

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH



SUNDAY JAN 3: EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

MONDAY JAN 4:

6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
7:00pm Lay Apostle (Church)

TUESDAY JAN 5:

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

WEDNESDAY JAN 6:

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

THURSDAY JAN 7: ST. ANDRE BESSETTE

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

FRIDAY JAN 8:

6:00pm CFC Youth (Rectory basement)
7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)

SATURDAY JAN 9:

8:00am 2000 Hail Mary (Rectory dining)
9:15am DNA Men's Discipleship Group (Rectory basement)
10:00am Liturgy Committee (Rectory dining)
2:30pm Youth Ministry (Church basement)
3:00pm Legion of Mary (Rectory Library)
7:00pm CFC-FFL (School Gym)

SUNDAY JAN 10: BAPTISM OF THE LORD

9:00am Knights Pancake Breakfast (Church basement)
1:00pm CFC-FFL (Church basement)
1:00pm Migrant Ministry (Seminar room)
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

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

JAN 3, 2016

*Pastor's
Corner*

A MESSAGE FROM POPE FRANCIS FOR EPIPHANY

Pope Francis wrote in his Encyclical Letter Lumen Fidei, paragraph 35:

What other reward can God give to those who seek him, if not to let himself be found?... Religious man strives to see signs of God in the daily experiences of life, in the cycle of the seasons, in the fruitfulness of the earth and in the movement of the cosmos. God is light and he can be found also by those who seek him with a sincere heart.

An image of this seeking can be seen in the Magi, who were led to Bethlehem by the star (cf. Mt 2:1-12). For them God's light appeared as a journey to be undertaken, a star which led them on a path of discovery. The star is a sign of God's patience with our eyes which need to grow accustomed to his brightness. Religious man is a wayfarer: he must be ready to let himself be led, to come out of himself and to find the God of perpetual surprises. This respect on God's part for our human eyes shows us that when we draw near to God, our human lights are not dissolved in the immensity of his light, as a star is engulfed by the dawn, but shine all the more brightly the closer they approach the primordial fire, like a mirror which reflects light. Christian faith in Jesus, the one Savior of the world, proclaims that all God's light is concentrated in him, in his "luminous life" which discloses the origin and the end of history. There is no human experience, no journey of man to God, which cannot be taken up, illumined, and purified by this light. The more Christians immerse themselves in the circle of Christ's light, the more capable they become of

Pastor's Corner Continued...

Pastor's Corner Continued...

understanding and accompanying the path of every man and woman towards God. Because faith is a way, it also has to do with the lives of those men and women who, though not believers, nonetheless desire to believe and continue to seek. To the extent that they are sincerely open to love and set out with whatever light they can find, they are already, even without knowing it, on the path leading to faith. They strive to act as if God existed, at times because they realize how important he is for finding a sure compass for our life in common or because they experience a desire for light amid darkness, but also because in perceiving life's grandeur and beauty they intuit that the presence of God would make it all the more beautiful.

God bless you, Fr. Pierre

Quoted from Magnificat January 2016



*The Pastors and Staff of
St. Mary's wish you a
Happy New Year!*

PARISH NEWS

FOOTPRINTS OF GOD BIBLE STUDY

Topic on Wednesday, Jan 6: Jesus: The Word Became Flesh - Chapter 1 "In the Fullness of Time" (*The 2nd Person of the Trinity took on human flesh to redeem the world*). 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!

FUNDRAISING BREAKFAST

Knights of Columbus, with the help of other ministries, will be hosting fundraising breakfasts after the 8am, 9:30am, and 11:15am Masses on Sunday Jan 10, Feb 7, Mar 6 in the Church basement. Freewill offering; proceeds to the Parish Building Fund.

A SPECIAL INVITATION

If you are a civilly-married couple or in a common law arrangement, we extend a special invitation to solemnize your union in a multi-couple Catholic church wedding on Oct 15, 2016. There will be an information session on Jan 14, 2016 at 7pm in the church basement. Pre-registration is required; forms are available in the Church foyer or at the Parish Office. Please deposit completed forms in the Project Cana box in the foyer. For more info, call 604-435-9611 ext. 5 or email ec.projectcana@gmail.com.

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. Please **do not use 2015 envelopes** as the envelope numbers change every year.

HELP THE SEMINARIANS

After all Masses this weekend there will be sales of t-shirts, sweaters, CD's and rosaries made by the seminarians of this Archdiocese. The funds raised will go to assist Syrian refugees and to help the seminarians attend World Youth Day in Poland.

PARISH NEWS

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL

St. Mary's School is accepting Kindergarten and Gr.1-7 new student applications for the 2016-2017 school year. Please pick up an application form at the School Office or on our website www.stmary.bc.ca.

HOW TO DEFEND YOUR FAITH

Do you worry someone will ask you a question about your faith that you can't answer? Have you tried to defend your faith but gotten lost in confusing language and theology? Learn how to stand your ground and defend your faith. Join us as we work our way through Dr. William Lane Craig's *On Guard: Defending Your Faith With Reason and Precision*. Dr. Craig's book teaches how to defend God's existence, Jesus and his resurrection, the problems with relativism and how to address the problem of suffering in the world. Discover not just what you believe but why you believe it. If you are interested in joining in the New Year please contact Chandra, Lye.chandra@gmail.com.

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

VANCOUVER COLLEGE OPEN HOUSE

Vancouver College, a K-12 Catholic school for boys is holding its annual Open House for prospective students and families on Tuesday, January 12 from 6:30-8:30pm.

SPIRITUAL EXERCISES FOR MEN

Join us for a silent retreat open to men 16 and older on the Ignatian Exercises from Friday Jan 29 to Sunday Jan 31, at Westminster Abbey, Mission. Space is limited so register early at adultfaith@stannsabbotsford.ca.

ONE CONFERENCE 2016: IN THE FATHER'S MERCY

This year's ONE Conference submerges us *In the Father's Mercy*. Hear inspirational messages from world class speakers: Angèle Regnier, Ken Yasinski and Gwendoline Allison, with an opportunity to visit local ministries and exhibits on Saturday, Mar 5 at the Vancouver Convention Centre. This event has sold out the past three years. Tickets are \$45 and can be purchased online at rcav.org/one or at the parish office.