



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

Sunday September 28, 2008

Abandonment to Grace



Dear Parishioners, here are words of wisdom from **Fr. John Kavanaugh, SJ**, on salvation, not through our own efforts, tempted as we are to fall into this trap over and over again in our lives, but through abandonment to divine grace:

“In our times of failure or discouragement we may lament, ‘we have accomplished nothing.’ If only we could have made ourselves more worthy, if only we had tried harder, if only we had succeeded in our task of self-perfection.

Again, we sadly miss the point. We stumble about in the dark, bereft of the hope that we had in our projects, stripped of plans that might have saved us, purged of the pretense that we had no need of redemption. We are unaware that, when we acknowledge the futility of our efforts, we are at the moment of conversion. It is the very invitation to abandonment to divine grace.

True, we can resist the hope, we can hate the light, we can fear the exposure to love and to the truth on which it rests. And our resistance can come between us and the love of God revealed in Jesus Christ. We can refuse to accept the grace that is always there.




As men and women of faith, our major labor and effort is not to achieve our salvation. It is to entrust ourselves to it. ‘But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ – by grace you have been saved.’ ”

The question is, do we dare to abandon ourselves to divine grace, or is it just merely talk?

God bless, Fr. Mark.



THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

- Sun. Sep. 28:** 10:15am Willingdon Park Liturgy (4435 Grange St)
 2:00pm CFC - FFL Meeting (Church Basement)
 2:30pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining)
 3:00pm K of C Council Meeting (School Gym)
 3:00pm Baptisms (Church)
 5:00pm Youth & Young Adults Mass (Church)
- Mon. Sep. 29:** 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
 7:00pm Meditative Prayer (Rectory Basement)
 7:30pm Marian Prayer Group (Rectory Library)
- Tue. Sep. 30:** 6:30pm PREP & Teen PREP (School)
 6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
- Wed. Oct. 01:** 10:45am Fairhaven Mass (7557 Sussex Avenue)
 6:30pm RCIA (Church Basement)
 6:30pm PREP & Teen PREP (School)
 7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
 7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room/Sacristy)
 9:15pm Benediction (Church)
-  **Thu. Oct. 02:** 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. Oct. 03:NEW!!** 10:30am Bible Sharing for Moms (Rectory Bsmt.)
 3:00pm Divine Mercy (Church)
 6:15pm Divine Mercy (Church)
 7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
 7:00pm Cornerstone (School Gym)
 7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room/Sacristy)
 8:00pm SMYAC Coffee Night (Rectory Basement)
 9:15pm Benediction (Church)
-  **Sat. Oct. 04:** 9:00am 2000 Hail Marys (Rectory Dining)
 9:00am Handmaids of the Lord (School Gym)
 12:30pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Library)
 3:30pm Legion of Mary (Rectory Dining)
 6:30pm CFC-Christian Life Program (School Gym)
- Sun. Oct. 05:** 2:00pm YFC General Meeting (Church Basement)
 2:30pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining)
 3:00pm Baptisms (Church)
 5:00pm Youth & Young Adults Mass (Church)

PARISH NEWS

RCIA REQUEST!!!

We are looking for volunteers to provide refreshments and/or finger foods (baked goods, sandwiches, etc.) for one Wednesday a month for the RCIA group to welcome its new members. For more information, please contact Arda or Carolina at aakog@yahoo.com or at 604-733-3457. Thanks & God bless!

COFFEE NIGHT FAITH DISCUSSIONS – Young Adults (ages 18+)

Fri. Oct. 3, 8:00pm. Rectory Basement. This month's topic: World Youth Day. A couple of pilgrims from the recent World Youth Day pilgrimage in Sydney, Australia will be providing personal testimonies regarding their experiences Down Under. For more info, please contact us at smyac_team@yahoo.ca Light refreshments will be served.

MASQUERADE BALL: AN ENCHANTED EVENING

Oct. 25, 6pm – 11:30pm

Let us bedazzle you, your family and friends at St Mary's Masquerade Ball. The enchanted evening not only promises to be magical but to also whet your appetite for good food and music. The unbeatable offer includes 5 appetizers, 2 main courses, 2 desserts, music, dancing, and also stand to win "The Best Costume". Ticket prices are: \$20 per adult, \$10 for children 7 to 12-yrs-old, and children under 6yrs are FREE. Tickets are on sale now and you can get them from CWL members outside the foyer, or contact Kerr Tomayao, cell: 778-868-6838, email: kerrlt@shaw.ca.



FOCOLARE MOVEMENT'S "LIVING CITY MAGAZINE" SALE

Members of the Focolare Movement will be selling single issues of their Living City magazine this weekend after all Sunday masses on **Sep. 27 and 28**. The cost is \$4.00 each. Living City is the North American publication of the Focolare Movement, which is a Catholic Ecclesial Lay Movement, approved by Pope John XXIII in 1962 and is present in more than 182 countries. The goal of the movement is to contribute towards the fulfillment of Jesus' prayer to the Father: "May they all be one" (*John 17:21*). Our magazine is one of our expressions of living the Gospel in our daily lives wherever we are – at home, at work, in our communities."

DIOCESAN / COMMUNITY NEWS

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO PARENTS OF GIRLS IN Gr. 6 & 9

The provincial government is introducing a new and controversial vaccination program for girls in grades 6 and 9. The bishops of British Columbia issued a statement to assist parents, which you can find along with helpful background information at the archdiocese's website: www.rcav.bc.ca.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Administrative Assistant - Full-time 8 month contract
Youth Ministry Office – Archdiocese of Vancouver. The Administrative Assistant supports the director in the implementation of the overall vision and direction of the Youth Ministry Office, as well as performs day-to-day administrative functions to support the program development, training and resources, and youth conference activities of the consultants. Applications closing date: **Sep. 30**. For full details, please visit www.rcav.org or call Human Resources Department at 604-683-0281.

STAND FOR HOUSING: Help Bring Back a Federal Social Housing Program: City wide Stand for Housing & Vancouver All-Candidates Meeting on Housing. Sat. Oct. 4. Main & 36th Ave.: 1 – 3pm. On October 4th people from communities throughout British Columbia will stand peacefully at traffic intersections to show their support for increased social housing. Canada is the only major country in the world without a national housing strategy, spending even less than half what the US spends on housing programs per capita.

PRO-LIFE MASS AND VIGIL

Peaceful, prayerful vigil for unborn children and their parents. **Sat. Oct. 4.** Holy Trinity Parish, 2725 Lonsdale Avenue, North Vancouver. Followed by the Vigil at Lions Gate Hospital. Vigils are held each first Saturday of the month under the chaplaincy of Rev. Hien Nguyen. The Prayer Apostolate was instituted in 1995.

LIFE CHAIN VANCOUVER

Join the Life Chain, help save moms and babies from the horrors of abortion. **Sun. Oct. 5,** 2pm - 3pm, Oak St, between 25th and 26th Avenue (For St. Mary's Parishioners). "Come to Life Chain; bring your family and friends and spend one hour in prayerful witness". For more info call Pro-Life Group or 604-733-6266.



DIOCESAN/COMMUNITY NEWS

WHAT IS A GREAT MARRIAGE?

Presented by: Denis Boyd, registered psychologist. A three-hour workshop offering practical suggestions on how to enrich your relationship. Topics include: attitude, peace with the past, daily talk time, listening, consultation and collaboration, dating and sense of humour, forgiveness, and much more. **Thu. Oct. 16.** 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm at St. John the Apostle, 5457, Trafalgar Street, Vancouver. \$20 per person. Childcare will be available. Pre-registration is necessary. Call Anthony Lo at 604-209-1001.

FREEDOM CONFERENCE

The Freedom Conference is coming! **Oct. 17 - 19,** St. Ann's Parish, Abbotsford. Join us for a powerful weekend of inspiring and practical teaching about how we can experience healing and freedom from the things that steal our hope and peace. The Freedom Conference is presented by Jake and Heather Khym of Life Restoration along with their international team of priests, musicians, and speakers. More info at www.liferestoration.ca or call the St. Ann's Religious Education office at 604-852-5602.

ARCHDIOCESE OF VANCOUVER CONGRESS 2008

"We Are His Message". Learn, Share and Celebrate the faith. **Sat. Oct. 18,** 8:00am to 4:30pm. Keynote speaker Bishop Gary Gordon, Diocese of Whitehorse. Mass at 9:00am with Archbishop Raymond Roussin, SM. Immaculate Conception Parish, 8842 - 119th Street, Delta.

CARE SUPPORT GROUP FOR THE SEPERATED AND DIVORCED

Women's Group - Begins Monday **Oct. 20,** - 7:00 pm at St. Patrick's Parish, Vancouver: Mens Group - Will start again in Spring 2009. 10 sessions from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Fee: \$50.00 total to be paid at time of registration. Information at Catholic Family Services 604-443-3220.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

Kids back in school? How about a weekend getaway for both of you? Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend **Oct 24 – 26** in Richmond. Steve & Mary, 604-876-7298, sbohn@interchange.ubc.ca



100th ANNIVERSARY - ARCHDIOCESE OF VANCOUVER

Would you like to do something special for Halloween this year? The Archdiocese of Vancouver has just the ticket for you. Join your Archdiocesan family at a Gala Dinner and Dance at the Hyatt Regency Hotel on **Oct. 31st** to celebrate our 100th year as an Archdiocese. Tickets are \$100.00 each for a delicious meal and dancing / listening to the music of Dal Richards and his Big Band. He is Vancouver's best loved celebrity musician. For tickets or more information please contact Margherita Bordignon at the parish office.

PARISH INFORMATION

MASSES

Mondays to Fridays: 8:00am
Wed., Thurs., Fri: 7:00pm**
** followed by Adoration at 7:45pm & Benediction at 9:15pm
Saturdays: 12:00noon; 5:00pm (**Anticipation**)
Sundays: 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:15am, 1:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm

CONFESSIONS

Sundays: Before & After ALL Masses
Saturdays: 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: One of the couple must be a registered Catholic parishioner of St. Mary's. Contact the Parish Office at least six months prior to your wedding date and prior to registering for the required diocesan Marriage Preparation Course.

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)

Coordinator: Arda Akoglu

E-mail: stmarys_ym@yahoo.com

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.

Assistant Pastor:

Fr. Mark Hoo, O.P.

Youth Ministry/Volunteer Coordinator:

Arda Akoglu

Parish Secretary:

Margherita Bordignon