

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

I am
the living
bread
that came
down from
heaven.

John 6:51



SUNDAY AUG 16: 20TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

12:30pm Handmaids of the Lord (Seminar Room)

1:00pm CFC-YFL (Church basement)

MONDAY AUG 17:

6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)

TUESDAY AUG 18:

6:00pm Baptism Prep (Church)

7:30pm Ablaze Charismatic Prayer Group (Church basement)

WEDNESDAY AUG 19:

7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)

9:00pm Benediction (Church)

THURSDAY AUG 20: ST. BERNARD

6:30pm Knights of Columbus (Church basement)

7:00pm Mass/Adoration (Church)

9:00pm Benediction (Church)

FRIDAY AUG 21: ST. PIUS X

7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)

7:40pm Healing Ministry (Crying Room)

9:00pm Benediction (Church)

SATURDAY AUG 22: QUEENSHIP OF MARY

9:15am DNA Men's Group (Rectory basement)

10:00am Handmaids of the Lord (Seminar Room)

10:00am YM Basketball (School Gym)

2:30pm Knights of Columbus (Church basement)

3:00pm Legion of Mary (Rectory library)

7:00pm Adoration/Taize (Church)

7:00pm CFC-FFL (Church basement)

SUNDAY AUG 23: 21ST SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

1:00pm Light of Jesus (School Gym)

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 / 3pm (**Tagalog**) / 5pm / 7pm

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 Chadarévian, 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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AUG 16, 2015

Pastor's
Corner

THE UNOPENED GIFTS

Today, I want to share some of the discoveries or re-discoveries that I made during my vacation. They were gifts from God for me, but also for you. I went to a twelve day retreat-workshop in Guelph, Ontario, followed by 24 days at Mundelein Seminary. I summarize my retreat in this way: I belong to God and God is my Gift, my Gift for all of you and for me. "I belong to God" may seem scary to us. But it need not be... One of the speakers at Mundelein told us of his conversion. God had asked him to go to the Church and to bring two boxes of tissues (Kleenex.) The man got scared. "I don't want to cry that much" he said to the Lord; "Why two boxes?" And the Lord said, "One is for you, the other is for Me." That is so true. God wants us more than we want Him! And He is infinitely more happy to see us back than we are!

God prepares a banquet for us and the banquet is Himself, His friendship offered to us. But we are not hungry. We feed ourselves with junk food, that makes us sick and unable to eat the True Food that satisfies. In other words, we get too busy running after things that do not satisfy and we have no time left and no desire left for God. Why? One reason is that we are afraid to belong to God. As if God would make us codependent and immature, leaving us no freedom, and no opportunities to enjoy life. Nothing could be further from the truth than this false image of God. If the Love of God scares you, see Him as a real friend. Sometimes He walks beside you; sometimes He leads you and you follow Him; sometimes, (and very often!) He lets you go ahead, to find your way, but He is following you!

During my vacation, I found out, with God's help, that I tend to see my life as an ever-increasing task but in fact, it is a gift to enjoy. So I started seeing everything as a gift from God: good things, and not so good, work and rest. I resolve to take time to be aware of these gifts, and be grateful daily.

Pastor's Corner Continued...

Pastor's Corner Continued...

"Why did God create you? Because He thought you might enjoy it. (Fr. Bill Clarke, S.J.)

Receive every moment as a Gift from God. Learn to live that way, instant by instant, in His presence.

We are gathered to celebrate the ultimate Gift, God Himself in the Eucharist, until we see Him face to face, in true friendship, in the Eternal Kingdom. Empty yourself of spiritual junk food (power, popularity, pleasure, possessions.) Be satisfied with what you need; don't strive for what the other has. And you will have room to receive God, now and forever.

God bless you, Fr. Pierre

There is the story of a man who died and went to heaven. Upon arrival he was given a welcome tour where he was shown many great mansions and wonders. In one room he discovered a huge trove of beautifully wrapped presents. Looking closer he saw that each one had a tag with his name on it. Asking what they were, the man was told, "These are the gifts you were freely given in life, but never opened..."



PARISH NEWS

R.C.I.A. ACCEPTING INQUIRERS

Are you an adult who would like to join the Catholic Church? Perhaps you are a baptized Catholic, but lack the Sacrament of First Communion or Confirmation. Maybe you just would like to learn more about the Catholic faith and what the Church teaches. Welcome to RCIA! We start in early September and are taking registrations now. Please contact rcia.smarv@rcav.org.

ADORATION WITH TAIZE

Join us for an hour of Adoration with Taize chants to pray for Street Ministry intentions, protection of life, all parish volunteers and loved ones; on Saturday Aug 22 from 7-8pm. Join us every 4th Saturday!

PROJECT ADVANCE

Our current total stands at \$95,000, or 48% of our parish goal of \$200,000. Our parish participation rate is less than 10%; we need the support and participation of all parishioners! Please continue to give through the collection basket, or online at rcav.org. Thank you for your generosity!

THANK YOU!

Our parish youth and youth leaders who attended the "Ignite Your Torch" Youth Conference in Lacey, WA would like to extend their sincere thanks to parishioners for their support in this amazing experience. May God bless you abundantly!

SENIOR YOUTH BASKETBALL

Basketball for grades 8-12 is back! See you on Saturday, Aug 22 and 29 from 10am-12pm in the School Gym.

CAMP FLAME (GR. 9-12)

Have you been hurt before? Most of us, if not all, have certainly been. Perhaps you or someone you know could benefit from receiving healing through this upcoming retreat on Sept 25-27 at Camp Capilano, North Vancouver. Space is limited, so reserve early. For info, contact Rocelyn at 604-435-9611 ext.247 or email youth.smarv@rcav.org.

PARISHIONER INFORMATION

Please remember to notify the parish office of change in address and/or phone number at reception.smarv@rcav.bc.ca.

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

ARCHDIOCESAN SUMMER INSTITUTE

One-day courses include: Basics of the Faith, Overview of the Liturgy, Leadership Skills for Ministry. Training is also offered for music ministry, lectors, ushers, PREP, LWC, RCIA. Saturday Aug. 29 from 10-4pm at Holy Cross Secondary, Surrey. Cost \$35 includes lunch. Register at rcav.org/ocsummer/ or call 604-683-0281.

CHARISMATIC HEALING CONFERENCE

The annual Catholic Charismatic Healing Conference will be on Friday Sep 18 and Saturday Sep 19 at the Chandos Pattison Auditorium, Surrey. Conference and bus tickets (to the conference) are both available at \$10 each in the parish office during office hours and also available after this Sunday's morning masses.

ARCHDIOCESAN VOCATIONS FAIR

Join us on Sunday, Sept. 20 from 1-5pm at St. Patrick's Parish Hall, Vancouver for an Archdiocesan Vocations Fair. With 54 religious orders currently serving in the Archdiocese of Vancouver, this is a great opportunity to learn more about the work they do. Come celebrate the many different religious orders in the diocese, both men and women, followed by Mass in the Church celebrated by Archbishop Miller. Visit vocationsvancouver.ca for more details.

HALT DISTRIBUTION OF THE RU-486 ABORTION PILL

Archbishop Miller invites Catholics to join him in asking federal Health Minister Rona Ambrose to intervene to halt distribution of the RU-486 abortion pill. Her email address is rona.ambrose@parl.gc.ca. Letters can be sent postage free: Health Minister Rona Ambrose, House of Commons, Ottawa, Ont. K1A 0A6. More info at rcav.org/ru-486/. Please stand in defence of human life from conception to natural end.

SHARE YOUR VIEWS ON DOCTOR-ASSISTED SUICIDE

The federal government has launched a consultation process on doctor-assisted suicide. It will conduct public consultations and receive online submissions before proposing legislative options this fall. Archbishop Miller invites Catholics to submit their views on this critical subject and sign up for notifications at ep-ce.ca/en/consultation. Please stand in defence of human life from conception to natural end.