

## THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

### **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)

### **MONDAY JAN 11:**

6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)  
6:30pm Youth Ministry (Church basement)

### **TUESDAY JAN 12: ST. MARGUERITE BOURGEOYS**

6:00pm Baptism Prep (Church)  
7:00pm Christian Meditation (Rectory basement)  
7:00pm MVA (Rectory dining)  
7:30pm Ablaze Charismatic Prayer Group (Church basement)

### **WEDNESDAY JAN 13:**

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

### **THURSDAY JAN 14:**

5:00pm Young Adults (School Gym)  
6:30pm Knights of Columbus (Rectory basement)  
7:00pm Mass (Church)  
7:00pm Project Cana Meeting (Church basement)  
7:00pm RCIA (Seminar room)  
9:00pm Benediction (Church)

### **FRIDAY JAN 15:**

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

### **SATURDAY JAN 16:**

10:00am Handmaids of the Lord (Seminar room)  
1:00pm Light of Jesus (Church basement)  
1:30pm CFC Youth (School Gym)  
2:30pm Youth Ministry (Rectory basement)  
3:00pm Legion of Mary (Rectory Library)  
7:30pm ARC (Church)

### **SUNDAY JAN 17: 2ND SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME**

12:00pm Hearing tests (Church basement)  
1:00pm CFC-YFL (Rectory dining)  
2:00pm CFC Leaders (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 10, 2016**

**Pastor's  
Corner**

### **A LOVE THAT ABSORBS SINS**

Whenever you cannot understand a rule, a law, or even an action of God, of Jesus in the Scripture, you can use this following basic rule of interpretation. God doesn't need anything. Therefore whatever God asks us or whatever He says or does, is not for selfish purposes. It's for our own good. Yes God does not need anything. If there were anything He needed, it would mean that there is another "god" who exists independently from Him and is withholding something from Him. Therefore God would not be the Infinite, One God, who created everything out of nothing. God created everything out of love, out of sheer joy. When we are truly joyful, our joy spills over to other people. We want to share it, not for selfish purpose, but because joy wants to be shared.

This principle of interpretation, taken from the Scripture (see Genesis) is so helpful in understanding both the embarrassment and the beauty of the Baptism of the Lord in today's Gospel and in our lives as baptized. Embarrassing? Yes, why would Jesus be baptized by John if He is the spotless Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world? We don't see the problem because when we think baptism, we think of the baptism of an innocent baby. But not so for the baptism of repentance administered by John the Baptist. Most of the people who wanted to be baptized by him were serious sinners, public sinners, not ordinary run-of-the-mill sinners. So when Jesus slipped into the murky waters of the Jordan standing side by side with those grubby sinners, everybody thought He was just another sinner. John the Baptist was shocked and didn't want to baptize Jesus, but rather wanted Jesus to baptize him. But Jesus said, "I see your point, but let it be so for the accomplishment of (true) righteousness." What a strange way for Jesus to start His public mission as Messiah by "posing as a sinner!" What poor marketing it is! Is He just another sinner or is He God saving the world?

*Pastor's Corner Continued...*

Pastor's Corner Continued...

The fact is that Jesus didn't pose as a sinner. He loved us so much as to take on Himself our sinful condition. By this public humiliation, He signaled to all further generations who would read about it in the Scripture, how much He loved us. Right at the beginning of His public ministry, He made it clear that He would save us, not by a decree from heaven, but by coming down into our muck and by lifting us out of it. St. Anselm said in the Middle Ages that we are like a diamond made by God, a diamond that has fallen into the muck of sin. And Christ chose to immerse Himself in that muck, to reach out to us, to this diamond and bring it back to the Father. As Bishop Barron said, God doesn't demand that we come to Him crawling on the ground. Rather, He, in Christ, came down to us crawling on the ground. This was announced already in the Old Testament, in the Song of the Suffering Servant by Isaiah.

And this is possible by God, because He is not needy. He doesn't need to play the game of domination that we play. He doesn't need to step above us. On the contrary, He shows His greatness and His Majesty, by being who He is= Love. This is hard for us to accept, because we are a somewhat inverted image of God through the works of the devil, that is through the consequence of sin. Even Peter, at the Last Supper, refuses to have his feet washed by Jesus.

Will you let Jesus kneel before you and wash your feet? You and I are not worthy of it but we need it.

*God bless you, Fr. Pierre*



## PARISH NEWS

### FUNDRAISING BREAKFAST

Knights of Columbus with the help of other ministries, will host fundraising breakfasts after the 8am, 9:30am, and 11:15am Masses on Sunday Jan 10, Feb 7, Mar 6 in the Church basement. Minimum \$5 donation, 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](mailto:ec.projectcana@gmail.com).

### HANDMAIDS OF THE LORD

Handmaids of the Lord, a family ministry of Couples for Christ, invites single mature women, widows, separated or divorced, single parents, wives of overseas workers, and those whose husbands are unavailable to join the community, to a Christian Life Program on Saturday Jan 16 at 10 am, in the School Seminar Room. This is a series of teachings about our faith and how we can deepen our relationship with the Lord. The program is free and fellowship follows after each session. For more information pls. call/text Yvonne at 604-454-7413 or call 604-435-0297.

### PROJECT ADVANCE

Our final total for 2015 is \$153,123 or 77% of the parish goal. The rebates we receive from the Archdiocese will go to our Parish Building fund. Thank you for your generosity and participation!

### SATURDAY 5PM CHOIR

The Saturday 5pm choir would like to invite musicians to consider joining our choir to praise God through music. We are especially looking for a piano or guitar player and male singers who can commit to this Mass each week. For more info, please contact Catty at [frozentriqui@gmail.com](mailto:frozentriqui@gmail.com).

## PARISH NEWS

### FOOTPRINTS OF GOD BIBLE STUDY

Topic on Wednesday, Jan 13: Jesus: The Word Became Flesh - Chapter 2 "Proclaiming the Kingdom" (*Jesus carries out His earthly ministry*). 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!

### SPARK (GR.6-8) - NEW YEAR WELCOME

We hope that your holidays have been wonderful! We are excited to welcome you back this Monday, Jan 11 from 6:30-8:15pm in the Church basement. We're going to have a lot of fun, enjoy food and meet friends. See you there and invite your friends too!

### CWL BLANKET DRIVE

St. Mary's CWL is organizing a blanket drive for the homeless. Please drop off blankets or comforters at the School Gym entrance on Sunday Jan 24. CWL members will collect from 9am-1pm on that day only.

### HANDS OF VERONICA

Semi-annual meeting Wed Jan 20 from 9-11am in the Rectory Dining Room, followed by Potluck lunch and social. We hope to see you all there, including those who may be interested in joining our ministry.

### ABLAZE- INTERGENERATIONAL HEALING

You are invited to attend an Intergenerational Healing Mass (also known as Healing of the Family Tree) on Tuesday Jan 26 at 7:30pm in the church. Preceding this, you will need to attend the Ablaze teaching on Tuesday Jan 19 at 7:30pm in the church basement and learn how to prepare for the Mass and complete the genogram for blessing.

## ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

### CHRISTIAN MEDITATION RETREAT

World Community For Christian Meditation, BC is holding A Day Meditation Retreat: "Finding Balance - Silence and Stillness in a High Tech World" on Saturday Jan 30 from 10am-3pm in the Church basement. Admission by donation, bring a bag lunch, refreshments provided. For details email [bccchristianmeditation@gmail.com](mailto:bccchristianmeditation@gmail.com).