

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

SUNDAY OCT 9: 28TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

1:00pm Light of Jesus (School Gym)

MONDAY OCT 10: THANKSGIVING DAY

Parish office is closed

6:15pm Youth Ministry-Spark (Church Basement)

TUESDAY OCT 11: ST. JOHN XXIII

6:00pm Baptism Preparation Course (Church)

7:00pm MVA (Rectory Living Room)

7:00pm Christian Meditation (Rectory Basement)

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

WEDNESDAY OCT 12

9:30am School Mass (Church)

6:45pm Bible Study (Church Basement)

7:00pm CFC (Rectory Basement)

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

7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room)

9:00pm Benediction (Church)

THURSDAY OCT 13

6:30pm Knights of Columbus (Rectory Basement)

7:00pm RCIA (Seminar Room)

7:00pm Mass/Adoration (Church)

9:00pm Benediction (Church)

FRIDAY OCT 14: ST. CALLISTUS I

7:00pm Parenting Workshop (Church Basement)

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

7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room)

9:00pm Benediction (Church)

SATURDAY OCT 15: ST. TERESA OF JESUS

9:00am Mysteria Lucis (Rectory Basement)

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

11:00am Project Cana Wedding (Church)

3:00pm Legion of Mary (Rectory Living Room)

7:00pm CFC (Church basement)

7:00pm Cancer Support Group (Rectory Living Room)

7:30pm ARC (Church)

SUNDAY OCT 16: 29TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

9:30am Mass-School Confirmation Enrolment (Church)

9:30am Young Adults (Rectory Living Room)

1:00pm Migrant Ministry (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 of the Blessed Sacrament 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 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

Coordinator: Edwin Cruz E-mail: prep.smarv@rcav.org

Tuesdays or Wednesdays 6:30-8pm / Teen Prep Wednesdays only

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

PASTORS & STAFF

Pastor: Fr. Pierre Leblond, O.P. (ext. 6)

Assistant Pastor: Fr. Gabriel de Chadarévian, O.P. (ext. 3)

Assistant to the Pastors: Theresa De Ocampo (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: Marianne Peraro (ext. 0)

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Monday to Friday: 8:45am to 5pm

Ph:604-435-9611 Email:parish.smarv@rcav.org Web:www.stmarysvancouver.ca



ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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OCT 9, 2016

Pastor's Corner

THE SOURCE OF GRATITUDE

What is the ultimate source of gratitude and thanksgiving? Pope Francis wrote, when he was still cardinal, that it starts with nostalgia, the experience of "feeling called home". Many of us know that feeling, because we are far from our country of origin, our homeland, our culture. But even when we go back home for a visit, we still feel not quite at home. Even if we manage to go to our hometown, or to the very house where we were born and raised, the nostalgia remains. Why? Because nostalgia is the experience of feeling attracted not only to our home, but "to what is most proper for us, most consonant with our being".

And that is a Person, not a place. That is what happened to John, Andrew and Simon, when they met Jesus and spent a day with him at the place where he lived (see John chapter 1). They felt themselves being looked at into their very depths, read in their innermost being, and in them sprang forth a surprise, a wonder that instantly made them bound to Him, made them feel different – that encounter with the Lord feels like "coming home" because we were made for Him, by Him and in His own image. Yes, we feel called to belong to him. But it still feels uncomfortable. Like Peter, we say "Stay away from me Lord, for I am a sinner". We are created like him, yet so different in our smallness, in our pettiness, in our self-centeredness. "Only someone who has encountered mercy, who has been caressed by the tenderness of mercy, is happy and comfortable with the Lord... I dare to say that the privileged locus of the encounter is the caress of the mercy of Jesus Christ on my sin". This is where gratitude and thanksgiving are born. They are "the heartfelt response to a surprising, unforeseeable, 'unjust' mercy... of one who knows me, who knows my betrayals and loves me just the same, who appreciates me...", one who takes care of me in the little joys of my life as well as in the bigger picture of it, one who can make good out of my poor choices.

"Once we are in the habit of thanking God for all that is happening in our life, including the hard challenges, a new

Pastor's Corner Continued...

*Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and do not forget all His benefits - Psalm 103:2*

Pastor's Corner Continued...

realization awakens. The providential nature of events begins to show itself more. We see the hand of God more and more at work, or at least trust implicitly that his reasons will show themselves in time. The actual presence of a divine request in a day's circumstances becomes more available to our attention. The sense of spiritual opportunity increases, the sense that God is giving us a chance to prove our love in still another way. All these effects are due to a conscious effort to express gratitude to God for all he is doing". (Fr. Donald Haggerty quoted in Magnificat, October 2016)

Back to Pope Francis "It is a question of starting to say "You" to Christ and saying it often. It is impossible to desire it without asking for it... And if someone starts to ask for it, then he begins to change. Besides, if someone asks for it, it is because in the depths of his being, he feels attracted, called, looked at, awaited... There from the depths of my being, something attracts me toward Someone who looked for me first, is waiting for me first.

God bless you, Fr. Pierre

(Apart from the one quote from Fr. Donald Haggerty, all other quotes are from Pope Francis in the October 2013 issue of Magnificat)

PARISH NEWS

VOLUNTEERS-LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR CHILDREN

We are looking for volunteers to help facilitate the Liturgy of the Word for Children during the 11:15am or 1pm Sunday masses. If interested, please contact Lydes at 778-323-5572 email: lydes1180@yahoo.com or Adrian at 778-828-8982 email:adrianbc_casaje@yahoo.com.

VOLUNTEERS WITH HEALTH CARE BACKGROUND

Youth Ministry is requesting help from those who have a health care background to assist in our events. A genuine desire to help young people grow into healthy Christians is a prerequisite. No prior youth experience is required. Please contact Rocelyn at youth.smarv@rcav.org or 604-435-9611 ext.247. You may reach her even after office hours.

POSITIVE PARENTING WORKSHOPS

The Positive Parenting workshops are a series of dynamic workshops that aim to support and equip parents with tools to connect and guide their child/teen towards becoming capable, confident and responsible. Fridays Oct 14, 21. Time: 7pm-9pm, Church basement.

PARISH NEWS

WITNESS THE BIGGEST WEDDING IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF VANCOUVER

On October 15th, Saturday, 11 am, fifteen couples will get married in one big happy ceremony here at St. Mary's Parish. Dubbed by an Archdiocesan archivist as most likely the largest wedding in the archdiocese's history, Project CANA, a name derived from the wedding at Cana, where Jesus performed His first miracle, inspires a new beginning for all civilly-married & common law couples seeking the blessings of God & church in their union. Come, join us and be a witness to the unfolding of God's wonderful grace through the gift of church marriage - the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony!

NO SPARK (GR.6-8) - HOLIDAY

There is NO Spark event on Thanksgiving Monday - Oct 10. See you in the next event on Oct 17!

YOUNG ADULTS(Aged 18-39)-PRO-LIFE FILM & PRAYER

An international campaign, 40 DAYS FOR LIFE, needs our support and prayers to end abortion and stand up for the protection of life. Please join us in praying for the success of this campaign on Sunday, Oct 16 from 10:30am-12:30pm in the rectory living room. Simply ring the front door bell.

YOUNG ADULTS(Aged 25-39)-THANKSGIVING POTLUCK

What are you thankful for? Meet other adults and join the conversation on Saturday, Oct 22 from 3-5pm in the Church basement. Invite friends and bring food/drink to share.

BIBLE STUDY

Anger is the unreasonable, irrational, and immoderate desire for vengeance. On Wednesday, Oct 12, Bishop Barron discusses the sin of **Anger** and the conquering virtue of **Forgiveness**. He points us to the forgiving power of Christ in confronting evil. Join the study program **Seven Deadly Sins, Seven Lively Virtues**, Wednesdays, 6:45pm. Free. Prior attendance not required.

CWL MARIAN CELEBRATION

St. Mary's CWL invites all ladies to our Marian celebration and membership drive on Tuesday, Oct 18 at 6:30pm at St. Mary's School Gym. We start with the holy rosary and flower offering. At 7pm, Stephanie Song, CPA, will speak about "Voluntary Disclosure Program, by CRA", followed by Q&A. Come, enjoy and learn!

PARISH NEWS

OKANAGAN APPLES

St. Mary's School will be selling Okanagan apples on Oct 8 and Oct 9 (starting after the 9:30 Mass) until supplies last.

MESSAGE FROM THE PROJECT ADVANCE TEAM

The Project Advance Committee thanks everyone's support and participation so far. To date, total donation is \$90,275, 45% of the parish goal!! We encourage all parishioners to return the pledges or register as new donors. Please drop your pledges through the Sunday Mass collection or donate online at www.projectadvance.ca at the comfort of your own home. Parish target is \$105,000. Parish goal is \$200,000. Any donated amount after the parish target will be routed back as rebate to the parish—that is what we hope to achieve!! Thank you so much for your continuous support.

1ST EDITION OF NEWSLETTER

Please take a moment to read the 1st edition of the Development Project Newsletter. It provides information regarding the project, its sources of revenue, past results and upcoming fundraising activities. Also most exciting is the introduction of the Theme and Logo that identifies the project moving onwards. The newsletter will be issued every quarter to keep everyone informed; it will be available on our parish website.

1ST PARISH GALA DINNER - A SUCCESS

The Building Fundraising Committee thanks everyone for their generous donations and support in making our First Parish Gala Dinner a success. We have close to 200 guests and everyone enjoyed the delicious food and lovely music. All proceeds from this event will go to the development project for the new school and parish centre so we hope you will continue to support the fund raising activities. Thank you again and hope to see you all there at the next gala dinner in 2017!!

THANK YOU FROM ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

St. Mary's St. Vincent de Paul Society would like to thank all parishioners for your donations in our annual collection on September 3 & 4. We collected approximately \$7,000. It is a real privilege to distribute your generous offerings to those in desperate need and struggling to make ends meet. It is indeed greatly appreciated by the people we serve as we continue to successfully develop our organization here at St. Mary's! God Bless!