



ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Pastor's
Corner

Sunday July 6, 2008



Jesus says in today's Gospel, "All things have been handed over to me by my Father". Why should I be afraid then? Jesus Christ is in charge, even when the evil one makes me believe that my fate is controlled by hostile or blind forces. Jesus goes on to say that one of the things that the Father has handed over to him is the ability to console us and give us rest. He promises it, "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest". There is a condition. We do have to come to him, take upon us his yoke and learn from him. He gives us two explanations how we can achieve this. The first one is that his heart is gentle and humble. Therefore everything that we accept from his heart will be gentle and humble. The second explanation Jesus gives us is that his yoke is easy and his burden is light. Fr. Mark Link, S.J. in his book *Vision*, from Thomas More Publications wrote about Jesus' yoke:

"A yoke is a wooden harness used to join the necks of two oxen so that they can pull a load together. Carpenters shaped the yoke for each animal to avoid painful rubbing. Legend says that Jesus made yokes in the carpenter shop at Nazareth. So he knew what he was talking about when he said, "My yoke is easy". The word Jesus used for "easy" may also be translated "well fitting". In other words, Jesus is saying, "Trust me, and yoke yourself to me. Together, we can pull any load."

The same author provides a beautiful illustration of today's message in his book *Vision 2000*, also from Thomas More Publications:

"Roger Bolduc died in Waterville, Maine, after a long bout with cancer. Until the end, he regarded his illness as a gift from God. Shortly before dying, he wrote, "Many things upon which I placed importance in the past seem trivial now... God has become so real... I have always felt close to God, but feel even closer now... I can feel God's power, it's always there. I feel loved."

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I can testify that many parishioners have similar experiences of being "yoked" with Christ and pulling gently heavy burdens with him. It is something Simon of Cyrene experienced when he helped Jesus carry his cross. The movie "**The Passion of the Christ**" illustrates this very well. Sharing your burden or the "burden" of God's will for you is the best way to know Him as a very real person.

God give you rest, Fr. Pierre



THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

- Sun. July 6:** **PARISH PICNIC AT FRASER FORESHORE**
2:00pm Youth for Christ (Church Basement)
2:30pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining)
3:00pm Baptisms (Church)
5:00pm Youth & Young Adults Mass CANCELLED
- Mon. July 7:** 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
7:00pm Lay Apostles (Church Basement)
7:00pm Meditative Prayer (Rectory Basement)
- Tue. July 8:** 6:30pm Baptism Preparation Class (Church)
6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining)
- Wed. July 9:** 10:45am Willingdon Park Liturgy (4435 Grange St.)
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room/Sacristy)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Thu. July 10:** 7:00pm Mass & Adoration (Church)
7:30pm Charismatic Prayer (School Gym)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Fri. July 11:** 3:00pm Divine Mercy (Rectory Basement)
6:15pm Divine Mercy (Church)
7:00pm Mass & Adoration (Church)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room/Sacristy)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Sat. July 12:** 10:00am Handmaids of the Lord (Church Basement)
12:30pm Bible Sharing (Church Basement)
3:30pm Legion of Mary (Church Basement)
- Sun. July 13:** 2:00pm CFC General Meeting (Church Basement)
2:30pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining)
5:00pm Youth & Young Adults Mass (Church)

PARISH/COMMUNITY NEWS

ST. MARY'S INTERNATIONAL FAMILY FAIR

Look forward to a fun-filled event on **August 31, 2008!** St. Mary's CWL (in coordination with all Parish Groups) is hosting the **International Family Fair**. This will start at **10:30am**. There will be food, entertainment, kids' corner, silent auctions, plants & crafts, grand door prizes and many, many more. Crafters in the parish who would like to sell their products at the Fair, please contact Christina Liew-Johannus at (604) 759-9150 or email: christina_johannus@yahoo.com.

MEDITATIVE PRAYER SCHEDULE REMINDER

Please be reminded that Monday, July 7th will be our last meeting. We will now break for summer and will resume on September 8. God bless.

PROJECT ADVANCE 2009

Application for a "Special Needs" grant for 2009 is now available on the Project Advance website: www.rcav.org/project_advance/2008/latestnews.htm Deadline for applications is on September 30, 2008. For more information, please contact the Project Advance Office at (604) 683-0281 or Fr. Glenn Dion at (604) 682-6774.

VANCOUVER ARCHDIOCESAN SUMMER INSTITUTE

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

RETRouvaille: A PROGRAM OF HOPE

Designed to help couples in hurting marriages. Next Vancouver weekend will be on Sept. 26 - 28, 2008. Space is limited so please register early. For more information, please call (604) 530-6710 or visit: www.retrouvaille.com

CHRISTIAN LIFE PROGRAM (HANDMAIDS OF THE LORD)

Single? Divorced? Separated? Widowed? Join us in our ongoing Christian Life Program (CLP). The CLP brings forth a personal relationship with God and a renewed faith in Jesus. The sessions consist of teachings, group discussions, and fellowship with refreshments. This program is FREE! For more info, contact: Irene Pejante at (778) 883-9091; email: ipejante@shaw.ca OR Girlie Umali at (604) 783-0203; email guia_umali@yahoo.com OR Mila Zipagan at (604) 728-4635. Saturdays, 10am in the Church Basement.

YOUTH MINISTRY'S "SPLASHTIME AT SPLASHDOWN"

Don't miss out on this very cool event! Youth Ministry invites all youth in Grades 6 to 12 to join them in a day of fun, sun & food at Splashdown Water Park. **Cost is only \$20** and it already includes transportation, entrance fee to the water park, lunch and snacks. On July 24th, Thursday from 9am to 5pm. Pre-registration and permission forms are required. To download the form, please visit www.saintmarysyouth.com.



SCHOOL NEWS

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL VACANCY FOR GRADE 1 AND GRADE 7

St. Mary's Catholic School has one vacant spot each for Grade 1 & Grade 7 for this coming September (School Year 2008 - 2009). Families/Parents who are interested to apply are requested to contact Mr. Kevin Smith at the School office from July 7th to July 11th, between 9am & 4pm.

PARISH INFORMATION

MASSES:

Weekdays: Monday to Friday: 8:00am; Wed., Thurs., Fri: 7:00pm**

** followed by Adoration at 7:45pm & Benediction at 9:15pm

Weekends: Saturday: 12:00noon; 5:00pm (Anticipation);

Sunday: 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:15am, 1:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm

CONFESSIONS:

Sunday: Before & After ALL Masses

Saturday: 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.

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

RCIA: Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. For more details, contact the Parish Office.

PREP: Catechism Program for children attending public schools

TEEN PREP: Interactive Catechism Sessions for Teens

Coordinator: Eli Bautista Sessions: Tuesday **OR** Wednesday 6:30 - 8:00pm

ST. MARY'S YOUNG ADULT COMMUNITY (SMYAC)

Leader: Jonquil Francis and Joseph D'silva

Email: smyac_team@yahoo.ca

Website: www.smyac.ca

YOUTH MINISTRY (YM)

Coordinator: Eli Bautista

Website: www.saintmarysyouth.com

E-mail: stmarys_ym@yahoo.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