



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

April 19, 2009

CAN I CONTINUE TO LOVE HIM AFTER WHAT HE DID?

The answer to that question is closely related to another question "Can God continue to love me after what I have done?" How often have I heard confessions where the penitent "was so ashamed of his sins to the point that he didn't think God could continue to love him?" (Fr. R. Veras in Magnificat). That penitent may have known in his head that his sins were nothing compared to God's infinite love, but he could not believe it in his heart. Why?

It has to do with our human experience of love. We experience that the more we love someone, the more we can be hurt by his/her lack of love, by his/her self-centeredness. Therefore it is more difficult to forgive him/her. From this we conclude that when we hurt or sin against someone who loves us greatly, like God, that person cannot continue to love us in the same way, even if he "forgives". Sadly enough, this is often true at the human level. But with the grace of Jesus Christ, we can overcome the natural reaction to our hurts and really love more the person who has offended us. How much more is this true for Jesus Christ Himself?! He is the Divine Source of Forgiveness, the Divine Mercy in person!

This is a great mystery! God is more "wounded" by our lack of love than anyone else, because He is Love, because He loves us more than anyone else... infinitely more! Yet he can forgive us immediately and totally, from the bottom of His heart, because of the very nature of His infinite Love. Fr. M.D. Philippe, OP expresses this very beautifully in Magnificat.

God in the fullness of his love, is the most vulnerable of beings, the being in whom there is no hardness, or egoism, or bitter, cold, indifferent return into himself, for he is love. It is truly love which makes us attentive to others, to live what they live. God in his whole personality, is love. Hence in his whole personality, he is receptive. He is one who draws us to himself, and wishes to hide us in the very mystery of his love. (next page)

Pastor's Corner (cont'd)

Do you want to forgive? Ask Christ to give you His forgiveness so that you may forgive your spouse, parent, child friend, with His forgiveness. Ask for the forgiveness that was in His heart on the Cross, when He said "Father, forgive them for they do not know what they are doing." Ask that this forgiveness come down from the Cross into your heart. He will change your heart of stone into a heart of flesh ... His heart of flesh. Happy Divine Mercy Sunday, *Fr. Pierre*

PARISH NEWS

SR YOUTH MINISTRY -- (Grades 8 - 12)

Romance without Regret!! -- Come and listen to this awesome presentation by Jason & Crystalina. Whether you are in a relationship, looking for love, or just trying to understand God's plan for properly using the gift of sexuality He has given you, this presentation will hand you the tools you need in order to know the difference between love and lust. Join the Sr. Youth Ministry on **Monday, April 20 at 6:30pm in the rectory basement.** This is not your ordinary "sex talk" and what you hear will blow your mind, guaranteed!!!

PROJECT ADVANCE -- CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Calling for volunteers! Our committee requires more volunteers this year to assist in our campaign. If you are a new parishioner, come join us and show your support for the parish. If you have participated in previous years, we sure need your expertise in assisting us to make this event more successful. Volunteer cards are available at one of the tables in the church foyer. Please **return all cards by today, April 19th.** There will be an information plus training **meeting on April 22nd at 6pm in the Rectory.** We look forward to working with you in this year's campaign.

Thank you Project Advance Committee

YOUNG ADULTS (18+) MULTICULTURAL NIGHT

Saturday, April 25 at 7:00pm. Circle that date and time on your calendar and make yourselves available! We will be going to Khai Thai Khai Thai Cuisine at 809 Seymour Street in Vancouver. Bring a friend or two! We would love to see you for an enchanted evening of faith, food and friendship. Please RSVP to smyac_team@yahoo.ca by **Wednesday, April 22.** Carpooling arrangements can be made -- please let us know!

PARISH NEWS

YOUTH MINISTRY BAKE SALE

So you thought no one could bake like your grandma, heh? Well think again. The multi-talented team of Youth Ministry is baking up a storm and will be selling delicious treats **before and after Masses on April 25 and 26.** Bring your wallet and don't be left out. Your purchase sponsors our parish youth ministry **YOUTH DAY 2009**

Youth Day 2009 is coming on **Friday, May 1 and Saturday, May 2** at Archbishop Carney Regional Secondary School in Port Coquitlam. Team up with the St Mary's Youth Ministry who will be joining hundreds of teens for an awesome weekend of faith, fellowship, and fun! Register now with Arda by calling 604-435-9611 ext.6 or email him at stmarys_ym@yahoo.com. Spots are almost filled so act fast and don't miss this amazing weekend.

YOUNG ADULTS (AGES 18+) COFFEE NIGHT FAITH DISCUSSION

Saturday, May 2, at 7:00pm in the Rectory Basement. Topic: Street Ministry and it is hosted by our St. Mary's Street Ministry coordinator Mildred Moy and two women from Talitha Koum House. Light refreshments will be served. For more info, please contact us at smyac_team@yahoo.ca

ST. MARY'S CWL MOTHER'S DAY LUNCH

Mother's Day is the time to appreciate and honour all mothers and special ladies. The Catholic Women's League is pleased to host this luncheon on **Sunday, May 10 in the Church Basement from 11:00am - 2:00pm.** Understanding the economic crunch, they have prepared a great menu, wonderful gifts and at a very affordable price. Cost is \$15 per adult; \$8 for kids 7 - 10 years old; and FREE for children 6 years and under. For more information, please call Kerr Tomayo at 604-327-6864 or Ariadne Rocks at 604-730-0979. Go on, get the tickets now from CWL members who are selling them in the foyer. Your mother and/or special lady (ladies) will thank you for it!

PARISH PICTURE DIRECTORY -- VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We will have a Parish Picture Directory made for our parish (details will follow). This project will involve many hours of photo sessions and we need volunteers to be the hosts and hostesses during these sessions. You will be checking-in the people who are coming for their photo sessions. The volunteering spots are divided into one hour sessions and they will **start on Tuesday May 19 and end on Tuesday June 2.** (Weekdays are from 2:30pm to 8:30pm and Saturdays are from 9:30am to 3:30pm. There are no Sunday appointments) If you are interested please contact Arda at 604-435-9611 ext 6.

PARISH NEWS

DO YOU OWN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING ENVELOPE NUMBERS?

Fourth Request. Please contact the parish office if you use the following envelope numbers: 124; 165; 166; 180; 245; 283; 284; 340; 422; 474; 589; 809; 879; 1093; 1215; 1308; 1398; 1456; 1652; 1695; 1719; 1747; 1784; 1809; 2034.

CANDY AND CHOCOLATE DRIVE

Did you buy/ receive too much candy and chocolate at Easter? St. Mary's Street Ministry is collecting treats for our outreach work. Please drop off any individually wrapped candy/chocolate into the box in the foyer. God Bless you for your generosity.

MINISTRY IN FOCUS

The Chaplet of Divine Mercy is inspired prayer. Our Lord told St. Faustina "At three o'clock implore my Mercy especially for sinners; and if only for a brief moment, immerse yourself in My passion, particularly in My abandonment at the moment of agony. This is the hour of great mercy for the whole world... In this hour, I will refuse nothing to the soul that makes a request of Me in Virtue of My passion" (Diary 1320) We try to spread devotion to the Divine Mercy. All are welcome to pray with us: Fridays (year round) at 3:00pm & 6:15pm in the church

DIOCESAN AND COMMUNITY NEWS

VOCATION LIVE-IN—WEEKEND OF MAY 8 - 10

There will be a vocation Live-In for boys or young men interested in the priesthood or consecrated life. This will be at Seminary of Christ the King.. For more info call 604-826-8715.

MULTILINGUAL CASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

For Filipino immigrants in Vancouver who are receiving EI and for anyone actively looking for jobs, please contact Brenda at 604-684-2504 or brenda.alindogan@issbc.org. The Multilingual Case Management program of ISSofBC (Immigrant Services Society of British Columbia) offers free employment and job search assistance in Tagalog and other languages.

YMO SCHOLARSHIPS

The Youth Ministry Office is pleased to once again offer two YMO scholarships this June for students exemplifying outstanding leadership in their parishes, schools, communities and home. Open to students finishing their grade 12 year, applicants will be eligible to win one of two \$500 scholarships to be applied to post-secondary schooling. Download the application at www.youthmin.com. **Application deadline is May 1.**

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Sun. Apr. 19: 1:00pm Handmaids of the Lord (School Gym)
2:00pm St. Michael's Liturgy (7451 Sussex Ave)
2:00pm Couples for Christ (Church Basement)

Mon. Apr. 20: 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
6:30pm Sr. Youth Ministry (Rectory Basement)
7:00pm Mass (Church)
7:30pm Marian Prayer Group (Rectory Library)

Tue. Apr. 21: 6:30pm PREP & Teen PREP (School)
6:30pm Catholic Women's League (School Gym)
6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
7:00pm Christian Meditation (Rectory Basement)
7:30pm Marriage Prep Class (Church Basement)

Wed. Apr. 22: 8:30am Respect Life Meeting (Rectory Dining)
6:00pm Project Advance Volunteers (Rect Dining)
6:30pm PREP & Teen PREP (School)
6:30pm RCIA (Church Basement)
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room/Sacristy)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)



Thu. Apr. 23: 6:00pm Youth Ministry Leaders (Rectory Library)
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:00pm Pastoral Council (Rectory Dining)
7:30pm Charismatic Prayer (Church Basement)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room/Sacristy)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)



Fri. Apr. 24: 9:00am Bible Sharing for Women (Rect. Bsmt)
3:00pm & 6:15pm Divine Mercy (Church)
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room/Sacristy)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)



Sat. Apr. 25: 12:40pm Bible Study & Sharing (Church Bsmt)
3:00pm Legion of Mary (Rectory Dining)
3:00pm Knights of Columbus (School Gym)
3:15pm Baptisms (Church)
7:00pm Singles for Christ (Church Basement)
7:30pm Couples for Christ-CLP (School Gym)

Sun. Apr. 26 1:00pm Handmaids of the Lord (School Gym)
2:00pm Couples for Christ-FFL (Church Bsmt)

PARISH INFORMATION

MASSES : Monday 7:00pm
Tuesday: 8:00am
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 8:00am and 7:00pm**
** followed by Adoration at 7:45pm & Benediction at 9:15pm
Saturday: 12:00noon; 5:00pm (**Anticipation**)
Sunday: 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:15am, 1:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm

CONFESSIONS

Sunday: Before all Masses (except 8:00am) & After all Masses
Saturday: 11:15am to 11:55am, 4:15pm to 4:55pm, 6:10pm to 7:00pm
Weekdays: After ALL Masses (except Thursday Evening Masses)
--- An appointment for confession may be made by phone

HOLY COMMUNION Available to shut-ins. Contact Parish Office.

FIRST FRIDAYS: 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

BAPTISMS: To register your child, contact the Parish Office.

MARRIAGES:

Contact the Parish Office at least six months prior to the wedding date to register for the required diocesan Marriage Preparation Course. One of the couple must be a registered Catholic parishioner of St. Mary's for at least one year before contacting the Parish Office.

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL

Thursdays: 8:00am Saturdays: 12:00noon

RCIA: Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. Contact the Parish Office.

PREP: Catechism Program for children attending public schools

TEEN PREP: Interactive Catechism Sessions for Teens

Coordinator: Eli Bautista Tuesday and Wednesday 6:30 to 8:00pm

E-mail: stmarys.prep@yahoo.ca

ST. MARY'S YOUNG ADULT COMMUNITY (SMYAC)

Leader: Joseph D'silva

Email: smyac_team@yahoo.ca

Website: www.smyac.ca

YOUTH MINISTRY (YM)

Coordinator: Arda Akoglu

E-mail: stmarys_ym@yahoo.com

Website: www.saintmarysyoung.com

ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Mr. Kevin Smith (Principal)

Website: www.stmary.bc.ca

Office Phone: (604) 437-1312

Office Fax: (604) 437-1193

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Mondays to Fridays: 9:00am to 5:00pm
Saturdays: 11:00am to 2:00pm

Pastor:

Fr. Pierre Leblond, O.P..

Youth Ministry/Volunteer Coordinator:

Arda Akoglu

Parish Secretary:

Margherita Bordignon