



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

September 20, 2009

PERSECUTED?

Persecuted? "No, not in Canada, for we have freedom of religion." Today's readings outline one way in which we are persecuted. *"The Godless say, 'Let us lie in wait for the righteous one, who makes life inconvenient for us and opposes our actions'."* (Wisdom 2:12) These are the ones who are annoyed by our Christian values, because they are challenged by them as they are living their non-Christian ways. They don't like your stand on abortion, same-sex marriage, integrity at the work place, justice for all, whether in the third world or our nation. They don't like your actions in favour of the homeless, the street people, the addicts. They don't like your stand for an economy at the service of all the people. These "persecutors" may be members of your family: children, parents, spouse or extended family. They may be co-workers, employers, politicians. Even if you let them free to choose and express their own anti-Catholic values, they will still be annoyed by your faithfulness to your Catholic-formed conscience and lifestyle. Don't compromise your values. Only in this way can you be the light of the world and salt of the earth. If you walk your Christian path peacefully, without getting angry and without hiding the truth, you will have planted a Gospel seed in the hearts of your "persecutors" that might blossom years later in their lives ... and God will bless you for it.

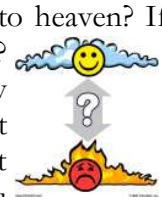
"If being Christian would be considered a crime, would the prosecutor be able to gather enough evidence in your daily life to be able to convict you?" (anonymous)

God Bless You, *Fr. Pierre*

PARISH NEWS

SR. YOUTH MINISTRY – (grades 8-12)

Do you want to go to hell or do you want to go to heaven? If you want to go to heaven what do you have to do? Is it enough to be a "good person"? If so how "good" is "good enough"? Or is there more to it than just being good? Can you risk not finding out and jeopardizing your eternal life on what you "think"? Come and join the Sr. Youth Ministry as we discover the roadmap to heaven as we fill up on delicious Domino's Pizza.



When: Monday, September 21 at 6:30pm

Where: Rectory Basement.

JR. YOUTH MINISTRY - (grades 5-8) SLEEPOVER AT SPARK

SPARK is coming to Langley on **October 16 and 17**. Team up with the St. Mary's Jr. Youth Ministry who will be joining hundreds of teens for an awesome weekend of faith fellowship and fun. Register now with Arda by calling 604-435-9611 ext. 6 or e-mailing him at stmarys_ym@yahoo.com. Act fast and don't miss this amazing weekend.



RCIA/FAITH INSTRUCTION

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is designed for:

- A) Adult inquirers: the non-baptized or baptized in other faiths who wish to find out more about Christianity or becoming a Catholic.
- B) Adult Catholics: baptized but not catechized, and/or did not complete the other Sacraments of Initiation (Communion and/or Confirmation);
- C) All others are welcome.

So, if you are interested in the Catholic Faith or know someone who is, the RCIA program is the answer! You may still register for RCIA classes which began on September 2. For more info, call Michael McGrath at 604-431-6076 or mikejudy@telus.net.

PARISH LIBRARY NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

We are looking for volunteers to help with the Parish Library. Volunteers would have to stay for 30 minutes after the Saturday anticipated mass or one of the Sunday masses. For more information, please contact Wendy at stmarysbooks@yahoo.ca or fill in a Volunteer Form at the Registration Desk.



PARISH NEWS

GIVE THE GIFT OF FREEDOM WHILE RAISING FUNDS FOR ST. MARY'S STREET MINISTRY

"Loving Blessings from God" is an inspirational photo poetry book co-created by John Oakley, a former drug addict who has been touched by St. Mary's Street Ministry, and Alan Chiu, an avid photographer and a parishioner at St. Mary's. Ever since he converted to Christianity, John has been inspired by the Holy Spirit to write poems that resonate with those yearning and searching for a fulfilled life. The book aims to bring freedom to those in addiction by reminding them of the loving blessings we have all received from God. Proceeds go to St. Mary's Street Ministry and Union Gospel Mission in Vancouver. It's a wonderful gift idea for Christmas. **To enjoy a special discount, order your copies today in the church foyer.**

CONFERENCE: EXPLAINING AND DEFENDING THE FAITH

Have you ever been asked questions about the Faith by your children or friends but didn't know how to answer? Maybe you know what the church teaches, but not why. This conference is designed to do just that -- explain clearly and convincingly what the Church teaches and WHY, focusing especially on where we find these teachings in the Bible and the Early Church. Topics will include Papal Infallibility, the Eucharist, the Blessed Mother, How are We Saved?, and much more. Graham Osborne will give a presentation here at St. Mary's on **Saturday, October 3 from 9am - 4pm**. Holy Mass at Noon. Suggested donation: \$10. See the bulletin board for a more detailed poster.

PROJECT ADVANCE UPDATE

"Can you skip two cups of Starbucks coffee for the week?" A donation for as little as \$5 to this campaign will surely make a difference. Only 12% of all registered members of our parish have participated in the project, so we NEED the other 88% of our fellow parishioners to help out in order for our parish to achieve our goal!! It's also a great opportunity for you to give your assistance to those who are in need. We are now at 87% of our Parish goal so please send in your pledges or register as new donors. Please continue to drop off your pledges through the Sunday collection basket. Thanks for your generous support.

COUPLES FOR CHRIST - Christian Life Program

The next CLP program begins on **September 19 at 7:30pm** in the school gym. Open to all adults regardless of age or marital status (married, single, widowed, separated) it is intended to reinforce our present relationship with Jesus and to share our faith and life experience with those who are struggling in their relationship with Jesus.

DIOCESAN AND COMMUNITY NEWS

CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC CONFERENCE

Deacon Alex Jones will be at this year's Vancouver Catholic Charismatic Conference, on **Sep 25/26, at Broadway Church**, 2700 East Broadway. Encourage others to attend. Tickets are \$10. Info: Lennie at 604-597-8227 / www.vccrs.ca under Events.

COULD RELIGIOUS LIFE BE FOR YOU?

Calling women who dare! You are invited to a Day of Conversation on Religious Life with sisters of several communities, led by Sister Toyleen Fook, SP, on **Saturday, September 26** from 10am to 3pm at 789 Alderson Avenue, Coquitlam (next door to the Convent). Easy transit access. For info and registration, call Sr. Anne-Marie Fransoo, SEJ, 604-936-2875, a-mfransoo@shaw OR Sr. Veronica Tang, SIHM, 604-936-3455, sihm@telus.net. Sponsored by: Sisters Association of Vancouver Archdiocese.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

The kids are back in school. How about a weekend getaway for both of you? The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will be on October 2—4 at Pacific Inn in White Roc. More information is available by calling Steve or Mary at 604-876-7298 or e-mail sbohnen@interchange.ubc.ca

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF HOLY CROSS CWL

The Holy Cross CWL in Burnaby is celebrating its 50th Anniversary on **Saturday, October 10**. Archbishop Emeritus Adam Exner, OMI, will celebrate the Mass at 5:00pm. Dinner and entertainment will follow. For tickets and information, call Marie at 604-570-0214.

EXHIBIT OF THE TRAVELLING POPE

The Pope John Paul II Exhibit will be at the following locations: St. Ann's (Abbotsford) September 20, All Saints (Coquitlam) September 26/27, Our Lady of Mercy (Burnaby) October 3/4, Simon Fraser University (Burnaby) October 5 - 7, St. Patrick (Vancouver) October 10/11, Sts. Peter & Paul (New Westminster) October 23/24, St. Stephen's (North Vancouver) Oct 31/Nov 1, and Canadian Martyrs (Richmond) November 7/8.

MINISTRY IN FOCUS


St. Mary's Street Ministry reaches out to the women in prostitution, the addicted, and the homeless in Vancouver. To become a volunteer, please fill out an application form found in one of our brochures in the foyer, and return it to the parish office. Thanks!


THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Sun. Sep. 20: 2:00pm St. Michael's Liturgy (7451 Sussex Avenue)

Mon. Sep. 21: 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
6:30pm Sr. Youth Ministry (Rectory Basement)
7:30pm Marian Prayer Group (Rectory Library)

Tue. Sep. 22: 9:15am School Mass (Church)
6:30pm PREP & Teen PREP (School)
6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
7:00pm CWL/KOC Meeting (Rectory Library)
7:00pm Christian Meditation (Rectory Basement)

Wed. Sep. 23: 6:30pm PREP (School)
7:00pm RCIA (Church Basement)
 7:00pm Mass / Adoration / Confession (Church)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room/Sacristy)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)

Thu. Sep. 24: 6:30pm YM Leaders (Rectory Library)
 7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:30pm Charismatic Prayer (Church Basement)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)

Fri. Sep. 25: 3:00pm & 6:15pm Divine Mercy (Church)
 6:30pm Youth Band Practice (Church Basement)
6:00pm CFC - SFL (Rectory Basement)
7:30pm Mass/ Adoration / Confession (Church)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room / Sacristy)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)

Sat. Sep 26: 3:00pm Legion of Mary (Church Basement)
3:15pm Baptisms (Church)
6:30pm Couples for Christ - CLP (Church Bsmt)

Sun. Sep. 27: 9:45am Willingdon Liturgy (4435 Grange Street)
2:00pm Couples for Christ - FFL (Church Bsmt)

PARISH INFORMATION

MASSSES:

Monday - Friday: 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 is **Anticipation Mass**
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: 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.saintmarysyoung.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