



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

March 8, 2009

Second Sunday in Lent
SURRENDER YOUR CHILDREN?

The biggest cross most parents and grandparents have, is to powerlessly watch their teenaged children and their young adult sons and daughters go astray and stay away from the church. Their grandchildren are not baptized, they know nothing about Christ. Their sons and daughters have gone through several divorces and remarriages. Sooner or later, before they reach the age of forty-five, the parents come to terms with this crisis and admit that they cannot control the life of their children anymore

To their children in their twenties, they can "only" offer their testimony that they have found joy in living their faith. They cannot impose their faith from the outside. They can and should maintain a good relationship with their children, based on mutual forgiveness, understanding and love. They should affirm their children and give them unconditional love.

But they have to surrender them to God. This was the test given to Abraham by God. Abraham was asked to surrender completely his only son, Isaac, to Him. Now, Abraham had left his country and family to follow God, when he was already in his seventies. For the next two or three decades, he was promised a son who would be the father of a great nation. When he finally had a son, he was asked to sacrifice him. God stopped Abraham short of killing his son. He did tell him that He did not want human sacrifice. But Abraham had already surrendered his son in his heart, when he took hold of the knife.

Pastor's corner (con't)

Cardinal and theologian Hans Urs von Balthasar wrote:
"The horror of it consists not in the command to kill the son of one's own body -- this was part of surrounding religions and, illicitly, in Israel itself -- rather, the horror lies in the act that this son was miraculously given by God and destined to imitate and accomplish the divine promises. In His command God contradicts himself. Yet though the command may be incomprehensibly contradictory to man, he must obey because God is God."

God Himself did it for us. He gave up His only Son into our criminal hands. And Christ, the Second Person of the Trinity surrendered Himself to the Father

God Bless you. *Fr. Pierre*

PARISH NEWS

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

During **all Fridays in Lent**, Stations of the Cross will be at 6:30pm and then our regular evening Mass will follow at 7:00pm

PENNIES FOR HEAVEN

Our Knights of Columbus are collecting pennies and other coins/currency to support vocations. Please bring donations to the foyer during **all Sunday Masses in March** and put them in the BIG bottle. Your donations will be used for the education and personal needs of our seminarians God Bless You.



JR YOUTH MINISTRY -- (Grades 6 - 8)

What color is your personality? Are you blue or gold; or are you green? What does that even mean? Come and join the Jr. Youth Ministry on **Monday, March 9** at 6:30pm in the **church basement** as we figure out our true colors and their importance. Come and enjoy this fun activity and some delicious pizza. Don't forget to invite your friends!

Then, on **Saturday, March 14** at 1:00pm in the **rectory basement**, we have our movie of the month. "Evan Almighty" is a comedy of biblical proportions, so come and laugh a little!!!



Donation?

Youth Ministry needs a new/almost new microwave oven. If you are able to donate, please call Arda at 604-435-9611 ext 6.

PARISH NEWS

SET ME FREE!!!

A powerful event for youth and young adults: Do you want to be set free? Come and join the great celebration on **Friday, March 27**. Are you curious? Make sure to check next week's bulletin for more details.

ST MARY'S SCHOOL REGISTRATION

On **April 2** there will be a meeting at **7:00pm** in the **school gym** for new families who wish to enter St. Mary's School in September 2009. You **must attend** to receive an information package because they are not handed out from the school office

WHAT IS YOUR ADDRESS? DO WE HAVE YOUR CURRENT ONE?

We announced two weeks ago that we would mail out tax receipts and we got many phone calls that continued to this week from people who had moved and didn't receive receipts. Ensure your address is correct by filling in an updated registration form. Please do not rely on your Sunday envelope to give an update.

ANNUAL YARD SALE

Our annual yard sale to support Respect Life will take place on **Saturday, April 18**. More details and info. will follow in the next few weeks. In the meantime, please start your spring cleaning and save any items that you may want to donate. This includes garden items, jewelry, dishes, books etc. NO CLOTHING PLEASE.



CONDOLENCES

Please pray for the soul of our dearly departed :

Grace D'Angelo - (wife of long time usher Guido D'Angelo)
 funeral will be celebrated on Thur Mar 12 at 10:00am

*Eternal Rest Grant Unto Her O Lord,
 Let Perpetual Light Shine Upon Her,
 May Her Soul Rest in Peace, Amen*

MINISTRY IN FOCUS

Couples for Christ (CFC) is a movement intended for the renewal and strengthening of Christian family life. Members have committed themselves to the Lord and to one another so that they may grow in maturity as men and women of God and fulfill their primary vocation of raising up families under the lordship of Jesus Christ and for the service of the Kingdom of God. Those who want to join CFC go through [Christian Life Program](#). For more info: Rod & Marlyn Trigo at 604-431-8775 or cell # 604-603-6856. Visit: www.couplesforchristglobal.org

DIOCESAN AND COMMUNITY NEWS

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE SOCIAL/INFO MEETING

D & P is holding a pot luck supper/social and information meeting on **Wednesday March 11** from 7:00-9:00pm at Holy Name of Jesus Parish (4925 Cambie St –corner of 33rd Ave). The evening is geared for everyone—have some fun meeting great people and learning about global social issues and D&P's unique way of responding to emergency situations.

LENTEN RETREAT WITH FR. ARCHIE GONSALVES, OCD

March 12 - 14 at 7:00pm at Guardian Angels Church (1161 Broughton Street, Vancouver). The retreat begins with Holy Mass, then followed by a talk: *"Paths to Holiness"*. Fr. Archie is the Father Provincial of the Order of Carmelite Discalced based in India. Phone Guardian Angels Parish at 604-684-5775 for more details including parking availability.

LEGION OF MARY CONFERENCE

"Weekly Tryst with Mary" talks by Most Rev. Archbishop Michael Miller and Rev. Msgr. Stephen Jensen. **March 14 from 8:30am to 4:30pm** at All Saints Parish, 1405 Como Lake Ave., Coquitlam, BC. Mass is at 9:00am. Please bring a bagged lunch, beverages will be provided.

RAISING CHILDREN TODAY

Dr. Ray Guarendi, noted clinical psychologist, author, public speaker, and radio host, will be speaking on the challenges of raising children today. Date and venue: **March 14 at 8:30am - 12:15pm** at Pacific Academy, 10238 - 168 Street, Surrey. For more info and to register visit www.pife.ca.

COME AND REST AWHILE RETREAT

On **March 21 from 8:30am to 4:30pm** at Rosemary Heights Retreat Centre. Retreat leader is Bishop Monroe. The cost of \$30 per person includes lunch. For more info or to register call Respect Life Office at 604-683-0281. Deadline is March 13.

WORLD WIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Attention Married Couples! You deserve to give each other a weekend to enhance your marital love. For more info. or to register please contact Steve & Mary Bohnen at 604-876-7298.

SEARCHING IN THE SPIRIT LEADERSHIP TEAM- www.youthmin.com


Youth Ministry Office needs older teens and young adults to apply for our Searching in the Spirit Leadership Team. This dynamic team of youth and young adults will lead recently confirmed youth at our 5-day post-confirmation event in August 2009. This is an amazing leadership training opportunity!


THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH


Sun. Mar. 08: 10:00am RCIA (Rectory Basement)
2:00pm Couples for Christ (Church Basement)

Mon. Mar. 09: 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
6:30pm Jr. Youth Ministry (Church Basement)
7:00pm Mass (Church)
7:30pm Marian Prayer Group (Rectory Library)

Tue. Mar. 10: 6:30pm PREP & Teen PREP (School)
6:30pm Baptism Preparation Class (Church)
6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
7:00pm Christian Meditation (Rectory Basement)
7:30pm Marriage Prep Course (Church Bsmt)

Wed. Mar. 11:  2:00pm Willingdon Park Mass (4435 Grange St)
6:30pm PREP & Teen PREP (School)
6:30pm RCIA (Church Basement)
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:30pm SMYAC Leaders (Rectory Dining)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room/Sacristy)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)

Thu. Mar. 12:  7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:30pm Charismatic Prayer (Church Basement)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room/Sacristy)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)

Fri. Mar. 13: 9:00am Bible Sharing for Women (Rect Bsmt)
10:00am St. Michael's Mass (7451 Sussex Avenue)
3:00pm & 6:10pm Divine Mercy (Church)
NEW !!  6:30pm Stations of the Cross (Church)
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room/ Sacristy)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)

Sat. Mar: 14 10:00am Echoes (Church Basement)
10:00am Handmaids of the Lord (School Gym)
12:30pm Bible Sharing (Church Basement)
3:00pm Legion of Mary (Church Basement)
7:00 pm Couples for Christ- FFL (Church Bsmt)
7:30pm Couples for Christ-- CLP (School Gym)

Sun. Mar. 15: 10:00am RCIA (Rectory Basement)
1:00pm Handmaids of the Lord (School Gym)
2:00pm St. Michael's Liturgy (7451 Sussex Ave)

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 & 5:00pm) & 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:

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)

E-mail: stmarys_ym@yahoo.com

Coordinator: Arda Akoglu

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.

Assistant Pastor: (currently on leave)

Fr. Mark Hoo, O.P.

Youth Ministry/Volunteer Coordinator:

Arda Akoglu

Parish Secretary:

Margherita Bordignon