow Him because they know His voice.” How can we know His voice? By reading the scriptures, receiving the Eucharist, going to confession, practicing every little bit of truth that we understand in the Word of God. Then our heart will become a fountain of living water swelling up into eternal life. (*John 4*) And we will follow Christ no longer because of rules, but because through Him, our heart will be drawn to the Father and will be filled with his abundant Life. We will still need the rules for guidelines, but not for our main motivation.

God Bless you, *Fr. Pierre.*



THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

- Sun. Apr. 13:** 2:00pm Couples for Christ Gen. Mtg (School Gym)
6:30pm CCO Spring Banquet (Church Basement)
5:00pm Youth & Young Adults Mass (Church)
- Mon. Apr. 14:** 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
7:00pm Meditative Prayer (Rectory Basement)
- Tue. Apr. 15:** 12:00pm Seniors Lunch Bunch (Rectory Dining)
6:30pm Teen PREP (Rectory Basement)
6:30pm Elementary PREP (School)
6:45pm Grade 2 Parents Meeting (School Gym)
6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
7:30pm PEC (School Staffroom)
- Wed. Apr. 16:** 5:00pm L'Arche Mass (7401 Sussex Avenue)
6:30pm Elementary PREP (School)
6:45pm Grade 2 Parents Meeting (School Seminar Rm)
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:00pm RCIA (Rectory Basement)
7:00pm CWL Meeting (School Gym)
7:30pm Marriage Prep. Class (Church Basement)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Thu. Apr. 17:** 1:30pm St. Mary's School Mass (Church)
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:00pm Pastoral Council Meeting (Rectory Dining)
7:30pm Life in the Spirit Seminar (Church Basement)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Fri. Apr. 18:** 3:00pm & 6:15pm Divine Mercy (Church)
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:00pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Sat. Apr. 19:** 9:30am Legion of Mary (Church Basement)
10:00am Handmaids of the Lord (Church Basement)
10:30am Gr. 2, 1st Communion Rehearsal (Church)
12:00pm Altar Servers Appreciation (Church Basement)
12:30pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Basement)
1:30pm PREP Special Classes 1st Communion Rehearsal (Church)
3:00pm Knights of Columbus Council (School Gym)
7:30pm CFC -Christian Life Program (Church Basement)
7:30pm CFC-FFL Seminar (School Gym)
- Sun. Apr. 20:** 2:00pm St. Michael's Liturgy (7451 Sussex Avenue)
2:00pm CFC -FFL General Meeting (Church Basement)
3:00pm Grade 2 - 1st Communion (Church)

PARISH NEWS

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

This Sun. Apr. 13 is world day of prayer for vocations. The Knights of Columbus have special prayer cards, placed in the foyer on the table to your right (as you leave the church), with a “Prayer for Vocations” and “Prayer to Know My Vocation” on the back. Please feel free to take a Prayer Card home to pray. To borrow a special DVD presentation on vocations to the priesthood, religious life, the laity and marriage for your personal viewing and for more information regarding Knights of Columbus Vocation Scholarships - please contact Ossie at the parish office ext. 7. Thank you.



YOUNG ADULT (AGES 18+) MULTICULTURAL NIGHT

Fri. Apr. 18, 5-8pm, Rectory Basement. Holy Eucharist Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral (501 4 Ave., New West) - 6 blocks from Columbia Skytrain Stn. Perogy dinner to raise funds for Catholic Health Assoc. Guests: Eparch Ken Nowakowski & Archbishop Raymond Roussin. Cost: \$6 - \$14. Please r.s.v.p. us here at smyac_team@yahoo.ca by next Wed April 16.

ANNUAL RESPECT LIFE YARD SALE SAT. APRIL 19

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 more info call Gert 604-433-6497.



FIRST COMMUNION SUNDAY

Next weekend, **Apr. 19/20**, we have 70 Grade 2 students and 32 students in Grades 3 & up who are receiving their First Communion. Some of them you will see in the regular Masses. Let us pray for these children that this may be the start of their hunger for the Eucharist.



PROJECT ADVANCE 2008

Time sure flew by quickly, our committee is once again preparing for this year's Project Advance event. Thank you for your continuous support and participation. There will be more information regarding this year's project available in the coming week's bulletin, plus a video presentation detailing this year's goal on **Apr. 19 and 20** at each mass. For parishioners who have contributed in the past, pledge cards have been mailed to you again this year. Blank pledge forms will be available for new donors. Information meeting for all volunteers is on **Apr. 13** at 2pm at the church basement. Thank you in advance for your support and participation in this important event.

PARISH / COMMUNITY NEWS

NEXT SAT./SUN. APR. 19/20 IS VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

To all Volunteers of St. Mary's Parish – please remember to wear your Volunteer tag **next Sat./Sun.** which is the 3rd Sunday of the month, when we will recognize the tremendous assistance and support provided by you to our Parish. Thank you.

PENNIES FOR HEAVEN

The Knights of Columbus are accepting Pennies and other Canadian currency in order to support vocations to the Priesthood. Please bring in all your pennies to the foyer before and after all Sunday masses in **April** and put them in the big bottle. Your donations will be used for the education and personal needs of our seminarians. God Bless You.



NOTRE DAME REG. SECONDARY SCHOOL PRESENTATION

Continuing our tradition of presenting popular musicals, “**The Music Man**” will be presented at 7:30pm **Apr. 15 - 18**. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students and seniors. Phone 604 255-5454 to reserve tickets or contact the school at office@ndrs.org. There will also be a free matinee performance at noon on Apr. 15 and 16 for seniors. Please RSVP at the number above if you plan to attend. We are asking all who come to bring a non-perishable food item in response to a request from the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

STEWART FORUM 2008: TIME, TALENT, TREASURE & THE ROLE OF EVERY PARISHIONER

Forum Panel with Coadjutor Archbishop J. Michael Miller, CSB; Rev. Robert Wong, SJ; Ms. Neysa Finnie; Mrs. Robin Newton; Very Rev. Glenn Dion (host). **Wed. April 23** at 7:00 pm at Holy Rosary Cathedral Hall. Admission is free.

ST. MARY'S KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SPRING DINNER / DANCE

Book your tickets now to avoid disappointment! This annual fundraiser for Charitable distribution will be held on **Sat. May 3** in the school gym. Doors open 6:30pm, Dinner at 7:00pm followed by Super DJ dancing music and prizes galore. No alcoholic beverages will be served. Tickets \$20 per person: call Rene 604-454-9679, Adel 604-433-9772, Manny 604-430-3647 or Ossie 604-433-7548. Bring your friends and family for a joyful evening!



CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE SPRING FAIR

CWL at Holy Name of Jesus Parish, 4925 Cambie St. Vcr. Invite you to their Annual Spring Fair on **Sat. Apr. 19**, 9:30am-1pm and **Sun. Apr. 20**, 10am-1pm in the Parish Hall. Near new clothing, handmade crafts, garage sale items, homemade baking, books & plants, tea garden and a special Pancake Breakfast on Sun. Apr.20. For info call Ann 604-733-6224.

PARISH / COMMUNITY NEWS

THE B.C. CHRISTIAN MEDITATION COMMUNITY'S SILENT RETREAT

On **Sat. Apr. 19** from 9:45am to 2:00pm at St. Edmund's Parish small gym 545 Mahon Ave., North Vancouver, B.C. Come and join meditators from other parishes in a day of reflection and meditation based on the recorded talks "Prayer in the 21st Century" of Fr. Lawrence Freeman, OSB. Admission by donation, bring a bag lunch, Refreshments served. Contact at St. Mary's: Cora Alcuityas phone 604-517-0029 email coralcuitas@shaw.ca

CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE STUDENTS CAR WASH! AT ST. MARY'S

Next **Sun. Apr. 20**, after all the weekend masses, a group of Corpus Christi College students will be hosting a fundraising car wash in the back parking lot of the Church. This particular group of students is raising funds for their most recent volunteer project at St. Thomas Aquinas High School in Tanzania. On Apr. 30, Corpus Christi College is sending a group of 9 students and 2 staff members, including one of our own parishioners, to teach at a Catholic boarding school in Africa. They will spend five weeks teaching English, Religion and Art. The total cost of the trip exceeds \$20,000 and will be borne by the volunteers on the trip. They are all incredibly excited to be given such an opportunity and are hoping that we will help them reach their goal! Donations of \$20 or more are all eligible for tax receipts. Thanks and God bless!



NOTRE DAME ALUMNI TRIVIA NIGHT

Fri. Apr. 25, 7:00 pm at Notre Dame Auditorium. Fun, snacks, and prizes! \$10 per person. To register, leave a message with your name, phone number, and number of players for Lana 604-255-5454 or Diane 604-291-9466.

YOUTH DAY 2008: WITNESS THE POWER

Youth Day 2008 is coming on **May 2 and 3** at Archbishop Carney Regional Secondary School in 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. 18, 2008.** For registration info and the promo video, visit www.youthmin.com.

LEGION OF MARY CELEBRATION

The Legion of Mary will be celebrating the 100th Birth and Death Anniversary of Venerable Edel Quinn, at St. Mary's Parish, 5251 Joyce St. (Near Sky Train Station), on **Fri. May 9** from 5:00pm - 9:30pm in the Church Basement. Mass will be celebrated at 7:00pm, followed by Potluck Supper. Active and Auxiliary members of the Legion of Mary are invited.

COMMUNITY NEWS

CATHOLIC ENGAGED ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

May 9 - 11. Helping engaged couples understand the Sacrament of Marriage and their vocation Register at www.ceewest.com or 604-451-3300.

COME, HOLY SPIRIT. ENLIGHTEN US!

A Pentecost celebration on **May 10** at St. Matthew's (16079-88th Ave., Surrey). Procession of the Blessed Sacrament, charismatic Mass, Bo Sanchez, youth worship dance, lively praise & worship, fellowship and lunch. Free attendance. We ask you to recite the 9 days novena to the Holy Spirit. Contact fireblade@shaw.ca.



PARISH INFORMATION

MASSES Mon. - Fri. 8:00am; Sat. 12:00 pm
Wed., Thu., Fri. 7:00pm followed by Adoration & Benediction at 9:15pm
Saturday - 5:00pm (**Anticipation**)
Sunday - 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:15am, 1:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm

CONFESSIONS Sunday & Weekdays - Before and after all Masses.
Saturday - 11:15-11:45am; 4:15-4:45pm;
(An appointment for confession may be made by phone)

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

YOUTH MINISTRY E-mail: stmarys_ym@yahoo.com

Coordinator: Eli Bautista Website: www.saintmarysyoung.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