



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

November 08, 2009

“FIRST MAKE ME A LITTLE CAKE”

The story of Elijah and the widow of Zarephath in the first reading has to do with obedience in a life-and-death situation, with generosity even in extreme poverty. But the request from God starts first with “Do not be afraid”, God will surpass you in generosity. With great faith, the woman answers God’s request to make a small cake for Elijah, the same cake she had planned to make for herself and her son, her last supper before dying of famine because there was a severe draught in the country. This is a prophecy about Jesus’ last supper, before dying because of the spiritual famine (godlessness) of the sinful world. At the last supper, he indeed gave all he had to live on, his ‘Body and Blood’, his Spirit, his Mother. Like the poor widow in the Gospel, who put the last penny she had into the offering box of the temple, *“the Father in heaven also tosses everything he has --not merely what is dearest to him but what he needs most --into the offering box. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son’ (John 3:16).”* (Cardinal Balthasar)

Yes, we too are called, like Jesus, like the widow, to give out of poverty. We are not poor in money as Jesus and the two widows. Out of which poverty are we called to give? What is the resource that we do not have in abundance, barely what we need to live on? To answer this, we have to discover in ourselves “the wound for which (for that matter) no one is responsible but which forever make us utterly poor indeed, poor to a degree we would not dare to admit to ourselves”. (Fr. Andre Louf, o.c.s.o) It could be an emotional wound from childhood, such as a sense of rejection or of not being good enough. In spite of these things, Jesus asks us to give love out of this poverty of love, to give the little we have ... and then, lo and behold! our jar of flour will never be empty. Our poverty could be poor health, physical limitations, a difficulty to sleep. Then let us give the little energy we have to serve the people of God, to serve Christ, the New Temple. God will let your energy flow as you give it to His use. Our poverty could be a shyness to speak in public -- to assert ourselves. (con’t)

(Pastor’s corner cont’d ...)

Then let us give that shyness, and let us dare witness our faith publicly. God will make us strong like Jeremiah, a bronze tower.

“Happy are they who dare to give from their own particular poverty: in the eyes of Jesus they have given everything they had.” (A. Louf). The Father will receive their gift as the ultimate offering for His crucified Son. The Spirit will sow a spring of living water welling up in eternal life within their heart.

God Bless You. *Fr. Pierre Leblond, OP*

PARISH NEWS

JR. YOUTH MINISTRY (grades 6-8) - FINDING HOPE

Does God ever mess up? Can God fail? Do you think “yes” but are afraid to admit it? Come and join the Jr. Youth Ministry as we discuss the truth about God, our true hope. When: **Monday, November 9 at 6:30pm.** Where:



Church Basement. Bonus: Live music by Youth Band.

PLEASE CONSIDER BECOMING A PRAYER PARTNER

Are you willing to pray for the healing and salvation for the homeless, women in prostitution and people in addiction? Street Ministry will be recruiting prayer partners for our less fortunate brothers and sisters **on the weekends of November 7/8 and 14/15.** Please join us to be a prayer partner.

ST MARY'S FALL DANCE: WISH UPON A STAR

Music, Dancing, Good Food, Star Lights. A perfect setting for having fun and enjoyment with family, loved ones and friends. Hosted by CWL and Knights of Columbus, St. Mary’s Fall Dance comes true on **Saturday, November 14, from 6:30pm - 11:30pm at St. Mary’s School Gym.** Tickets, at \$20 are on sale at the church foyer or contact Teresa Lung at 604-437-7745 or via e-mail at teresa.lung@telus.net. All proceeds will go to fund our outreach programs. Makes you wish upon a star



LOVING BLESSINGS FROM GOD

A few weeks ago we took orders for the photo poetry book by John Oakley and Alan Chiu. The book will be **available for pick up on November 14/15 after each mass.** Please bring your “proof of payment” voucher to pick up your copy.

PARISH NEWS

FRIDAY MORNING “SCRIPTURE AND COFFEE” BIBLE STUDY

God wants to do something wonderful in your lives! Do you want to discover friends that you did not realize you had? Come and gather around the table, in fellowship, for a warm Bible discussion and a hot cup of coffee. As we read the Scriptures together, let’s try to find out what the Lord is asking us, and what He is telling us in a personal way! Join our new “Friday Morning Scripture and Coffee” Bible Study and let’s discuss the dozens of questions, thoughts and insights that pass through our minds as we submerge ourselves in Holy Scripture. We meet every Friday at 9:00am in the Rectory Basement.

ST. MARY'S CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR & PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Sunday, November 22, from 8:30am - 3:00pm. More details will be available as we get closer to the date. In the meantime, circle the date on your calendar so that you don’t forget to join us. Crafters be sure to reserve ASAP by contacting John Rudland at 604-433-0884. Tables are one for \$15, or two for \$25. All are welcome! Please help spread the word about this event.

BENEFIT CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Come out to support and enjoy this Christmas Concert which has become an annual event here at St. Mary’s. The performers are an award winning male barbershop harmony chorus who call themselves “Gentlemen of Fortune”. This event is a benefit concert where 50% of the proceeds will be donated to Talitha Koum Society (a society that we volunteer at and support however we can). This society helps and houses women who are making a commitment to “turn their lives around” after addiction. If you have never attended, please consider to do so this year on **Saturday, November 28 at 7:30pm in the church.** To order tickets (\$15), please call Sr. Denece at 604-985-4872, or Pollyanna at 604-376-9210.

SENIORS CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

All Seniors in the Parish (65 years or older) are invited to attend the annual Seniors Christmas Lunch. Mark **Saturday, December 12** on your calendar. The lunch will follow a Mass at 11:30am where anointing of the sick will take place. You must register to attend but **please wait until after the Christmas Craft Fair (November 22) to register.**

CANDY DRIVE

Save your left over Halloween Candy for the poor!! **During the month of November,** St. Mary’s St. Vincent de Paul Society and St. Mary’s Street Ministry are conducting a Halloween candy drive. If you have any Halloween candies to donate, please drop off in the boxes in the foyer. Thank you for your generosity.

DIOCESAN AND COMMUNITY NEWS

ST. PAUL'S SINGLES CLUB

St. Paul's Singles Club will host a Social Dance on **Saturday, November 14 at Immaculate Heart of Mary, Croatian Catholic Church Hall.** Music is by Silver Star. Doors will open at 7:30pm. Cost: members \$12, non-members \$15. For more details call Lina at 604-433-0055 or Barry at 604-327-5425.

2010 OBERAMMERGAU PASSION PLAY

Experience the Best Passion Play which is held only once every 10 years, featuring Prague, Vienna and Budapest. Rev. Father Matthew To, Pastor of Holy Family in Sechelt on the Sunshine Coast is Chaplain from June 2 - June 10, 2010. **Presentation and information night on November 16 at 7:00pm.** Where: Rooms 2 & 3 at Immaculate Conception, Delta. For more info please phone 604-594-7296.

NOTRE DAME ANNUAL GALA EVENT

Notre Dame is hosting the Annual Gala Dinner Dance and Auction to raise funds for the new school. This event will be held on **Friday, November 20, 2009 at the Italian Cultural Center.** Cocktails begin at 6:00pm, and dinner is at 7:00pm. There will be a no host bar and live music by The Blue Meenies. Please call Lucia at 604-255-5454 and visit ndrs.org for samples of auction items. The community of Notre Dame thank you for your support.

HOW HAS FEMINISM BEEN MISUNDERSTOOD?

North Shore Catholic Discussion Group presents: "How Feminism has misunderstood Church Teachings" by Katrina Boguski, MA on **Friday, November 27 at Christ the Redeemer Church** from 7:30 - 9:30pm. Cost: \$6 per person. Refreshments and handouts are included. To find out more, visit www.nscdg.ca or contact 778-839-4884.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The BC Catholic — Advertising Manager

The B.C. Catholic is looking for a dynamic, professional, full-time Advertising Manager to direct advertising operations for the B.C. Catholic Newspaper. The position involves development and implementation of an aggressive sales growth strategy; contribute to the setting of sales targets and plans; providing regular reports with analysis of progress and trends. Excellent benefits package including pension plan are offered. Evening and weekend work as required. More details on www.rcav.org.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Sun. Nov. 08: 2:00pm Couples for Christ (Church Basement)

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

Tue. Nov 10. 9:30am St. Mary's School Mass (Church or Gym)
6:30pm PREP & Teen PREP (School)
6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
7:00pm Christian Meditation (Rectory Basement)

**Wed. Nov. 11: REMEMBRANCE DAY HOLIDAY
(OFFICE CLOSED)**



LEST WE FORGET

2:00pm Willingdon Park Mass (4435 Grange St)
6:30pm PREP (School) (cancelled this week)
7:00pm RCIA (Church Basement)
7:00pm Mass / Adoration / Confession (Church)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room/Sacristy)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)



Thu. Nov. 12: 7:00pm Pastoral Council (Rectory Dining Room)
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:30pm Charismatic Prayer (Church Basement)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)



Fri. Nov. 13 : 9:00am Scripture & Coffee Bible Study (Rec. Bsmt)
10:00am St. Michael's Mass (7451 Sussex Ave)
3:00pm & 6:15pm Divine Mercy (Church)
7:00pm Mass/ Adoration /Confession (Church)
7:00pm SMYAC (Rectory Dining Room)
7:30pm Street Ministry (Church Basement)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room / Sacristy)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)



Sat. Nov. 14: 12:40pm Quick Journey through the Bible (Ch Bsmt)
3:00pm Legion of Mary (Church Basement)
4:00pm Youth Ministry Movie (Rectory Basement)
6:30pm Light of Jesus Ministry (Rectory Bsmt)
6:30pm Couples for Christ-CLP (Church Bsmt)

Sun. Nov. 15: 2:00pm St. Michael's Liturgy (7451 Sussex Avenue)

PARISH INFORMATION

MASSES:

Monday - Friday: 8:00am
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 8:00am and 7:00pm**
** followed by Adoration at 7:45pm & Benediction at 9:00pm
Saturday: 12:00noon; 5:00pm is **Anticipation Mass**
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 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: 9:00pm

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: Jason Costa and Jonquil Francis

Email: smyac_team@yahoo.ca Website: www.smyac.com

YOUTH MINISTRY (YM) E-mail: stmarys_ym@yahoo.com

Coordinator: Arda Akoglu Website: www.saintmarysyouth.com

ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Ms Brenda Krivuzoff (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