

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH



Fifth SUNDAY IN LENT

SUNDAY MAR 22: 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

9:00am Migrant Ministry (Seminar room)
12:30pm Light of Jesus (School Gym)
1:00pm CFC-YFL (Church basement)
6:30pm Youth Ministry (Church basement)

7:00pm Lenten Retreat (Church)

7:00pm Mass (Church basement)

MONDAY MAR 23:

9:00am Lenten Retreat (Church)

6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)

7:00pm Lenten Retreat (Church)

TUESDAY MAR 24:

9:00am Lenten Retreat (Church)

7:00pm Lenten Retreat (Church)

WEDNESDAY MAR 25: ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

7:00pm Mass (Church)
7:00pm Building Committee (Rectory Dining)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying room)
7:45pm Living Rosary (Church)

THURSDAY MAR 26:

7:00pm Mass/Adoration (Church)
7:00pm RCIA (Seminar Room)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)

FRIDAY MAR 27:

6:00pm CFC-SFL (Seminar Room)
6:30pm Stations of the Cross (Church)
7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying room)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)

SATURDAY MAR 28:

9:15am DNA Men's Group (Rectory basement)
10:00am Handmaids of the Lord (Seminar Room)
10:00am YM Basketball (School Gym)
2:30pm Baptism (Church)
2:30pm Knights of Columbus (Church basement)
3:00pm Legion of Mary (Rectory Library)
7:00pm CFC (School Gym)
7:00pm CFC-FFL (Church basement)
7:00pm Adoration/Taize (Church)

SUNDAY MAR 29: PASSION SUNDAY

12:30pm Light of Jesus (School Gym)
1:00pm CFC-YFL (Church basement)
6:30pm Bible Study (Church basement)

PARISH INFORMATION

WEEKDAY MORNING MASS: Monday - Friday: 8am

Weekday Morning Rosary 7am / Weekday Morning Lauds 7:30am

WEEKDAY EVENING MASS: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 7pm
followed by Adoration at 7:45pm & Benediction at 9pm

SATURDAY MASS: Our Lady's Mass 8:30am

SUNDAY MASS: Anticipated Mass Saturday 5pm

Sunday: 8am / 9:30am / 11:15am / 1pm / 5pm / 7pm

FILIPINO MASS: every Sunday 3pm

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP:

Wednesday 6pm

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL:

Thursday: 7:20am & Saturday: 8am

DIVINE MERCY: Friday 3pm & 6:15pm

FIRST FRIDAY: Adoration from 9am-9pm

CONFESSION:

Weekdays: After all Masses (except Thursday Evening Mass)

Saturday: 9am-9:30am, 4:15pm- 4:55pm, 6:10pm- 7pm

Sunday: Before & After all Masses

An appointment for confession may be made through the Parish Office

HOLY COMMUNION: Available to shut-ins. Contact Parish Office.

BAPTISM: To register your child, see website or contact Parish Office.

MARRIAGE: One of the couple must be Catholic and a parishioner of St. Mary's Parish before requesting the sacrament of marriage. Email the Parish Office: parish.smarv@rcav.org **at least six months prior** to the wedding date to register for the required diocesan Marriage Preparation Course.

RCIA: Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults.

Coordinator: Edwin Cruz Email:rcia.smarv@rcav.org

PREP/TEEN PREP: Catechism for children attending public schools on Tuesdays or Wednesdays 6:30pm-8pm / Teen Prep Tuesdays only

Coordinator: Edwin Cruz E-mail: prep.smarv@rcav.org

YOUTH MINISTRY: Coordinator: Rocelyn Catris

Email: youth.smarv@rcav.org Website: www.marisyouth.com

ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal: Ms. Brenda Krivuzoff Website: www.stmary.bc.ca

Phone: (604) 437-1312 Fax: (604) 437-1193

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Monday to Friday: 8:45am to 5pm

Phone: (604) 435-9611 Fax: (604) 439-9413

E-mail: parish.smarv@rcav.org Website: www.stmarysvancouver.ca

PASTORS & STAFF

Pastor: Fr. Pierre Leblond, O.P. (ext. 6)

Assistant Pastor: Fr. Gabriel de Chadarevian, O.P. (ext. 3)

Pastoral Assistant: Vesna Jankovic (ext. 6)

Finance & Property Manager: Ossie Fernandes (ext. 7)

Youth & Young Adult Ministry: Rocelyn Catris (ext. 247)

RCIA/PREP Coordinator: Edwin Cruz (ext. 5)

Reception: Theresa De Ocampo (ext. 0)



ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

5251 Joyce Street

Vancouver BC V5R 4G8

tel: (604) 435-9611 fax: (604) 439-9413

email: parish.smarv@rcav.org

web: www.stmarysvancouver.ca

Facebook: www.facebook.com/stmarysvancouver

MARCH 22, 2015

Pastor's Corner

"WHOEVER BELIEVES IN ME WILL DO THE WORKS THAT I DO"

Do you want to understand what Holy Communion at the Mass is about? What Jesus is about? Then, today's first reading is the most important passage of the Bible to get it! "The days are surely coming when I will make a New covenant...not like the others...I will put my Law within them and I will write it in their hearts, says the Lord." (Jeremiah 31: 31-33.) To understand this we need to know what a Covenant is: it is a sacred contract, not just an exchange of goods and services— I do this and you pay me that— but an exchange of life, like a marriage. "I will be yours and you will be mine." In the old days before Jesus, those covenants were sealed with blood. Why blood? Because blood was understood to be life, and the spilling of blood was a sign of the willingness to give our lives. When the blood of a sacrificed animal was spilled on both parties of the covenant they became blood brothers. When the covenant is between God and His people, it becomes a marriage between God and His people, with natural obligations on each party. Both God and His people say "If I am not faithful to this Covenant may what happens to this animal whose blood was poured out, happens to me."

But God's people never fulfilled their part of the Covenant, may it be the Covenant with Noah, Abraham, Moses, David. The people never belonged totally to God, so God could not belong to them. They could not **receive** Him fully and behave like a family member of God. To them, the Law, their part of fulfilling the Covenant, looked like a series of external, artificial, imposed, hard to live rules. Much like the drills you practice when you learn a sport, or an instrument of music. They balked at the drills, rebelled, and so do we, because we don't see why God seems to be so demanding. Because of original sin!

But Jeremiah prophecies a **New** Covenant, unlike the others, that we would not break, that would be eternal. Yes,

Pastor's Corner Continued...

Pastor's Corner Continued...

because the Law, the demands of the Covenant would be poured out into our hearts. They would come from within. They would no longer seem arbitrary. They would flow from our deepest desire. Much like a skilled basketball player spontaneously uses all the moves and the rules of the game to play joyfully and effectively.

That is precisely what Jesus announces at the Last Supper and accomplishes the next day by the shedding of His blood. At the Passover Meal of Holy Thursday, He took the Cup of the second blessing and said over it "This is the Chalice of My Blood, the Blood of the new and eternal covenant..." These are the very words of the consecration at Mass. Jesus fulfills the Covenant announced by Jeremiah 31-34 and not with the blood of an animal, but by His own Blood, by the shedding of His very life for us and in our place. Yes! Because in His person, He is both the God who gives His life, and the Humanity who receives it and gives itself in exchange.

There is more to it. When we drink His Blood, at the Mass, and eat His Flesh, the Law of God becomes written in our hearts, so that we are inclined to do from within what God wants us to do. We become like the Apostles at the Pentecost. It is not magic. We need to understand what we receive and mean it with our faith commitment.

When you receive Jesus at the Holy Communion, remember this: you are receiving the Word Incarnate, the Word made Flesh. Therefore you receive in your body and soul, the Mind of God, the Heart of God, the Law of God, His Will in your will. Yes, the Eucharist christifies us. We become like a skilled athlete or musician, like a saint, who transforms the words of the Gospels into a unique way of life, a new and unique song. That is the result of the marriage between you and God and Christ Jesus.

God bless you, Fr. Pierre

(See Fr Barron's homilies 2015 and 2009)



PARISH NEWS

LIVING ROSARY

Wednesday, Mar 25 is the Solemnity of the Annunciation. There will be a Living Rosary after the 7pm Mass, dedicated to families. Families and individuals are invited to lead in praying an Our Father or Hail Mary. Please sign up in the foyer. For questions, please contact Rocelyn at 604-355-9611.

YOUTH IN THE SPIRIT (GR.6-8)

Though there are many problems in the world, we can still see God's Spirit working daily. Come on Thursday, Mar 26 from 4:30-6pm to the Church basement and meet some of the people whose lives have been guided by the same powerful Spirit.

YOUNG ADULT (18-39) – MOVIE: THE HOBBIT PART 2

Similar to our own faith journey, we can relate to how Bilbo was invited into a great adventure. As he responds with courage and determination, we are inspired to imitate him while facing our personal struggles. Watch *The Hobbit Part 2* on Friday, Mar 27 from 6:30-10:30pm in the Rectory basement and join the discussion afterward. Please bring snacks to share.

ADORATION WITH TAIZE MUSIC

Come join us to spend a Holy hour praying for all the protection of life, an end to sex trafficking, the street people, and all the volunteers in the Archdiocese and our loved ones, on Saturday Mar 28 at 7pm in the Church.

2015 ENVELOPES

The remaining 2015 envelopes are in the foyer. If you have not picked up your envelopes, please do so after Mass. If you need envelopes and do not find them in the foyer, please contact reception at 604-435-9611 ext. 0 or email reception.smarv@rcav.org.

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE HUNGER REPAST

Heartfelt thanks to everyone who participated in the hunger repast. Special thanks to all the kitchen volunteers, the Legion of Mary, and the invaluable help from the school children. Donations received amounted to close to \$300 which will go to the Share Lent Collection.

PARISH NEWS

PARISH LENTEN RETREAT



It is time for our Parish Lenten Retreat with speaker Keith Strohm of the Catherine of Siena Institute!!! Many of you heard Keith speak recently at the Archdiocesan ONE Conference, so get ready for "ENCOUNTER!" This will be an opportunity to encounter the Lord in a deeply personal way through praise and worship, inspired teaching, small group process, and personal witness, to help open our hearts to God and experience newfound freedom, peace, healing, and love. Please come and experience the "ENCOUNTER!"

Mar 22: 7-9pm

Mar 23: 9-10am & 7-9pm (am/pm same session)

Mar 24: 9-10am & 7-9pm (am/pm same session)

PALM SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Sunday Mar 29 is Palm Sunday, here are the Mass times: Sat. 5pm, Sun. 8am, 9:30am, 11:15am (Church), 11:25am (Church Basement) 1pm, 3pm (Tagalog), 5pm, 7pm

ST. MARY'S LENTEN PENITENTIAL SERVICE

Our Parish Penitential service will be on **Tuesday, Mar 31** at 7pm, with 8 priests available to hear confessions. Please avail yourselves of this opportunity as we enter Holy Week.

HOLY WEEK MASS TIMES

HOLY THURSDAY: 5pm, 7:30pm

GOOD FRIDAY: 3pm (Church & School Gym)

EASTER VIGIL: 8:30pm

EASTER SUNDAY: 8am, 9:30am, 11:15am (Church), 11:25am (Church Basement) 1pm, 3pm (Filipino) 5pm, 7pm

PROJECT ADVANCE 2015

We need volunteers to assist with this year's Project Advance. Volunteer cards are available in the foyer, please return cards by Mar 29. There will be an info/training meeting on Apr 7 at 6pm in the Rectory. Thank you in advance and we look forward to working with you in this year's campaign.