

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH



SUNDAY NOV 29: 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9:00am Christmas Craft Fair & Pancake Breakfast (School Gym)
1:00pm CFC-YFL (Rectory Dining)
1:00pm Migrant Ministry (Seminar Room)

MONDAY NOV 30: ST. ANDREW

6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)

TUESDAY DEC 1:

7:00pm CWL Executive (Rectory Dining)
7:00pm Christian Meditation (Rectory basement)
7:00pm CCO Faith Study (Rectory Library)
7:30pm Ablaze Charismatic Prayer Group (Church basement)

WEDNESDAY DEC 2:

6:30pm Bible Study (Church basement)
7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)

THURSDAY DEC 3: ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

6:30pm Knights of Columbus (Rectory basement)
7:00pm Mass/Adoration (Church)
7:00pm RCIA (Seminar Room)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)

FRIDAY DEC 4:

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

SATURDAY DEC 5:

8:00am 2000 Hail Marys (Rectory dining)
10:00am Youth Ministry (School Gym)
2:30pm Baptism (Church)
3:00pm Legion of Mary (Rectory Library)
4:00pm Handmaids of the Lord (School Gym)
5:00pm Knights of Columbus (Church basement)

SUNDAY DEC 6: 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

1:00pm CFC-YFL (Rectory Dining)
1:30pm CFC (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

5251 Joyce Street

Vancouver BC V5R 4G8

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email: parish.smarv@rcav.org

web: www.stmarysvancouver.ca

Facebook: www.facebook.com/stmarysvancouver

NOV 29, 2015

*Pastor's
Corner*

CAN YOU PRAY WHEN IT'S DARK?

We can easily pray in thanksgiving when all is good and bright. Can you pray when things are not going well and you don't feel any consolations from God? If you can learn this, you will have "the ability to bear a hard thing and to turn into glory." (Philip Yancey) That is the fruit of Christian endurance. Fr. Mark Link, S.J., expresses this teaching through a straight forward "parable" on "Actions" page 19.

"Farmers hope for lots of rain right after they plant their corn. Once it sprouts and gets a good start, they hope for a "dry period." The reason is to force the corn's roots to grow downward in search of water, rather than stay on the surface. Unless the tap root of the corn grows downward to the "water level," the corn will wither and dry when the heat of summer sets in— it will have no way to draw up water. Our prayer life is like that. God usually gives us a good start. Then God lets a "dry period" set in to force our prayer roots to grow downward to the *faith* level, rather than stay on the surface at the *feeling* level.

Why must prayer be primarily an exercise of faith rather than feeling?" (Fr. Mark Link, S.J.)

To me it's because feelings come and go without our permission, without much warning. Faith doesn't rely on feelings but on our commitment to stay with the Lord no matter what and to seek in Him the grace of perseverance and fidelity in trials.

God bless you, Fr. Pierre

"Pure love and prayer are learned in the hour when prayer has become impossible and your heart has turned to stone."

Thomas Merton

PARISH NEWS

TALITHA KOUM SOCIETY ADVENT GIVING

You will notice that there are special donation envelopes provided at the end of each pew. Please fill out the form and Talitha Koum will email a tax receipt for donations of \$20 or more. Women from the house will be in the foyer after Mass to take your donations. Thank you for your generosity.

FOOTPRINTS OF GOD BIBLE STUDY

New topic on Wednesday, Dec 2: Mary: The Mother of God-Chapter 1 "The Daughter of Zion" (*Mary is the new Eve and Jesus is the new Adam*). Ongoing Bible Study every Wednesday from 6:30-8pm in the church basement. Start at any session; prior attendance not required. Free, including study guides!

DON'T MISS OUT, GET YOUR FLU SHOT!

Shoppers Drug Mart will offer free Flu Shots on Sunday Dec 6 after the 9:30am, 11:15am, 1pm, and 3pm Masses. Eligibility criteria: Pregnant women, Seniors over 65, those with conditions affecting heart, lung, kidney or liver; household contacts of people at high risk, visitors to healthcare facilities.

ST. NICHOLAS FEAST

Next weekend after all Masses Gr. 6 students will be selling St. Nicholas cookies for \$1 in honour of the beloved bishop of the early Church—the *real* Santa Claus! Buy several and help family members and friends celebrate this Feast Day, and also help Gr. 6 raise money towards supporting Talitha Koum and families in Africa.

ST. MARY'S KINDERGARTEN

St. Mary's School is now accepting Kindergarten Registration for the 2016-2017 school year. Children must be 5 by Dec. 31, 2016 to be eligible. Application forms at the school office 8:30am-4pm or on our website www.stmary.bc.ca. St. Mary's School offers your child a high quality education program in a faith-based environment.

2016 ENVELOPES

The 2016 envelopes are ready for pick up in the Church basement. Envelopes are filed by last name. If any of the information on the envelopes is incorrect, please fill out the forms found in the Church basement with any corrections.

PARISH NEWS

LIVING ROSARY- IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Celebrate and pray a special kind of rosary on Tuesday, Dec 8, beginning with Mass at 7pm. Together with your family and Church community, let us honour the Mother of our Lord Jesus, with candlelight, prayer, and music on this Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Through this beautiful and solemn way of praying the rosary, let us lift up our troubled world and personal intentions. You can bring flowers or special candles to this evening of prayer.

SPARK (GR.6-8) – POTLUCK CHRISTMAS PARTY

Please note that there is no Spark event on Nov 30. The next event is on Dec 7 – Advent from 6:30-8:15pm in the Church basement. Youth and their family members are also invited on Monday Dec 14 from 6:30-8:15pm for the Spark Potluck Christmas Party in the Church basement. Youth are encouraged to attend the party even without their family members. Bring friends for added fun!

FLAME (GR.8-12) – SINGING CHRISTMAS TREE

Come for free entertainment on Saturday Dec 12 from 7-8:30pm to Broadway Church. This year's theme is 'Toy Factory.' Enjoy this story creatively told through music and drama as the message of Christmas is brought into these "not-so-festive" circumstances. Meeting time is at 5:45pm at St. Mary's Parish office. Permission forms are required and available at the Parish office, in the Church foyer or online at <https://goo.gl/r0cimo>. Forms are due on Dec 5.

FLAME (GR.8-12) – RECOLLECTION & POTLUCK PARTY

You and your high school friends are invited to remember the real reason for the season, to better understand Advent as a time of waiting, and to begin discovering more about Jesus. After the recollection, we will have a blast and a memorable Christmas celebration. Don't miss these great events on Saturday Dec 19 from 1-6pm in the Church basement.

MALE ROLE MODELS NEEDED (18 & UP)

Youth Ministry is growing and needs male role models to guide, inspire and positively affect our youth. For more info, please contact Rocelyn at 604-435-9611 ext.247 or email youth.smarv@rcav.org.

PARISH NEWS

ST MARY'S SENIORS CHRISTMAS LUNCH

St Mary's Seniors aged 60 and over are invited to attend the annual Seniors Christmas Lunch on Saturday Dec 12. Mass at 11am with lunch at 12:30pm in the School gym. St Mary's School choir will be singing and there may be a visit from the 'man in red.' To register please call Nancy at 604 434-7246 or email nanbec@telus.net or Eileen 604 436-3655.

PROJECT ADVANCE

Our total to date is \$123,524 or 62% of our parish goal. Please continue to give through the Sunday collection or online at rcav.org. Pledge forms are available in the pews. Donate before December 31 in order to claim a 2015 tax credit. Thank you again for your generosity.

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

PRIESTLY ORDINATION

Join the local Church for the Mass of Ordination of Deacon Davide Lanzani and Deacon Larry Lynn on Thursday, Dec. 3 at 7pm at Holy Rosary Cathedral. This is sure to be a large gathering so please arrive early for a seat!

LITTLE FLOWER ACADEMY

We're accepting applications from prospective Grade 8 candidates for the 2016-2017 school year. Applications available on our school website www.lfabc.org/apply or by contacting Kathi Wilson at 604-738-9016 ext 114.

OPENING MASS FOR JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY

The Holy Year of Mercy begins Dec. 8 with the opening of the "Holy Door of Mercy" at St. Peter's Basilica by Pope Francis. Join us on Sunday, Dec. 13 at 3pm for the opening of the Holy Door at Holy Rosary Cathedral with Mass and official blessing of the door. All Cathedrals in the world will open their doors on this day.

EUCCHARISTIC CONGRESS PILGRIMAGE

From Jan. 24-31, 2016, thousands of Catholic clergy and lay people will gather in Cebu, Philippines, for the 51st Eucharistic Congress. Visit rcav.org/iec-2016 for suggested tour packages from Southeast Travel Corporation, Sampaguita Travel Bureau and Aquinas Pilgrimage .