



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

November 22, 2009

SCARED OR SACRED?

The Solemnity of Christ the King is a great day to consecrate ourselves to Him. I used to be scared of doing that. Ultimately, I consecrate myself to Christ, means I belong to You, Lord. Do with me what you please. I devote my life, my time, my talents to You -- to be used by You. I do not live for my self-centered eyes, but I do live for You. Set me free for You. Set me free from sin that I may serve freely, as a true son, not as a slave.

I consecrate myself to You means You are my King, the origin and goal of my life, the Alpha and Omega of my life. You are my Lord. This entails that I am not the Lord, I am not the lord of my life Scary, isn't it? I was scared until I realized that Jesus is not the type who will "lord it over me" as the tyrants of this world do. He explicitly told the apostles and the future church leaders not to do that, not to lord it over the laity like the tyrants and lords of the world.

Pope Benedict XVI himself reminds us of the supreme kindness of Christ the King. He basically said that Christ does not subjugate us with an inflexible rule. At the Angelus of Sunday, November 9, 2008 he said, "This is the usual form of the divine activity in relation to mankind. God does not have a fixed plan that He must carry out, on the contrary, he has many different ways of finding man and even of turning his wrong ways into right ways ... The feast of Christ the King therefore, is not a feast of those who are subjugated, but a feast of those who know that they are in the hands of the one who writes straight on crooked lines." (Pope Benedict XVI - quoted from Magnificat, November 2009).

Dare consecrate yourself to Christ the King! Be a pencil in His hand so that He may make of your life a love letter to your family, to your parish community, to your work place and to the world.

May God consecrate you to His Son, Amen.

Fr. Pierre Leblond, OP

PARISH NEWS

JR. YOUTH MINISTRY (grades 6-8) CHRISTMAS CARDS



We know Christmas is still a bit far but why not start preparing so that we can have the joyful spirit of Christmas. Jr. Youth Ministry wants to welcome all youth in grades 6 to 8 to our next event: We will be making Christmas Cards for the seniors living in Fair Haven and St. Michael's Center. Come and help us brighten the day of our seniors by spreading the joy of Christmas through our creativity and love. **When: Monday, November 23 at 6:30pm Where: Church Basement.**

PARISH LIBRARY -- WE'RE OPEN TO SERVE YOU

The organization of the Parish Library is still in progress, but will be open for 30 minutes after the 8:00am, the 9:30am and the 11:15am Masses this Sunday.

CHRISTMAS CARDS AND CAKES SALE

Today, November 21/22, and next weekend, November 28/29, our Respect Life Group will be selling beautiful Christmas cards and delicious Christmas cakes in the Church foyer. Shop early for a good selection and support the good works this parish ministry does.

ST. MARY'S CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR & PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Sunday, November 22, from 8:30am - 3:00pm. Start the day with pancake breakfast in the school gym then shop for food items, gifts, and knick knacks made by local crafters. Come and enjoy a couple of hours with friends and fellow parishioners. Lunch menu includes beef dip and chili

ATTENTION FAMILIES


We are inviting family groups to participate in the lighting of the Advent wreath candles at the beginning of each Saturday evening and Sunday Mass during Advent. To participate, e-mail Ann Marie Carlson at amcbac@telus.net. Include your name, a contact number (you will get a reminder call the day before), and the mass you will be attending. As this will be first come, first served, please give an alternate time and/or date if possible.

SPONSOR A LIGHT

Because of the reconstruction required due to the broken water main in front of the church, we lost all of the Christmas lights put up last year by the Knights of Columbus and the parish. They are being replaced for the Light Up event on **Saturday, November 28.** We are asking you to consider sponsoring a light to offset the cost. The Knights of Columbus have a bottle set up in the foyer and welcome all donations.

PARISH NEWS

YOUNG ADULTS (AGES 18+) COFFEE NIGHT FAITH DISCUSSION

Join us on **Friday November 27, at 8:00pm** in the School Seminar Room. Topic is on Devotion. Light refreshments will be served. For more information contact us at smyac_team@yahoo.ca. 

BENEFIT CHRISTMAS CONCERT WITH "GENTLEMEN OF FORTUNE"

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 generously donate 50% of the proceeds to Talitha Koum Society (a society that we have volunteered at and supported in many ways over the last few years) The society helps and houses women who are making a commitment to "turn their lives around" after addiction. Please, join us on **Saturday, November 28 at 7:30pm in the church.** Call Sr. Denece (604-985-4872), or Pollyanna (604-376-9210) for ticket info

GET YOUR ADVENT CANDLES BLESSED

Next week will be the first Sunday of Advent. Many families will have an Advent Wreath in their homes. For those that would like to, **bring your Advent candles to mass next week.** Father will ask all who brought their candles to hold them up to be blessed. Remember, you will need 3 purple and 1 pink candle plus 1 white for Christmas day. For information on "how to" or to get prayers for the wreath, go to www.catholiceducation.org/articles/religion/re0132.html

RCIA CELEBRATION

Next weekend, **November 28/29**, we will be celebrating the two Rites of initiation for inquirers in the RCIA process: The Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens (for those preparing for their Baptism) **at the Sunday 9:30am Mass** and the Rite of Welcoming (for those uncatechized Catholics and those who are already baptized in another Christian tradition who are seeking full communion with the Catholic Church) **at the Saturday 5:00pm Mass.** Please join us in affirming that our parish community is ready to help and support the RCIA candidates seeking to follow Christ.

RECEIVING GRACE

Jacqueline Loh of **Grace that Reigns** will be presenting a topic on *"Receiving Grace through the Prodigal Son"*. It will be held on **Monday, November 30, at 7:00pm** in the Church Basement. The evening will consist of presentation, healing prayer, benediction and confession. Please see www.gracethatreigns.com. If you are looking for concrete ways to find peace in your heart, or just curious to know about this parable, please come.

PARISH NEWS

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL LIBRARY EVENT

What: Scholastic Book Fair - - Open to the Parish

When: Friday, November 27 from 8:30am to 7:00pm

Where: St. Mary's School Library on the 2nd Floor

Come by the School Library on **Friday, November 27th** to purchase a book for a child you know! Books are perfect Christmas gifts. Do your shopping early at St. Mary's Scholastic Book Fair and support your parish school library.

SENIORS CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

All Parishioners, **65 years or older**, are invited to attend the annual Seniors Christmas Lunch. Circle **Saturday, December 12** on your calendar. The lunch will follow an 11:30am Mass 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.**

DO WE HAVE YOUR CURRENT ADDRESS & PHONE NUMBERS?

If there is a possibility that we do not have your most current info., please e-mail us. In a few days we will print labels for the 2010 envelope boxes and this updated info is appreciated.

DIOCESAN & COMMUNITY NEWS

"SET FREE TO LIVE AND LOVE" -- A SPIRITUAL HEALING RETREAT

On December 18 - 20, Fr. Elias Vella from Malta and Diana Mascarenhas from India will present a Spiritual Healing Retreat at Rosemary Heights, Surrey. In order to obtain the maximum benefit, the live-in option is suggested. However, there will be some space reserved for the commuters. To register, visit www.eliasvella.org or call Bertha at 604-936-4669 or Rozalia at 604-944-1554. The capacity is limited to 200 places, so early registration is important. **Registration deadline: Nov. 30, 2009.**

Topics include: Understanding types of Healing — Spiritual, Psychological and Physical, Healing of Memories, Using the Gifts of the Holy Spirit in the ministry of Healing and deliverance, Healing through the Sacraments, Healing through God's word, God's plan for Healing of the Family.

RAISING CHASTE TEENS -- A TALK BY JASON EVERT

Before children can come to treasure the pure life, parents must first understand the challenges they face. In this **free** session, Jason Evert offers communication techniques, resources, statistics and a wealth of information to assist parents in their task as primary educators of their children. **When: Tuesday, December 15 at 6:30pm. Where: St. Jude School Gym (15th and Renfrew)**

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Sun. Nov. 22: 8:30am Pancake Breakfast/Craft Fair (Gym)
9:00am Catholic Bible Seminar (Church Basement)
2:30pm Youth - FFL (Rectory Basement)
9:45am Willingdon Park Liturgy (4435 Grange St)

Mon. Nov 23: 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
6:30pm Jr. Youth Ministry (Church Basement)
7:00pm SMYAC Leaders (Rectory Dining Room)
7:30pm Marian Prayer Group (Rectory Living Room)

Tue. Nov 24: 6:30pm PREP & Teen PREP (School)
6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
7:00pm Christian Meditation (Rectory Basement)
7:00pm Journaling Prayer Grp (Rec Living Room)

Wed. Nov. 25: 8:30am Respect Life Meeting (Rectory Dining)
6:30pm PREP (School)
7:00pm RCIA (Church Basement)
7:00pm Mass / Adoration / Confession (Church)
7:30pm St. Vincent de Paul (Rectory Dining)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room/Sacristy)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)



Thu. Nov. 26: 6:30pm Youth Ministry Leaders (Rec Living Room)
7:00pm CorpusChristiCollege Info Nite (Sem. Room)
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:30pm Charismatic Prayer (Church Basement)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)



Fri. Nov. 27 : 9:00am "Scripture&Coffee" Bible Study (Rec. Bsmt)
3:00pm & 6:15pm Divine Mercy (Church)
6:30pm Youth Band Practice (Church Basement)
7:00pm Mass/ Adoration /Confession (Church)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room / Sacristy)
8:00pm SMYAC Coffee Night (Seminar Room)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)



Sat. Nov. 28: 12:40pm Bible Sharing (Church Basement)
3:00pm Legion of Mary (Rectory Dining Room)
3:00pm Knight sof Columbus (Church Basement)
3:15pm Baptisms (Church)
6:30pm Couples for Christ-CLP (School Seminar)
7:30pm Benefit Concert - see parish news (church)

Sun. Nov. 29: 2:00pm Couples For Christ -FFL (Church Bsmt)

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 8:30am

Masses: 8:00am & 7:00pm

Benediction: 9:00pm

BAPTISMS: To register your child, contact the Parish Office.

BIBLE STUDY: Tuesday @ 6:45pm; Friday @ 9:00am; Saturday @ 12:40

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)

Leaders 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.

Assistant Pastor

Fr. Marcel Dumont, O.P.

Youth Ministry/Volunteer Coordinator:

Arda Akoglu

Office Manager

Ossie Fernandes

Parish Secretary:

Margherita Bordignon