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

May 17, 2009

NO LONGER SERVANTS, BUT FRIENDS OF GOD

One day in 2007, I was praying with a holy man of God. That day he said, "I asked the Holy Spirit to tell me what the Father and the Son are telling to one another." I almost laughed at him, thinking that this prayer was pretentious. It felt to me like asking the King and the Queen what they speak about in their intimacy! But the man was not impressed by my rebukes! Now, I know he was right!

In today's Gospel, Jesus said, "I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does no know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father." (John 15:14-15). Yes, God loves us so much that He wants us to become His equals. Friendship requests equality. We cannot achieve this equality by ourselves, we can only let God do it. He does it by making us live by Him, through Him, for Him, in Him. This is the life of the Holy Spirit in us; His love being poured out for us, making us called the bride of the Son of God.

Saint John of the Cross writes that being called the bride of Christ signifies equality with Him. "In the equality of friendship the possessions of both are held in common, as the Bridegroom Himself said to His disciples "I have now called you friends, because all that I have heard from my Father, I have manifested to you." (John of the Cross)

Having allowed God to live in us as bridegroom and friend, we can bear children for Him. We can go and bear fruit that will last. (John 15:16). Then His joy will be our joy in us and it will be complete.

God Bless You *Fr. Pierre*

PARISH NEWS

SR YOUTH MINISTRY -- (Grades 8 - 12)

Alex Trebek will be here on Monday with Sr. Youth Ministry. Well no, not really, but we'll play an awesome game of Jeopardy anyways. Actually I bet ours will be more fun because for one thing Alex doesn't serve Domino's Pizza but we do. So come and join the fun on **Monday, May 18 at 6:30pm in the Rectory Basement.**

PARISH PICTURE DIRECTORY-- *It's time to smile*

Photo sessions begin this **Tuesday, May 19,** but it is not too late to be included in the directory. Book your appointment today in the church foyer, or contact tamisiano@yahoo.ca. Please specify your preferred day & preferred time (2:30 - 8:30pm). Dates still available are: May 20, 21, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29. You will be given the closest time to your preference available. In your e-mail, be sure to include your **name, address, phone number and the best time to reach you.** Thank you for your participation.

NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Leaflets are available in the foyer for a novena to the Holy Spirit. The novena should **begin on Friday, May 22** and end on Pentecost Sunday, May 30.

ANNUAL SPRING DANCE

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

2009/2010 PREP EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION

Registration forms for the 09/10 catechism year are available. Registration fees will be **discounted ONLY until May 31,** and then regular registrations will resume in August. Register early to save $$ and to be assured of a spot for next year. These forms are available in the Parish Office, school office (during PREP nights --Tue and Wed) and in the Church foyer

ORDINATION AT ST. MARY'S PARISH

Very soon the number of Dominican priests in Canada will increase by one!! On **Saturday June 6**, Brother David Bellusci, who was born in Vancouver and raised in Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, will be ordained here at St. Mary's by Most Reverend J. Michael Miller, CSB, Archbishop of Vancouver. Please keep Brother David in your prayers as he journeys closer to his vocation. A finger food pot luck will follow the ordination. All are welcome. This ordination takes place within a Sunday Mass and will fulfill your Sunday obligation.

PARISH NEWS

MONDAY MASS -- SOON TO SWITCH TIMES

Beginning Monday June 1, daily Mass will return to its regular time of 8:00am and there will no longer be a 7:00pm Mass.

WHAT IS A GREAT MARRIAGE?

It is never too late (or too early) to get practical suggestions on how to help enrich your relationship. **Denis Boyd, R.Psych** will present a workshop on **Monday, June 1, here at St. Mary's from 7:00-10:00pm.** Cost is $20 per person which includes handouts and refreshments. To pre-register and pre-pay, call Denis Boyd & Associates at 604-931-7211 by May 25. The poster in the foyer has more info about Denis Boyd and topics.

CAN YOU SING?

The Youth Ministry Band has its drummer, guitar and keyboard players. We are waiting for our lead singer. Is it you? Would you like to use your gifts in the service of God? Come and join us playing for the youth twice a month. If interested please call Arda at 604-435-9611 ext.6.

LOGO DESIGN CONTEST

Are you creative? Do you want to put your creativity to the test? St. Mary's Youth Ministry wants a logo design and we are having a contest to pick it. Please submit your design to stmarys_ym@yahoo.com on or before June 15. The winner will get the boasting rights and a music CD.

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL HAS OPENINGS

St. Mary's School has openings for September 2009 in **Grades 4 and 7.** If you are interested, please contact the school for an application package. Telephone number is 604-437-1312.

PROJECT ADVANCE -- UPDATE

It is very exciting to start off the 28th Project Advance. Our committee hopes to make this event as successful as previous years. Committee members and volunteers are available until the end of June to collect all returned pledges and register new donors in the church foyer after each mass. Participation from all parishioners is most important and is one of key factor to make this a successful campaign.

As per Archbishop Most Reverend J. Michael Miller's message, "Project Advance is stewardship in action. It express the vitality of the Body of Christ by assisting those in need, educating young people, preparing for the future and bringing Christ's message to everyone. May our generosity declare to one another and to the community at large that we are people who care and that you can make a difference!"

We thank you in advance for your generous support in making this a successful campaign.

MINISTRY IN FOCUS

2000 Hail Marys group prays to the Blessed Mother asking for her true and powerful intercession. We gather (from different parishes) at 9:00am on the first Saturday of each month in the rectory dining room to pray the 4 mysteries of the Holy Rosary. Then we pray the 20 petitions. For every petition, 100 Hail Marys are prayed with an offering of a white rose and a candle. We do this until 7:00pm. We invite everyone to join us once a month to pray to our Blessed Mother. For those who cannot commit to the whole day you are still welcome to join and stay for however long you can. Interested? Call Joy at 604-739-4759.

DIOCESAN AND COMMUNITY NEWS

MENTORING CONNECTIONS

Mentoring connections is a dynamic community initiative from Immigrant Services Society of BC (ISSofBC). This program matches established professionals with skilled immigrants in flexible, career-focused mentoring relationships Mentors share valuable industry-specific advice and encouragement to help equip new immigrants with the knowledge they need to find meaningful work in their field of choice more quickly. If you:

- have 3 years min. professional/technical Canadian experience.
- value diversity and want to learn more about other cultures
- are successful and looking for ways to teach, learn and grow

Check out www.issbc.org/employers/mentoring if your are interested in helping with this program

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH IN CHINA

In answer to the request of Pope Benedict XVI (that May 24 become a day for all Catholics to be united in prayer with the Church in China), **St. Francis Xavier Church** will celebrate the ***World Day of Prayer for the Church in China*** **on Sunday, May 24 at 3:00pm.** The celebration will be presided by Archbishop Michael Miller, CSB. Opening hymn is at 3:00pm, blessing of the statue of Our Lay of China at 3:20, multilingual rosary at 3:25 and multilingual mass at 4:00pm. (604-254-2727)

CHARASMATIC CELEBRATION

Come experience Joy and spiritual Power at the Pentecost Celebration on **Saturday, May 30 from 10:00am to 2:00pm at St. Matthew's Church** (16079 - 88th Ave., Surrey). Prayer, Praise, Healing, Eucharistic Adoration, Mass and Lunch -- NO COST.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Do you know any hardworking, low income families who might qualify for a Habitat Home? Housing Info/Application Meetings are on **Sat. June 6 at 1:00pm, Wed. June 10 at 7:00pm,** and **Sat June 13 a 1:00pm**. To register call 604-681-5618 ext24.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Sun. May 17: 2:00pm St. Michaels's Liturgy (7451 Sussex Ave)

Mon. May 18: VICTORIA DAY HOLIDAY*(Office Closed)*
6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
6:30pm Sr. Youth Ministry (Rectory Basement)
7:00pm Mass (Church)
7:30pm Marian Prayer Group (Rectory Library)

Tue. May 19: 6:30pm PREP & Teen PREP (School)
6:30pm Baptism Prep Seminar (Church)
6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
7:00pm Catholic Women's League Meeting (Gym)
7:00pm Christian Meditation (Rectory Basement)

Wed. May. 20: 6:30pm PREP & Teen PREP (School)
6:30pm RCIA (Rectory Basement)
7:00pm Mass/Adoration-no Confession (Church)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room/Sacristy)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)

Thu. May. 21: 6:00pm Youth Ministry Leaders (Rectory Library)
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:30pm Charismatic Prayer (**cancelled this week**)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room/Sacristy)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)

Fri. May. 22: 9:00am Bible Sharing for Women (Rectory Bsmt)
3:00pm & 6:15pm Divine Mercy (Church)
5:30pm Eucharistic Apostolate (Rectory Dining)
7:00pm Mass /Adoration / Confession (Church)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room/Sacristy)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)

Sat. May: 23: 12:40pm Bible Study & Sharing (Rectory Dining)
3:00pm Legion of Mary (Rectory Dining)
6:30pm K of C Dinner/Dance (School Gym)
7:00pm Singles for Christ (Church Basement)

Sun. May. 24: 10:15am Willingdon Park Liturgy (4435 Grange St)
2:00pm Couples for Christ--FFL (Church Bsmt)

PHOTOGRAPHERS START TAKING PICTURES FOR OUR PARISH PICTURE DIRECTORY THIS WEEK. DON'T FORGET YOUR APPOINTMENT.

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) E-mail: stmarys_ym@yahoo.com
Coordinator: Arda Akoglu Website: www. saintmarysyouth.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