

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

He Is Risen



SUNDAY APR 5: RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

8:00am Mass (Church)
9:30am Mass (Church)
11:15am Mass (Church)
11:25am Mass (Church basement)
1:00pm Mass (Church)
3:00pm Tagalog Mass (Church)
3:00pm Tagalog Mass Live Stream (Church basement)
5:00pm Mass (Church)
7:00pm Mass (Church)

*** NO CONFESSION***

MONDAY APR 6: EASTER OCTAVE *PARISH OFFICE CLOSED*

8:00am 2000 Hail Mary (Rectory Dining)
6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
7:30pm Lay Apostle (Rectory basement)

TUESDAY APR 7: EASTER OCTAVE

7:00pm Christian Meditation (Rectory basement)
7:30pm Ablaze Charismatic Prayer Group (Church basement)

WEDNESDAY APR 8: EASTER OCTAVE

7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)

THURSDAY APR 9: EASTER OCTAVE

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

FRIDAY APR 10: EASTER OCTAVE

7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)
7:40pm Healing Ministry (Crying Room)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)

SATURDAY APR 11: EASTER OCTAVE

9:15am DNA Men's Group (Rectory basement)
10:00am Youth basketball (School Gym)
1:30pm CFC Youth (Church basement)
2:30pm Baptism (Church)
3:00pm Legion of Mary (Rectory library)
7:00pm CFC (School Gym)
7:00pm CFC-FFL (Church basement)

SUNDAY APR 12: 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

12:30pm Light of Jesus (School Gym)
1:00pm CFC-YFL (Church basement)
1:00pm Migrant Ministry (Seminar Room)

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 & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY: Coordinator: Rocelyn Catris

Email: youth.smarv@rcav.org

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

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APRIL 5, 2015

*Pastor's
Corner*

WHY IS THE RESURRECTION CREDIBLE?

During my second year of theology, a question haunted me: can we really believe those who claimed they saw the physical body of the Risen One, that they ate and drank and talked with him? And if we cannot believe them, the whole Christianity falls apart. We would be founded on a lie, or an illusion, or a misunderstanding!

But the very historical fact that after the witness of the Apostles, thousands of people converted, changed their lives and many went to their death as a martyr rather than denying Christ did rise bodily from the tomb. A little bit of history helps here. During the time of Jesus, there came many pretending they were the Messiah. Today only a few historians remember them. They all died on the cross, and their disciples deserted them for fear of being crucified, and that was the Apostles first reaction. How come then, that Christianity grew so fast, despite all the persecutions? Within one century, it had spread over the major cities of the Roman Empire. And three centuries later, even the Emperor became Catholic!

How can this be a proof of the Resurrection of Jesus? Well, if Peter, John, and Paul would preach of Jesus as a dead rabbi, people might have felt sorry for them, but they would never follow them to their death. Jesus would have appeared to them just as another defeated victim of the Roman Empire. Nobody would have been excited about that, not even the Apostles themselves! And we saw this was happening before they saw the Risen Christ. The disciples of Emmaus went sadly back to their village, discouraged and hopeless, explaining to the Stranger, who happened to be Christ incognito, that all was lost. But when they saw Him, at the Breaking of the bread, they were so excited that they quickly went back to Jerusalem and joined the emerging Church, based on the witnesses of the Risen Lord.

Pastor's Corner Continued...

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This "proof" that the Apostles really saw the Risen Jesus is further reinforced by our own historical knowledge of the Jewish people: they expected the Messiah to free the people from the invaders, the Roman Empire. How could they have believed that Jesus, who was apparently another victim of the Roman Empire, had been the one to free them? It's only possible if they had seen the Risen Jesus or believed in the testimony of the Apostles about it. And after Pentecost, many of the soldiers, priests, pharisees, scribes, became members of the emerging Church. Even more, they exposed themselves to great risks of persecution by doing so. They could lose their jobs, their status, very possibly the love of their relatives. Would they have done such a thing for a dead Jesus? Would they have given their lives just to continue the "cause" of Jesus, knowing that this cause would have been void by the death on the cross? Would they have given their life just for the sake of their values, if these were not grounded in a supernatural event?

Another argument in favour of the Bodily Resurrection of the Messiah is that nobody expected it. A few, like Martha and Mary, believed in the Resurrection at the end of time, but not three days after death, as happened to Jesus. If the Resurrection of Jesus were a lie forged by the Apostles, it was an unbelievable lie. Then why did they say that, if not because they saw Him on Easter Sunday?

Finally, if we are convinced that Jesus really rose from the dead, that the Gospels and all the Scripture are true, than we must change our lives. I, for myself, have still a lot to change. And the more I am changing, the more I can experience the inner Jesus, alive in me, guiding me, freeing me from sin. That human experience of transformation, is what started to happen at the Pentecost, and has never stopped since then. A spiritual "tsunami." Each believer can say, "I am seen and I am known and loved by Him. I am part of the great song that God is continually singing. Together we are God's rescue mission.

God bless you, Fr. Pierre

p.s. check online videos at Fr. Barron "wordonfire.org" or on Youtube. "Why is the Resurrection credible" and "How do we know Jesus Rose from the Dead?"

PARISH NEWS

Celebrate the
resurrection of
our Lord!

Happy
EASTER



Wishing you a Blessed Easter!
From the Pastors and Staff of St. Mary's

SPARK (GR. 6-8) - EASTER BREAK

Please note there is no Spark event on Easter Monday, Apr 6. The next Spark event is an Easter Egg Hunt on Apr 13.

'COME & SEE' THE YOUTH MINISTRY TEAM

Adults and young adults are invited to 'Come and See' what it's like to be part of the Youth Ministry Team. No commitment or previous experience required. You must be 18 or older and have a desire to be the light of Christ and selflessly spread His light to those around you. To schedule a visit, please contact Rocelyn at 604-355-9611.

MIGRANT MINISTRY

St. Mary's Migrant Ministry & ISSofBC will launch a free "Back-to-Back" event on April 12 & 19. Part 1 will feature, Rebecca Janke, Registered Social Worker who will speak about "Reconnecting with your Child," focusing on how to re-establish relationship with your children after separation. Part 2 will include speakers from our own Migrant Ministry and Cecille Tumolva, Educator Assistant North Vancouver School District, who will share "Coping Strategies" of caregivers as they bridge the distance with their children both outside and inside Canada. Everyone is welcome from 1-4pm in the School Seminar room. Please register with Lenn Castro, smarysmigrant@gmail.com or Chit Arma, resochoita.arma@issbc.org or 604-684-7498 ext. 1666.

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

INFERTILITY HEALING HOPE HEALTH

FertilityCare Vancouver and Life, Marriage and Family Office invite you to explore the exciting new field of restorative reproductive medicine with Maria Bizecki. She will speak about the different causes of infertility and what couples can do to achieve pregnancy using restorative reproductive medicine on Thur, Apr 9 at John Paul II Pastoral Centre, 4885 Saint John Paul II Way. Info: rcav.org/healing-hope-health/.

SPRING INSTITUTE

Archdiocesan Spring Institute offers one-day faith formation and ministry training for adults. Topics include: Basics of the Faith, Discovering the Gospels, Ecumenism-Why Bother? and more. Saturday, Apr 11 from 10am-4pm, Holy Cross Secondary School, Surrey. Cost \$35 includes lunch. Info and registration rcav.org/oc-spring.

NEW EVANGELIZATION SUMMIT

Join thousands of Catholics across Canada and the US at this premier conference for the new evangelization. On Apr 24-25 hear world-class Catholic speakers on the New Evangelization: Dr. Scott Hahn, Fr. Michael Gaitley, Dr. Ralph Martin, Patrick Coffin, JoEllen Gregus, Fr James Mallon, Ken Yaskinski and Michael Dopp. The NES has been designed to inspire Catholics and help them live out their personal call to evangelize. The Archdiocese of Vancouver is excited to be a host site for NES. The conference will be webcast at St. Patrick's, Vancouver. To register, visit rcav.org/nes/.

RETRouvaille

Retrouvaille helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. This program has helped thousands of couples experiencing all kinds of marital problems. To register for the program on the weekend of Apr 10-12, call 604-530-6710, email vancouverbc@retrouvaille.org or HelpOurMarriageBC.com.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

Join millions of couples worldwide who have learned how to keep their marriage vibrant and alive Apr 17-19 at Holiday Inn, North Vancouver. Info/register: Steve and Mary Bohnen at 604-876-7298 or email wwmevancouverbc@gmail.com.