

## THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

### **SUNDAY MAR 6: 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT**

1:00pm Migrant Ministry (Seminar Room)  
1:30pm CFC (Church basement)

### **MONDAY MAR 7:**

6:30pm Youth Ministry (Church basement)  
7:00pm Lay Apostle (Church)  
7:00pm CWL Executive (Rectory Dining)

### **TUESDAY MAR 8:**

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

### **WEDNESDAY MAR 9:**

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

### **THURSDAY MAR 10:**

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

### **FRIDAY MAR 11:**

6:00pm CFC-SFC (Seminar Room)  
6:00pm CFC Youth (School Gym)  
6:30pm Stations of the Cross (Church)  
7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)  
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room)  
9:00pm Benediction (Church)

### **SATURDAY MAR 12:**

9:15am DNA Men's Discipleship Group (Rectory basement)  
10:00am Handmaids of the Lord (Seminar Room)  
10:00am Youth Basketball (School Gym)  
2:30pm Baptism (Church)  
2:30pm Youth Ministry (Church basement)  
3:00pm Legion of Mary (Rectory Library)  
7:00pm CFC (Church basement)

### **SUNDAY MAR 13: 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT**

9:00am Knights Fundraising breakfast (Church basement)  
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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**MAR 6, 2016**

**Pastor's  
Corner**

### **COME BACK TO ME**

It's not rare for little children to "hate" their parents when they don't get the goodies they want. They see their parents as a source of the good stuff they want. Being immature, they cannot fully realize that the love of their parents is the most precious and most stable "good," that if this love isn't there, all the goodies in the world would not bring lasting joy.

The prodigal son in today's Gospel acts like a child, and worse than a child, even though he is an adult. That is what sin does to us! In his hurry to get hold of the inheritance, the prodigal son cannot wait for this father to die. He is saying to him "Father, I can't wait for you to die. Give me my share of the inheritance so that I can get out of here quickly and enjoy whatever my money can buy, on my own terms, and without you. I don't care for you. Money and whatever money can buy, is more important than you. In fact your very presence prevents me from enjoying your inheritance." Notice that the older "self righteous" son means the same when he says "I have been slaving for you all these years and never disobeyed you; yet you didn't give me a goat that I could enjoy with my friends, I mean without you, because you are not my friend! You would ruin the party. I can't wait for you to die, because then I will be the boss."

How many of us have thought like this, even though we didn't verbalize it so clearly? How many of us heard similar words from our children and felt deeply hurt? Such is the wound that we inflict on God when we prefer the good stuff He has made available for us, to Himself who is the permanent source of all goods. When we sin, we say to God, "I prefer this or that to you Lord, and I want it, even if it means leaving your house."

And then, what happens? God, in His goodness, lets us have it our way! Because He respects our freedom and

*Pastor's Corner Continued...*

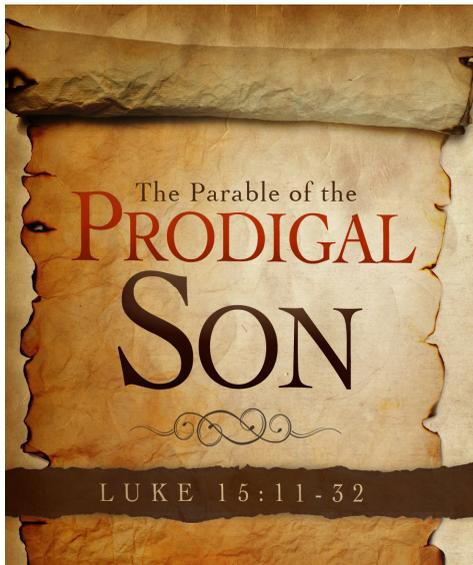
Pastor's Corner Continued...

wants us as friends not as slaves. But He will devise a way to bring us back. He will draw us to Him very gently, yet very powerfully. And if we still resist, He will allow us to hit rock bottom in our addiction to sin. And He will go out of His way to greet us as if we were a prince or a princess.

How long will it take you to come back to your senses and learn that God is not your enemy but the One who will wash your feet and restore the lost dignity of your sonship? Learn that His love is better than life itself, that every good in this world will corrupt in your hands unless you received it as a gift from His hands and as invitation to His friendship with Him. Become who you are: a real son and daughter of God. Receive whatever share of your inheritance that He wants to give you now and know that you will enjoy the fullness of it forever in His Kingdom. The only request God has is that you become like Him, always giving what He gives you and always counting on His generosity.

May God help you to share your time, talents and treasure so that He might be able to give you more. Mother Teresa said that "even God cannot fill what is not empty."

*God bless you, Fr. Pierre*



## PARISH NEWS

### EYES WIDE OPEN

John Oakley's poetry-photo book "Eyes Wide Open" has arrived. If you have ordered it, you may redeem the book with your receipt after mass in the foyer. You can still buy it today at \$25 for one, \$20 each for 2 or more, and \$16 each for 10 or more copies. This is the last chance to buy the book. Don't miss out the opportunity to support street ministry and see God's work revealed in John's poems. All proceeds will go to St. Mary's Street Ministry and Union Gospel Mission. Thank you for your generosity!

### FOOTPRINTS OF GOD BIBLE STUDY

Topic on Wednesday Mar 9: Paul: Contending For The Faith -Chapter 1 "Hebrew of Hebrews" (*Paul, a highly educated Jew of the Diaspora, and a Roman citizen, was prepared for spreading the Gospel to the Gentiles*). 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!

### RED LIGHT GREEN LIGHT

Sex trafficking is happening around the world and right here in Vancouver! There will be a free viewing of RED LIGHT GREEN LIGHT, a documentary on sex-trafficking on Friday Mar 11 from 7:30-9:30pm in the Church basement. Please come and find out more and help us combat sex trafficking. Panel discussion will follow.

### PARISH LENTEN RETREAT MARCH 14-16

Everyone is called to receive the mercy of the Father through a personal relationship with Christ. During this Lenten retreat, Andre Regnier will lead us through an encounter with the person of Jesus Christ, drawing us into a personal relationship where we can embrace the mercy that is offered to us. Andre Regnier is the founder of Catholic Christian Outreach which has been established on campuses across Canada and internationally. The retreat will take place in the Church, everyone is welcome!

**Mar 14-16 (Morning/Evening sessions are the same)**  
**8am Mass followed by Retreat Talk**  
**7pm Mass followed by Retreat Talk**

## PARISH NEWS

### LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR

Experience the power of the Holy Spirit in your life! The Holy Spirit, our Helper and Advocate, leads us to a victorious life in Jesus! Come to the Life in the Spirit Seminar on Tuesday evenings from March 29 to May 17, 7:30pm-9pm in the Church basement (use Euclid St entrance). To register, visit <https://LSS2016.eventbrite.ca> or contact [missionablazest-mary@gmail.com](mailto:missionablazest-mary@gmail.com), Edna 778-689-7775, Mita 604-435-7561, or Riz 604-782-8094. Childminding is available.

### SPARK (GR.6-8) – THE GOOD SAMARITAN

Do you miss watching plays? This Lent, we are going to see one of the popular parables in the Bible played by our own leaders! You and your friends are invited to watch and reflect on Monday Mar 7 from 6:30-8:15pm in the Church basement. See you there!

### USHERS

All ushers are requested to update their contact information on the forms in the Lector's room. We are also in need of more ushers at all Mass times, if interested please fill out the yellow volunteer form in the foyer.

### HUNGER MEAL

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Hunger Meal last weekend. Your presence made it possible to receive donations of over \$430 which will go to D&P Share Lent. Special thanks to all the kitchen volunteers. Lent is truly a time for sharing!

## ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

### DEANERY PENITENTIAL SERVICES

Mar 9 @ 6pm Holy Family  
Mar 9 @ 7pm St. Joseph's  
Mar 12 @ St. Francis Xavier  
Mar 14 @ 7pm Our Lady of Sorrows  
Mar 15 @ 7pm Corpus Christi  
Mar 17 @ 7pm St. Theresa's  
Mar 18 @ 7pm St. Francis of Assisi  
Mar 18 @ 7pm St. Jude's  
Mar 21 @ 7pm St. Helen's  
Mar 21 @ 7pm St. Casimir's  
**Mar 22 @ 7pm St. Mary's**