

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

SUNDAY NOV 20: CHRIST THE KING (JUBILEE OF MERCY CLOSES)

7:30am Toy Drive for Sick Children (Church Basement)
1:00pm Light of Jesus (Seminar Room)
1:00pm Knights of Columbus (School Gym)
4:00pm SFC (Seminar Room)

MONDAY NOV 21: THE PRESENTATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

6:15pm Youth Ministry-Spark (Church Basement)
7:00pm Apologetics for Parents (Rectory Living Room)

TUESDAY NOV 22: ST. CECILIA

6:00pm Mass-Knights of Columbus (Church)
7:00pm Catholic Forum (Church)
7:00pm Spanish Rosary (Church Children's Room)
7:00pm Christian Meditation (Rectory Basement)
7:30pm Ablaze Charismatic Prayer Group (Church Basement)

WEDNESDAY NOV 23: ST. CLEMENT 1

6:45pm Bible Study (Church Basement)
7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)

THURSDAY NOV 24: ST. ANDREW DUNG-LAC & COMPANIONS

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

FRIDAY NOV 25: ST. CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

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

SATURDAY NOV 26

10:00am Lectors Workshop (Church)
10:00am Youth Ministry (School Gym)
1:00pm CFC-Youth (School Gym)
2:00pm CFC-FFL (Rectory Basement)
2:30pm Baptism (Church)
3:00pm Legion of Mary (Rectory Living Room)
7:00pm Taize & Adoration (Church)
7:00pm CFC (Church Basement)

SUNDAY NOV 27: 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10:00am Youth Ministry-YA (Rectory Dining)
1:00pm Light of Jesus (School Gym)
2:00pm CFC (Church Basement)
4:00pm SFC (Seminar Room)
6:00pm Youth 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 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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NOV 20, 2016

Pastor's Corner

If Only I Would Be Like the Good Thief

"Receive Jesus as your King and be saved today."

That sounds like an evangelical slogan, not a Catholic one! But this is what today's Gospel says. It seems that the "good thief", crucified alongside Jesus and the other thief is saved just for having said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom". And Jesus replied, "Truly I tell you, TODAY you will be with me in Paradise." That seems to be too easy to be true. But look more closely at the Gospel. Everybody around the Cross, considered Jesus as a "write-off". The leaders of the Jews scoffed at him, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" The soldiers, too, mocked Jesus, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" One of the criminals who were hanging there kept deriding Jesus and saying "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!"

But the "good" criminal rebuked the "bad" one, "Do you not fear God?" Have you done that recently, rebuking someone who was railing against Jesus? And in the midst of an angry, bloodthirsty crowd! Moreover, the "good" criminal accepted his own responsibility for his own sin. He said he was being punished justly. Enduring his terrible agony alongside Jesus, he confessed the justice of his own suffering, publicly, surrounded by an angry, self-righteous crowd. Would I do that personally? It is said that the suffering of the long agony on the cross was so intense, that the criminals hanging there, cursed everybody unceasingly until they would die in their rebellion, and losing their minds and their dignity.

Amidst that suffering, the "good" criminal "turned to Jesus, and in front of all these accusers, his enemies, he says what? 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' He confessed Jesus Christ as a King. When everybody else who knew he was a King had abandoned him. Rebuking a sinner, accepting responsibility for his own sin, publicly declaring Jesus Christ to be the King, even in the midst of his suffering, and confessing his faith that for you

Pastor's Corner Continued...

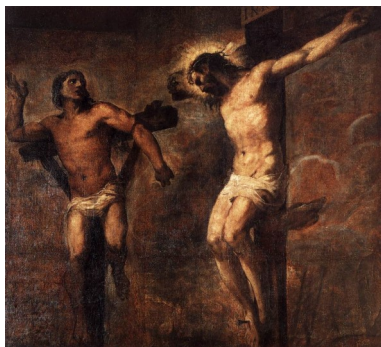
Pastor's Corner Continued...

Jesus, this cross is not the end of the story. It can't be, be cause of who you are. This cross is only a transition, a door into glory, royal glory! And so he says 'Remember me when you come into your kingdom.'" (Scott Hahn, quoted in Magnificat Nov 2010)

Those words that the thief said were really the work of God in him. They were made possible by the Cross. They are for you to say – I want to be like that good thief! Do you? Jesus' grace transforms us to the point where we will be able to say these words from the bottom of our hearts. God's merciful love will wash away our sinfulness and our self-centredness.

God bless you, Fr. Pierre

PS: I am indebted to Scott Hahn as quoted Magnificat, November 2010



PARISH NEWS

SPARK (GR.6-8) - I GOT THE JOY, JOY, JOY, JOY

What makes you happy? We all love to be happy, right? Find out how to go beyond happiness and experience joy this Monday, Nov 21 from 6:15-8:15pm in the Church basement. Remember to invite your friends!

FLAME (GR.8-12) - YOUTH OPEN GYM

Join us for a fun night of games, sports, and fellowship on Sunday, Nov 27 from 7-9pm in St. Mary's School gym. New youth are welcome too.

YOUNG ADULTS - ROSARY FOR VOCATION & SOCIAL

Religious, married, or dedicated single life - whatever is your vocation, knowing that others are praying with you could be a source of relief and support. Come join us in prayer and social on Sunday, Nov 27 from 10:30am-12:30pm in the parish office/rectory dining room. Please knock at the back door.

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 December 10. Mass at 11am, with lunch following at 12:30pm. St. Mary's choir will be singing and perhaps a visit from the 'man in red'. Sign-up sheets for limited seating are available after masses on Nov 26 & 27, and on Dec 3 & 4 if seats are available. Contact Eileen at 604 436-3655.

MESSAGE FROM THE PROJECT ADVANCE TEAM

A quick reminder - There will be volunteers available AFTER each mass until the end of November to collect Project Advance returned pledges or donations by debit or credit card. To date, total pledges is \$97,395 or 48% of our parish goal of \$200,000. You only have until end of December to make your donation in order to claim the 2015 tax credit. You can also donate online at www.projectadvance.ca at the comfort of your home. Please note there will be a second collection on the weekend of Nov 26 & 27. We hope that with your support and generosity, we can reach at least 75% of our goal. Thank you again for your support and participation!

SPIRITUAL READING FOR ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

Advent is the time to prepare for the coming of Christ at Christmas. To enrich your preparation as you await the Saviour, the parish library will be open on Nov 20 and Dec 4 before and after the 8am Mass, and on Wednesdays evenings from 6:30 to 9pm except Nov 23.

BIBLE STUDY

Our culture makes it easy to believe that we should continually indulge our appetites. On Wednesday, Nov 23, Bishop Barron discusses the sin of Gluttony and the conquering virtue of Asceticism. He prompts us to ask God for the grace to acquire self-discipline to restrain our excessive desire for pleasure. Join the study Seven Deadly Sins, Seven Lively Virtues, Wednesdays, 6:45pm. Free.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

The December schedule is now available for pick up at the sign in room. Please note that we will need extra volunteers for the Christmas Eve masses on Dec 24 for the 7pm, 9pm and 11pm Masses. The sign-up sheet will be available next weekend.

PARISH & ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

PADRE PIO PRAYER GROUP

The next PPPG prayer meeting will be on Saturday, Dec 3 at 9:30am, let us come together to learn about Reflective Grace. Those who intercede and offer their sufferings and prayers for others often experience a deep sense of God's presence and love. That is what we call Reflective Grace. Furthermore a new series -Man of Hope- will be introduced! Do you want to know about the beginning of the life of Padre Pio? Don't miss out! We look forward to seeing you!

CHOCOLATES DONATION

St. Mary's Street Ministry is asking for donations of individually wrapped mini-sized chocolates. Please deposit your donation in the bin in the foyer.

SHARE THE JOY WITH A TOY

Drop-off table is in the Church basement all Sunday, Nov 20. The toys will benefit the sick kids at BC Children's Hospital.

THE CATHOLIC FORUM on DEPRESSION

THE CATHOLIC FORUM invites you to explore the topic: "Depression - A Sickness or a Sin?", with Dr. Paul Ungar, MD PhD OP, a theologian and registered psychologist with 45 years experience. Bring your questions and a friend! Tuesday Nov 22 at 7pm in St. Mary's Church, Vancouver. By donation. For more information, see <http://dominicanlaity.ca/forum>, or contact Dr. Ungar (604-588-5696) or Cathy Neugebauer (email ve7cld@shaw.ca).

LUKE 15 ANNUAL DINNER FUNDRAISER

Luke 15 House is holding their annual Dinner Fundraiser— Silent Auction on Friday, Nov 25, at Grace Point Community Church, 3487 King George Blvd, Surrey. Doors open at 6pm, dinner served at 7pm. Tickets \$45, available at the parish office. For info, call Luke 15 House 604-930-4884. Thank you for supporting the work of helping men in recovery!

L'ARCHE BENEFIT CONCERT

L'Arche Benefit Concert Friday, Nov 25, 2016. Everyone is invited to attend this free event featuring Christian Recording artist Michael Hart with guest musician Garth Bowen. First Lutheran Church 5745 Wales Street, Vancouver BC. Doors open at 7pm, concert starts at 7:30pm. This is a free concert with an opportunity given to support the work of L'Arche locally and globally.