



ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
 5251 JOYCE STREET
 VANCOUVER, BC, V5R 4G8
 TEL: (604) 435-9611 FAX: (604) 439-9413
 EMAIL: stmarys@telus.net
 WEBSITE: www.stmarysvancouver.ca

Pastor's
 Corner

January 17, 2010

IS MARY PRO-JOY?

Isn't it a delight to think that Jesus' first miracle was about giving joy, more joy, to people who were already rejoicing. Indeed, his first miracle at Cana's wedding, was to transform 600 litres of water into a most delicious wine! His first miracle was not about healing sickness, forgiving sins, or raising the dead. It was simply giving joy, more joy, to people who were already rejoicing.

It is even more delightful to think that Jesus did this miracle at the request of His Mother, Mary. She is the one who noticed that the wine had run short. Not that she was a heavy drinker! Not that she wanted the twelve apostles to get drunk! She simply cared for the newlywed couple and their guests. Mary, as a true mother, our Mother, really cares about our happiness and even more about our true joy. And so does Jesus, who answered His Mother's request in a super-abundant way --- 600 litres of five-star-wine!

Jesus is a reflection of the Father's love for us. So we can say of Him that the Father wants our happiness and our joy. The first reading says that He delights in our joy. *"For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your builder marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you"*. (Isaiah 62, verse 5)

What is the key to enter into God's joy? We must allow Him to marry us and we must do as Mary said to the servants. "Do whatever he tells you". For this to happen, we need to learn to listen to Him. We need to take hold of His Word in the Scriptures and to surrender to Him in the living sacrifice of the Eucharist. If the H1N1 scare would finish, we could drink the new wine, the Blood of Jesus Christ, the Blood of God.

God rejoices in you all.

God Bless You. Fr. Pierre

PARISH NEWS

SR. YOUTH MINISTRY (grades 8-12) – LET'S DEBATE

Is same sex marriage right or wrong? Is it a human right or an offense against God? These are some of the questions on our Christian Morality Debate Night. Every coin has two sides to it. So, if you have an opinion come and join the debate. If you just want to learn more, then come and listen. We welcome all youth to bring their friends - the more the merrier. **When: Monday, January 18 at 6:30pm Where: Rectory Basement.**



YOUTH BAND AUDITIONS

Youth band is looking for a guitarist (electric guitar) and a keyboard player. Do you have what it takes to jam with the Youth Band? If you think so, come to our audition and be a part of the Youth Band to evangelize our youth with the talents God has given you. If you are interested please contact Arda at 604-435-9611 ext.6 or stmarys_ym@yahoo.com



ATTENTION ALL LADIES!!

On **Saturday, January 23, 2010** St. Mary's Catholic Women's League is offering a one day spiritual retreat entitled "I will seduce her and lead her into the wilderness, and there I will speak tenderly to her" Hosea 2:14. **The retreat deals with questions of prayer, discernment and God's will for our busy lives.** The retreat will be given by Father John McCarthy, SJ. Fr. John is a Jesuit priest and chaplain of UBC, Corpus Christi and St. Mark's College. The retreat will be held at St. Mark's College and will consist of a morning and afternoon session which includes group discussion and prayer. Our day ends with the celebration of mass. Transportation, provided by St. Mary's school bus, will pick up at 8:00am in the school parking lot and return at 4:30pm. The **\$20.00** fee for the retreat will be collected at the retreat. Please bring your own bag lunch. To register please sign up in the church foyer or by email at vesnajankovic@shaw.ca **Last date to register is Tuesday, January 19.**

SECOND COLLECTION FOR HAITI

Archbishop Miller has requested that every parish take a second collection **next weekend, January 23/24**, for the victims of the devastating earthquake that struck Haiti on Tuesday. To be ready for this collection, please bring an envelope from home with you next weekend. **Mark your name, address and current envelope box number on the envelope.** This will ensure that you get credited with your donation on your **2010 tax receipt.** If you do not use a box of envelopes, still ensure that your full name and address appear, and you too will get a tax receipt.

PARISH NEWS

MARRIAGE CAN BE GREAT, NO REALLY!

Learn to enhance your marriage or future marriage in a FUN and RELAXED setting. It is never too late (or too early) to get some practical tips on how to relate more effectively with your spouse. No group sharing is required. Individuals are also welcome to attend on their own. Topics include: Attitude, Peace with the Past, Listening, Dating & Sense of Humour, Forgiveness and more. **This marriage workshop will take place here at St. Mary's on Tuesday February 2 at 7:00pm.** (A workshop is available at St. Ann's in Abbotsford on April 27). The cost is \$20 per person. Individuals must **pre-register/pre-pay at least one week** before the seminar. More info at www.denisboyd.com

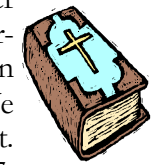
PARISH LIBRARY -- WE'RE OPEN TO SERVE YOU

This weekend, January 16 and 17, we are open after the Saturday evening mass as well as the Sunday morning masses. Please come and see us in the church basement - especially if you have never had a chance to do so.



BIBLE STUDY -- LECTIO DIVINA STYLE

Lectio Divina on Friday has resumed!! Join us again for Friday Morning "Scripture and Coffee Bible Study". God wants to do something wonderful in your lives! Come and gather around the table in fellowship, for warm Bible sharing and a hot cup of coffee. Submerge yourself in the Holy Scriptures and let the miracle begin! We meet every Friday at 9:00am in the rectory basement. Questions? Contact Carolina Prada: 604-733-3457. (Please, no calls after 9:30pm. Thank you)



2010 SUNDAY ENVELOPES

THANK YOU to all who picked up and are now using your 2010 Sunday envelopes. **By now, all envelopes being put into the collection basket should carry a current date.** Anyone who has let us know that you could not find your box downstairs should now be able to pick it up from the information table in the foyer. However, if you still cannot find your box please call Margherita in the parish office to help you. **PLEASE,** do not use envelopes with an old date on them, write your name and address on the envelopes until at least the end of this month, try to use only one "regular" envelope per week (if you missed one or two Sundays, include those donations in the current Sunday's envelope instead of using two or three envelopes)

DIOCESAN AND COMMUNITY NEWS

OLYMPIC VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

There are so many ways to get involved at the 2010 Winter Olympic Games. Come and see how you can get involved at the last regional to be held at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish (555 S. Slocan St., Vancouver) on January 20 at 7:00pm. Meet representatives from More Than Gold and see where you can serve.

ST THOMAS MORE COLLEGIATE OPEN HOUSE

On **Thursday, January 21**, St. Thomas More will be holding their open house at 6:30pm in the school gymnasium. This event is open to both parents and grade 7 students. The Placement Exam for students entering grade 8 in September of 2010 is scheduled for Thursday January 28 at 1:30pm Visit their web-site at www.stmc.bc.ca for more information.

CASINO NIGHT -- FUNDRAISER FOR NOTRE DAME

On **Friday, January 22**, everyone is invited to come and enjoy a Las Vegas style Casino Night. This fundraiser for Notre Dame High School features Poker, Roulette, Blackjack, Prizes, Professional tables and dealers. **The event takes place at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish Hall** (555 Slocan Street) beginning at 7:00pm. The ticket price of \$25 includes a drink, light snacks and \$250 in casino chips. Go on, gather a group of friends and get together for an evening of fun while supporting the fund-raising efforts of Notre Dame -- our regional high school. For tickets: 604-294-8533 / 604-291-6808 / mariomiceli@shaw.ca.

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT ANNIVERSARY

Join us as we celebrate the **17th Anniversary of the Life in the Spirit Seminar** in the Archdiocese of Vancouver. On **January 29**, mass will begin at 7:30pm at **Immaculate Conception Parish in Delta** where **Bishop David Monroe of Kamloops** will be the main celebrant and will be joined by ten other priests from the diocese as concelebrants. Reception and fellowship will follow at the Parish Center. You are all invited to join us in this Thanksgiving Mass for all the graces and blessings poured upon us through this seminar. For more information, please call 604-597-8227.

RETRouvaille -- A LIFELINE FOR MARRIAGES

Marriage Help -- Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi) has helped tens of thousands of couples at all stages of disillusionment or misery in their marriage. This program can help you too. For confidential information about or to register for the program beginning with a weekend on April 30, 2010, call 604-530-6710, visit the web at www.HelpOurMarriage.com or e-mail 1009@retrouvaille.org.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

- Sun. Jan. 17:** 2:00pm St. Michael's Liturgy (7451 Sussex Avenue)
2:30pm Liturgy Meeting (Rectory Dining Room)
- Mon. Jan. 18:** 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
6:30pm Sr. Youth Ministry (Rectory Basement)
7:30pm Marian Prayer Group (Rectory Dining Room)
- Tue. Jan. 19:** 9:30am St. Mary's School Mass (Church)
(all are welcome)
6:30pm PREP & Teen PREP (School)
6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
7:00pm Christian Meditation (Rectory Basement)
- Wed. Jan. 20:** 6:30pm PREP (School)
7:00pm RCIA (Church Basement)
7:00pm Mass / Adoration / Confession (Church)
7:30pm Development & Peace (Rectory Dining)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room/Sacristy)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)
- Thu. Jan. 21:** 6:30pm Youth Ministry Leaders (Rectory Library)
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)
- Fri. Jan. 22:** 9:00am "Scripture&Coffee" Bible Study (Rec. Dining)
3:00pm & 6:15pm Divine Mercy (Church)
6:30pm Youth Band Rehearsal (Church Basement)
7:00pm Mass / Adoration / Confession (Church)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room / Sacristy)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)
- Sat. Jan. 23:** 12:40pm Quick Journey Through the Bible (Ch Bsmt)
1:00pm Handmaids of the Lord (School Gym)
3:00pm Legion of Mary (Rectory Dining)
3:30pm Knights of Columbus (Church Basement)
- Sun. Jan. 24:** 2:00pm Light of Jesus Ministry (Gym)



PARISH INFORMATION

MASSSES:

Monday - Friday: 8:00am
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 8:00am and 7:00pm**
** followed by Adoration at 7:45pm & Benediction at 9:00pm
Saturday: 12:00noon; 5:00pm is **Anticipation Mass**
Sunday: 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:15am, 1:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm

CONFESSIONS

Sunday: Before & After all Masses
Saturday: 11:15am to 11:55am, 4:15pm to 4:55pm, 6:10pm to 7:00pm
Weekdays: After ALL Masses (except Thursday Evening Masses)
--- An appointment for confession may be made by phone

HOLY COMMUNION Available to shut-ins. Contact Parish Office.

FIRST FRIDAYS: Adoration Throughout the day after 8:30am

Masses: 8:00am & 7:00pm
Benediction: 9:00pm

BAPTISMS: To register your child, contact the Parish Office.

BIBLE STUDY: Tuesday @ 6:45pm; Friday @ 9:00am; Saturday @ 12:40

MARRIAGES:

Contact the Parish Office at least six months prior to the wedding date to register for the required diocesan Marriage Preparation Course. One of the couple must be a registered Catholic parishioner of St. Mary's for at least one year before contacting the Parish Office.

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL

Thursdays: 8:00am Saturdays: 12:00noon

RCIA: Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. Contact the Parish Office.

PREP: Catechism Program for children attending public schools

TEEN PREP: Interactive Catechism Sessions for Teens

Coordinator: Eli Bautista Tuesday and Wednesday 6:30 to 8:00pm

E-mail: stmarys.prep@yahoo.ca

ST. MARY'S YOUNG ADULT COMMUNITY (SMYAC)

Leaders Jason Costa and Jonquil Francis

Email: smyac_team@yahoo.ca Website: www.smyac.com

YOUTH MINISTRY (YM) E-mail: stmarys_ym@yahoo.com

Coordinator: Arda Akoglu Website: www.saintmarysyoung.com

ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Ms Brenda Krivuzoff (Principal) Website: www.stmary.bc.ca

Office Phone: (604) 437-1312 Office Fax: (604) 437-1193

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Mondays to Fridays: 9:00am to 5:00pm
Saturdays: 11:00am to 2:00pm

Pastor:

Fr. Pierre Leblond, O.P.

Assistant Pastor

Fr. Marcel Dumont, O.P.

Youth Ministry/Volunteer Coordinator:

Arda Akoglu

Office Manager

Ossie Fernandes

Parish Secretary:

Margherita Bordignon