



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

Sunday August 17, 2008

"STRETCHING OF BOUNDARIES"



Dear Parishioners,

In today's Gospel, we see Jesus stretching the boundaries in order to bring healing and life to those who are often seen as being "outside" or "beyond" those boundaries. Fr. Rohlheiser, OMI, has a beautiful article to show how Jesus, himself, in stretching boundaries, refused to be 'pigeon-holed', and in so doing, melted down boundaries that *all* may have the opportunity of receiving the redeeming and transformative love of God the Father:

"Be beyond ideology, be both post-liberal and post-conservative... Refuse to be predefined by any ideology of the left or the right. Like Jesus, transcend boundaries, constantly surprise, refuse to be classified..."

Don't be afraid to be nothing and don't be afraid to be everything. Christ emptied himself and refused to claim any status or to stand out in terms of public titles, distinctive dress or in any triumphant display of power. But he is too the Christ who rose triumphant from the tomb and who needs to be proclaimed publicly, with colour, pride and display. He is both the Christ of silent, anonymous witness and the Christ of chanting, public processions. Honour both.

Be for the marginalized, without being marginalized yourself. Walk a fine tightrope. Take your stand with the marginalized, even as you are known for your sanity and capacity to relate warmly and deeply to every kind of person and group. Be known for your radical stance for the poor even as you are recognized for the wide scope of your embrace...

(continued)

(Pastor's Corner - continued...) Be equally committed to social justice and to intimacy with Jesus. Learn to be comfortable leading both a peace march and devotional prayer. Do not choose between justice and Jesus, between committing yourselves to the poor and fostering private intimacy with Jesus. Be thoroughly in the world, even as you are rooted elsewhere..."

For more on this beautiful piece of reflection of Fr. Rohlheiser, OMI, please go to: <http://www.wcr.ab.ca/columns/rolheiser/2008/rolheiser063008.shtml>

God bless, Fr. Mark



THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

- Sun. Aug. 17:** 2:00pm St. Michael's Liturgy (7451 Sussex Ave.)
5:00pm Youth & Young Adults Mass (Church)
- Mon. Aug. 18:** 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
- Tue. Aug. 19:** 6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining)
- Wed. Aug. 20:** 7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:30pm St. Vincent de Paul (Rectory Dining)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room/Sacristy)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Thu. Aug. 21:** 7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:30pm Charismatic Prayer (Church Basement)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Fri. Aug. 22:** 3:00pm Divine Mercy (Church)
6:15pm Divine Mercy (Church)
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room/Sacristy)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Sat. Aug. 23:** 10:00am Handmaids of the Lord (Church Bsmnt.)
12:30pm Bible Sharing (Church Basement)
3:00pm K of C Council (Church Basement.)
3:30pm Legion of Mary (Rectory Dining)
- Sun. Aug. 24:** 2:00pm Willingdon Park Liturgy (4435 Grange St.)
5:00pm Youth & Young Adults Mass (Church)

SCHOOL NEWS

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL VACANCY FOR GRADE 7

St. Mary's Catholic School has 1 vacant spot in Grade 7 for this coming September. Families/Parents who are interested to apply may contact **Mr. Kevin Smith** at the School office: (604) 437-1312) during weekdays between 9am & 4pm.

PARISH NEWS

ST. MARY'S INTERNATIONAL FAMILY FAIR

The long-awaited St Mary's International Family Fair is just around the corner: **August 31!** It's *the* summer event that you, your family and friends can enjoy together the whole day - from **10:30am to 5pm**. There will be plenty of fun & games, treasure hunt, kids' corner, entertainment, silent auction, sumptuous food, sales galore, and other surprises including a grand prize! The Fair is located at the back parking lot; but there is still parking available at the front and on the streets. We apologize for any inconvenience caused. This is an event you wouldn't want to miss... so make it a date: **August 31!**



ANOTHER NIGHT FOR TEEN PREP STARTING THIS SEPTEMBER

We have opened another night of Teen PREP. Starting this September, Teens will have a choice between Tuesday OR Wednesday nights. Teen PREP is open to all youths in Grades 8 to 12 who want to learn more about their faith, or to prepare to receive the Sacraments, or just 'hang out' with other Catholic teens. Registration is now open.



PREP REGISTRATION IS STILL ON-GOING

The registrations for our Catechism program is still on-going. Most of the Tuesday classes are already full while Wednesday classes are still open so we encourage parents and guardians to register early. Registration forms are available in the Church foyer or at the Parish Office.

HOW ABOUT AN ACT OF KINDNESS TO THE HOMELESS?

St. Mary's Street Ministry invites parishioners to do an act of kindness. We are providing you with beautiful scripture/info cards for the homeless. Take a few scripture/info cards and a candy bag at our table after mass, & give them out to the homeless people you see on your way to/from work this week. Jesus said: "Whatsoever you do to the least of my brothers, you do it unto me." — Matthew 25:40

CATHOLIC BIBLE SEMINAR

On Sept. 12, 13 & 14 in the Church Basement. Fr. Jim Nisbet, a noted Bible scholar from California will talk about the **1st & 2nd Letters of Peter**. Registration forms are available in the foyer. Call Gerry at (604) 882-9205 for more information

PARISH/COMMUNITY NEWS

RCIA/FAITH INSTRUCTION

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is designed for: A.) Adult inquirers, that is, for the non-baptized/baptized in other faiths (if you wish to find out more about Christianity or becoming a Catholic); B.) For adult Catholics, who are baptized, but not catechized and/or did not complete the other Sacraments of Initiation (First Communion and/or Confirmation); C.) All others are welcome, so if you are interested in the Catholic Faith or know someone who is, the RCIA program is the answer! You may register for RCIA classes which begin this coming September. For further information, please contact: Arda Akoglu or Carolina Prada at (604) 733-3457 or aakog@yahoo.com



A NEW BOOK BY FR. VINCENT TRAVERS, O.P. (On Sale Aug. 31)
Each of us is a small part of something greater than ourselves. If we are to live the life we are born to live, we have to discover a life larger than self, larger than any moment in our lives, larger than our marriages, our single lives, our jobs, larger than any achievement our bodies. The story of your life and mine is still unfolding. It's the God dimension, **God.com** that connects our little story to the great story, and gives us the vision, and the basis, for living sane, authentic, and meaningful lives, in our world today. Price is \$20.00: All proceeds from the book will go to a Catholic mission in India that provides a home for abandoned girls, five years and older.

CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC CONFERENCE

On Sept. 26 & 27. This year's Conference Theme is taken from 2 Timothy 4:2 "...proclaim the word... be persistent..." The keynote speaker is Deacon Alex Jones from the Diocese of Detroit. Archbishop Raymond Roussin will celebrate the closing Mass. For tickets and more information, please call (604) 597 8227 or email: fireblade@shaw.ca

200th ANNIVERSARY OF THE DAUGHTERS OF CHARITY

A special Mass will be held at St. Mark's Chapel on Wednesday, Sept. 17th at 12:10pm. There will also be an exhibit about the work and ministries of the Daughters of Charity worldwide.

MOVIE OF THE WEEK – YOUNG ADULTS (ages 18+)

SMYAC will watch an interesting movie on Friday, Aug. 22nd. They will meet in Metrotown at 6:30pm. For those interested, please contact smyac_team@yahoo.ca or contact Erwin (604) 729-0853. See you there!

ARCHDIOCESE/COMMUNITY NEWS

MISSION APPEAL FOR LEBANON

Father Gabriel, a Lebanese priest belonging to the Dominican Community stationed and ministering at St. Mary's Parish in Vancouver, will be appealing to us next weekend at all Masses to give generously to the House of Light and Hope in Lebanon. This Catholic organization is under the sponsorship of the Greek Catholic Archbishop of Tyre and relies mostly on **God's** Providence to pursue its vocation. Its mission uses an integrated approach (spiritual, psychological, social and professional) in helping the street kids and young adults of Lebanon (drug addicts, thugs and thieves, prostitutes) to rediscover their worth in God and their place in society. Thank you in advance in the Name of our Lord Jesus for "whatever you have done to the least of my brothers and sisters, you have done to me". For those who want to have a tax receipt for their donation, please write your name and envelope number on the Mission Appeal For Lebanon envelope and put it in the second collection.

VANCOUVER ARCHDIOCESAN SUMMER INSTITUTE

On August 22 & 23, 2008 at Holy Cross Secondary in Surrey. Sponsored by the Office of Religious Education, it offers catechetical and adult faith formation courses for all interested adults. Pre-registration is required. For all course descriptions and to register, please visit: www.rcav.bc.ca/ore and click on "Summer Institute" or call (604) 683-0281.

CATHOLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE

At the Executive Plaza Hotel in Coquitlam on Sept. 18th. This year's theme is "Best Practices at the End of Life" with speakers addressing issues of Do Not Resuscitate Orders, Palliative Care for Dementia Patients and Advance Care Directives. The conference will include a Mass with Archbishop Roussin and dinner at the end of the day. The registration brochure is available at chabc.bc.ca or by calling (604) 524-3427.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY - HEAD CHEF/COOK

At Rosemary Heights Retreat Centre, will be responsible for preparing healthy, delicious meals for a variety of groups, special diets, etc. Should be able to foster team spirit and work with minimum supervision. Candidate Requirements: Red Seal Certification & Current Foodsafe; 2-3 years of proven successful experience. Deadline for submission of applications is August 18th. For further info, email mruggierandrews@rcav.bc.ca or visit: www.rcav.bc.ca/employment/index.htm

PARISH INFORMATION

MASSES

Mondays to Fridays: 8:00am
Wed., Thurs., Fri: 7:00pm**
** followed by Adoration at 7:45pm & Benediction at 9:15pm
Saturdays: 12:00noon; 5:00pm (**Anticipation**)
Sundays: 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:15am, 1:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm

CONFESSIONS

Sundays: Before & After ALL Masses
Saturdays: 11:15am to 11:55am, 4:15pm to 4:55pm, 6:10pm to 6:40pm
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: 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.

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

ST. MARY'S YOUNG ADULT COMMUNITY (SMYAC)

Leader: Joseph D'silva

Email: smyac_team@yahoo.ca

Website: www.smyac.ca

YOUTH MINISTRY (YM)

Coordinator: Eli Bautista

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

Pastor:

Fr. Pierre Leblond, O.P.

Assistant Pastor:

Fr. Mark Hoo, O.P.

YM & PREP Coordinator:

Eli Bautista

Parish Office:

Margherita Bordignon/Ossie Fernandes