



**ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
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**April 26, 2009**

**You will touch Him!**

One of my favourite Bible scholars, Fr. Jim Nisbet, is convinced that everyone will be given a right to touch Christ Himself. How can he affirm this? Jesus Himself invites His disciples to touch Him during many of His apparitions. Today's Gospel provides one good example of this. *"Touch me and see, for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see I have."* (Luke 24: 39)

In this life we may have to believe without seeing and without touching. But Christ will reward us with the right to touch Him in the next life. Our joy would not be complete if we could only see Him from a distance. Love requests intimacy. Love wants all the five senses to be involved -- like the old song says, *"I want to see you, I want to hear you , I want to feel you"*. Our love for Him and His love for each of us is deeply personal, not generic, abstract or anonymous.

This is why it is so important to believe in the physical reality of the Resurrection of Christ and of our own personal resurrection. Sadly enough, many mainline protestant churches, and many popular writers like Douglas Todd, from the "Vancouver Sun", have reduced the Resurrection of Christ and our own future resurrection, to a symbolic way of expressing a human value. They say that the belief in bodily resurrection is only an old-fashioned, naïve, pre-scientific way of expressing a human, practical wisdom gained through thousands of years of civilization. The belief in bodily resurrection would be a very symbolic way of teaching that *"what starts as an unbearable cross often ends as an incomparable blessing"*. (John Robinson) Although this is a part of our Catholic teaching, it is not the most central part of it. Only the belief in real, bodily resurrection can free us from all selfish desires, and from fear of death. Only a direct encounter with the Risen Christ can satisfy our hunger for God. "Taste and see" *(con't next page)*

*(Pastor's Corner—con't)*

We don't live and die for a value. We live and die for a Person. An Infinite Person, warmer than the most passionate heart, greater and more majestic than the Universe itself.

The Resurrected Christ is more encompassing and awe-inspiring than the Universe that He created. Yet Christ is more intimate and warmer than a human heart. You can love Him as a Person, and contemplate Him as an Infinite Cosmos. St. Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 15, *" All will be in Him, and He will be in all"*.

God Bless You, **Fr. Pierre**

*"If you don't like the body being resuscitated, then stop liking the body now ..."* Saint Augustine

**PARISH NEWS**

**JR YOUTH MINISTRY OLYMPICS -- (Grades 6 - 8)**

Will it be the red or the blue team? Come, join the fun as we play all sorts of sports and games in the spirit of Christian fellowship. Make sure to wear sneakers and comfortable clothing. Where: **Church Basement**. When: **Monday, April 27 @ 6:30pm**

**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.

**PROJECT ADVANCE -- UPDATE**

**During each mass next weekend, May 2 and 3**, there will be more information available regarding this year's project as well as a video detailing this year's goals. For parishioners who have contributed in the past, pledge cards will be mailed to you again this year. There will also be blank pledge forms available for new donors. Thank you in advance for your support and participation in this important event.

**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

**PARISH NEWS**

**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**

IPC Canada will be coming to our Parish to produce a Parish Pictorial Directory. This resource tool will help us to get to know one another and to strengthen the bonds of our Parish community. **Bookings for the Directory will occur after all Sunday Masses today, May 2/3, and May 16/17 in the church foyer**. Your digital photography experience will then take place in the church basement from May 19 to June 2. During your appointment you will have your picture taken, choose the pose you want in the directory, and have a chance to order studio quality portraits. There is **no obligation to buy**. Portrait sessions take about 30-40minutes. **Every participating family will receive a completed pictorial directory free of charge**. This is a fantastic opportunity for those receiving the Sacrament of Baptism, First Holy Communion, or Confirmation, to dress in their special outfits for a timeless memento. Confirmation gowns will be available the day of your session. Although pets are an important part of the family, we ask for **no pets please**. **Appointments are first come, first serve**. Don't delay!

**ANNUAL SPRING DANCE**

Our Knights of Columbus will have their Annual Spring Dinner and Dance Party on **Saturday, May 23** in the St. Mary's School Gym. All proceeds will go to Birth Right Program. For tickets call Bro. Rene Montilla at 604-454-9679, Bro Joe. Pellington at 604-438-3821 or Bro. Manny Mendoza at 604-430-3647

**MUSICIANS WANTED**

Can you sing or can you play the drums, the guitar or the keyboard? **Youth Ministry needs you**. We want to start a band to lead the Youth Ministry in praise and worship. This is the ultimate opportunity for minimal commitment with maximum fun. If you are interested please call Arda at 604-435-9611 ext 6

## MINISTRY IN FOCUS

Why do we have a **Respect Life Group** in St. Mary's Parish? In the words of Jesus, that all "may have life and have it to the full." That is the reason for our ministry, simply to support life to the fullest in all its stages. We work to maintain the dignity and freedom of each person. We help educate through videos, speakers and other pro-life initiatives. Prayer is the heart of our ministry and we invite everyone to join us. For more information contact Gert Marquis at [marquis6497@gmail.com](mailto:marquis6497@gmail.com) or 604-433-6497

## DIOCESAN AND COMMUNITY NEWS

### VOCATION LIVE-IN

On the **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.

### SPECIAL MASS AND PRAYERS FOR BIRTHRIGHT

In honour of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, His Excellency Archbishop J. Michael Miller, CSB will be officiating this Mass on **Saturday, May 9, 2009 at Holy Rosary Cathedral**. Rosary will begin at 11:35am followed by Holy Sacrifice of the Mass at 12:10pm. Please bring family and friends. All are welcome. Refreshments to follow in Holy Rosary Hall -- donations of finger food are appreciated. Birthright Info: 604-687-7223.

### MARCH FOR LIFE

The Knights of Columbus Council 14459 is organizing a bus trip to Victoria on **Friday, May 14, 2009**. Departure is at 7:00am from St. Casmir's Parish (1187 East 27th Avenue, Van). Mass will be celebrated at St. Andrew Cathedral at noon and then a walk to the Parliament Buildings. Bus will return to Vancouver at approximately 7:00pm. BC Gold Card holders will be exempt from ferry fees. Total cost per person is \$55. More info: Jan Bottcher (604-327-2909)/St. Casmir's parish(604-876-3194).

### CATHOLIC FAMILY SERVICES -- HOW CAN WE HELP YOU?

Catholic Family Services, the professional counseling agency of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Vancouver, offers counseling as follows: **Individual, couples or families**; **CARE** for Separated and Divorced Men and Women; **Beyond Power & Control** for men in relationships; **Reclaiming Self** for women healing from abusive relationships; **Project Rachel** services for those touched by abortion. Counselor Sr. Cecilia Hong is fluent in English, French, Cantonese, Mandarin and Shanghainese.

## THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

- Sun. Apr. 26:** 10:15am Willingdon Park Liturgy (4435 Grange St)  
2:00pm Couples for Christ-FFL (Church Bsmt)  
4:00pm Knights of Columbus Council (Gym)
- Mon. Apr. 27:** 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)  
6:00pm Jr. Youth Ministry (Church Basement)  
7:00pm Mass (Church)  
7:30pm Marian Prayer Group (Rectory Library)
- Tue. Apr. 28:** 6:30pm PREP & Teen PREP (School)  
6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)  
7:00pm Christian Meditation (Rectory Basement)  
7:30pm Marriage Prep Class (Church Basement)
- Wed. Apr. 29:** 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. 30:** 7:00pm Confirmation Mass followed by Adoration  
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room/Sacristy)  
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Fri. May. 01:** 9:00am Bible Sharing for Women (Rect. Bsmt)  
3:00pm & 6:15pm Divine Mercy (Church)  
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)  
7:00pm Cornerstone (Church Basement)  
7:40pm Miracle Hour (Church)  
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Sat. May: 02:** 9:00am 2000 Hail Mary Group (Rectory Dining)  
10:00am Handmaids of the Lord (Gym)  
12:40pm Bible Study & Sharing (Church Basement)  
3:00pm Legion of Mary (Church Basement)  
3:15pm Baptisms (Church)  
7:00pm Singles for Christ (Church Basement)  
7:30pm Couples for Christ-CLP (School Gym)
- Sun. May. 03:** 2:00pm Youth for Christ (Church Basement)



*MAY IS THE MONTH OF MARY*

*PRAY THE ROSARY DAILY*

## 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](mailto:stmarys.prep@yahoo.ca)

### **ST. MARY'S YOUNG ADULT COMMUNITY (SMYAC)**

Leader: Joseph D'silva

Email: [smyac\\_team@yahoo.ca](mailto:smyac_team@yahoo.ca)

Website: [www.smyac.ca](http://www.smyac.ca)

### **YOUTH MINISTRY (YM)**

E-mail: [stmarys\\_ym@yahoo.com](mailto:stmarys_ym@yahoo.com)

Coordinator: Arda Akoglu

Website: [www.saintmarysyouth.com](http://www.saintmarysyouth.com)

### **ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Mr. Kevin Smith (Principal)

Website: [www.stmary.bc.ca](http://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