



**ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
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Dec. 4, 2011

Pastor's  
Corner

**UNMASK YOUR SIN, REVEAL THE LIGHT!**

Once in a while, I hear a confession that sheds much light into my own sinful life. The penitent may have received an insight into his particular weakness and is able to express it in terms that relate to his own real life. By the same token, that insight sheds light into the holiness he is called to live. And I feel drawn to pray for holiness in my own life as I give the absolution to the penitent.

On the other hand, there are those long examinations of conscience that look like a check-up list for a car mechanic. They lack focus and they don't help us to find the personal form our sins have taken in our lives, and how to unmask them. These lists of sins usually don't tell us why and how the sins are damaging our lives and other people's lives. They don't tell how their sins "affect" Christ, and hurt our relationship with Him. These examinations of conscience - checklist style—are useful once in a while; but they give us a dangerous sense of having a "clean slate" after confession, and they are not deep enough to help us grow in holiness.

Here is an examination of conscience that helped me unmask sin in my own life and helped me see how these sins affect Christ, and how they amount to a plain "no" to Christ. Fr. Richard Veras wrote it in "The Magnificat Advent Companion 2011." You will find it on pages 9 and 10.

*God Bless you, Fr. Pierre*

**EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE:**

- *For the times that I forget that I need a Saviour, and arrogantly conceive of myself as sufficient to myself.*
- *For the times that I do not believe Jesus and instead give in to the lie of perceiving God the Father as being indifferent or hostile to my well-being.*
- *For the times that I trust my self-pitying accusations more*

*Pastor's Corner Continued...*

- *For the times that I desecrate the presence of Christ by making my own opinions, my own criteria, or my own likes and dislikes the measure for measuring the circumstances of life and other people.*
- *For the times I have shunned the presence of Christ, whether it be His sacramental presence or His presence through the people He puts in my life.*
- *For the times I have blasphemed the presence of Christ through using other human beings as things that I can manipulate or use for my own selfish ends.*
- *For the times I have disregarded the will of Christ through abuse of those things He has given me for the building up of his kingdom.*
- *For the times that I justify my sinfulness and thus treat*

**PARISH NEWS**

*God's mercy with disdain.*



**SPARK (grades 6-8) DAILY DECISIONS**

Decisions, decisions, decisions. We all have to make several decisions every day. Which pair of socks to wear, which sports to play or what clubs to join, some are more important than others. But what is the greatest decision you could ever make each day? Well you better decide quick and come on Monday, December 5 at 6:30 pm in the church basement to find out!



**ST. MARY'S SCHOOL MUSICAL**

We would like to invite seniors and families with small children to attend our matinee performance of "Christmas Chronicles" on Wed Dec 14 at 10am or Thurs Dec 15 at 1pm in the Church basement.

**TESTIMONIES**

We are working on our new Parish Website and we need your help! We want to inspire not only our own parishioners, but visitors and non-Catholics as well. So we would like to include a segment where we can share our testimonies of faith. We would love to have yours. Please submit your typed testimonies to the parish office for consideration at stmarys\_ym@yahoo.com. This is a great way to evangelize without ever leaving the comfort of

**PARISH NEWS**

**40 HOURS EXPOSITION**

We will be blessed to have the Archdiocesan Vocations Monstrance with us next week. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed all day on Wed, Thurs & Fri, Dec 7, 8, 9 from 9am-9pm. Please take this opportunity to spend time with the Lord, and to pray for vocations.



**SENIORS ANOINTING MASS & CHRISTMAS DINNER**



Mass of Anointing for St. Mary's Seniors on Saturday, December 10 at 11:30am, followed by Christmas dinner at 1pm. If you are **60 or over**, come for a delicious turkey dinner with all the trimmings. St Mary's School Choir will entertain you & there may be a visit from the "man in red"! Contact Eileen 604-436-3655 or Nancy 604-437-1312 to reserve your spot. RSVP by Dec. 7.

**THE ANNUAL GIVING CHRISTMAS TREE**

St. Vincent de Paul Society is coordinating a Giving Tree this Christmas. The branches are covered with gift tags and you may select one or more. This will indicate your commitment to purchase a gift(s) for a child aged newborn to 16 years old. Please bring the unwrapped gift and place it under the tree during the weekends of **Dec 10/11** and **Dec 17/18**. We, along with other interested ministries in St. Mary's, will then distribute them to children who would otherwise be without gifts at Christmas. Thank you again for helping these loved ones, your generosity will make this another successful Christmas.



**NEW WINTER GLOVES, SCARVES, SOCKS & TOQUES**



St. Mary's St. Vincent de Paul Society and St. Mary's Street Ministry need really warm stuff – winter gear including hats, gloves, socks, scarves, ear muffs, toques, etc. We will be collecting donations of **new** winter items during the month of December as part of our outreach program for the homeless. Please drop your donations into the box in the foyer marked "**Socks, Gloves, Scarves and Toques**". **Please note that we are NOT collecting any other clothing at this time.** Again we thank you in advance on behalf of the poor, with your generosity we will have another great year.

## PARISH NEWS

### ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICE

We will have our parish Advent Penitential Service on Friday, December 16, following the 7pm Mass. There will be 8 priests available to hear confessions. Please use this opportunity, and avoid the last minute line ups right before Christmas.



### 2012 SUNDAY ENVELOPES

The 2012 envelopes are now ready to be picked up from the Church basement; please do so as soon as possible. Envelopes that are not retrieved will be reassigned. If you do not locate your envelopes, or there are errors in the name or address, please fill out the appropriate form at the table advising same. It is vital that you do not use any other envelopes as of January 1, 2012, other than the 2012 box you have just claimed. Do not "lend" your envelopes to other family members, friends or visitors; there are visitor envelopes in the church foyer available for this purpose.

### LIVING ROSARY

Because many parishioners were inspired in the solemnity and beauty of praying the living rosary, we will do this special prayer on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Thursday, December 8 at 8pm in the Church. Share this prayerful evening with you entire family! "A family that prays together, stays together." Bring your family, friends and all your concerns to Jesus and Mary. Experience the power and joy of bringing the people you love in the embrace of the Blessed Mother. Please note, for those who wants to bring their special candle that evening, make sure to get a candle wax catcher from the facilitators before we dim the lights in the entire church.



### "GROWING THROUGH SUFFERING" SR. ANN SHIELDS

Do not let your suffering be wasted. Come and listen to Sr. Ann Shields, an internationally noted speaker and author of many books, like "Deeper Conversion" and also radio host of "Food for the Journey". This one day conference will be on Saturday, January 14, 2012 from 10am to 4:30pm at St. Mary's Church. Tickets are \$10. Coffee & Snacks are free; pls. bring bag lunch. Contact: St. Mary's Parish 604-435-9611 ext. 230 or 604 454-3143. Visit [www.stmarysvancouver.ca](http://www.stmarysvancouver.ca); e-mail: [servant\\_ablaze2011@yahoo.ca](mailto:servant_ablaze2011@yahoo.ca)

## THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH



- Sun. Dec 4:** 2:00pm YFC (Church Basement)  
6:00pm Knights of Columbus (Church Basement)
- Mon. Dec 5:** 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)  
6:30pm Jr YM - SPARK (Church Basement)  
7:00pm Lay Apostle (Church)
- Tue. Dec 6:** 7:00pm Christian Meditation (Rectory Basement)  
7:30pm Ablaze (Church Basement)
- Wed. Dec 7:** 10:45am Fairhaven Mass (7557 Sussex Ave)  
3:00pm Hands of Veronica (Rectory Dining)  
6:00pm Novena Our Lady Perpetual Help (Church)  
7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)  
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room)  
9:00pm Benediction (Church)
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**Thu. Dec 8:** 7:00pm Mass/Adoration (Church)  
7:00pm RCIA (Church Basement)  
8:00pm Living Rosary (Church)  
9:00pm Benediction (Church)
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**Fri. Dec 9:** 3:00pm & 6:15pm Divine Mercy (Church)  
7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)  
9:00pm Benediction (Church)
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**Sat. Dec 10:** 11:30am Seniors Anointing Mass (Church)  
1:00pm Seniors Lunch (School Gym)  
3:00pm Legion of Mary (Church Basement)  
4:00pm Handmaids (School Gym)  
6:00pm CFC-FFL (Rectory Dining)  
7:00pm CFC (Church Basement)
- Sun. Dec 11:** 10:00am Migrant Ministry (School Gym)  
1:00pm CFC-YFL (Rectory Basement)  
2:00pm Light of Jesus (School Gym)

## PARISH INFORMATION

**WEEKDAY MORNING MASS:** Monday - Friday: 8:00am

Weekday Morning Rosary 7:00am / Weekday Morning Lauds 7:30am

**WEEKDAY EVENING MASS:** Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 7pm followed by Adoration at 7:45pm & Benediction at 9:00pm

**SATURDAY MASS:** Our Lady's Mass 8:30am

**SUNDAY MASS:** Anticipated Mass Saturday 5:00pm

Sunday: 8:00am / 9:30am / 11:15am / 1:00pm / 5:00pm / 7:00pm

**NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP:**

Wednesday 6:00pm

**NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL:**

Thursday: 8:00am & Saturday: 8:30am

**FIRST FRIDAY:** Adoration throughout the day after morning mass  
**CONFESSION:**

Weekdays: After all Masses (except Thursday Evening Mass)

Saturday: 9:00am to 9:30am, 4:15pm to 4:55pm, 6:10pm to 7:00pm

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. Contact the Parish Office at least six months prior to the wedding date to register for the required diocesan Marriage Preparation Course.

**BIBLE STUDY:** Tuesday 6:45pm / Saturday 9:45am

**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

Tuesday 6:30pm to 8:00pm

Coordinator: Stefan Oberg E-mail: [stmarys.prep@yahoo.ca](mailto:stmarys.prep@yahoo.ca)

**MIGRANT MINISTRY:** (604) 355-9611 [stmarysmigrant@yahoo.com](mailto:stmarysmigrant@yahoo.com)

**YOUTH MINISTRY (YM)** E-mail: [arda@marysyouth.com](mailto:arda@marysyouth.com)

Coordinator: Arda Akoglu Website: [www.marysyouth.com](http://www.marysyouth.com)

**ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Principal: Ms Brenda Krivuzoff Website: [www.stmary.bc.ca](http://www.stmary.bc.ca)

Phone: (604) 437-1312

Fax: (604) 437-1193

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS:** Monday to Friday: 9:00am to 5:00pm

Phone: (604) 435-9611

Fax: (604) 439-9413

**PASTORS & STAFF:**

**Pastor**

Fr. Pierre Leblond, O.P.

**Assistant Pastor**

Fr. Gabriel de Chadarevian, O.P.

**Executive Assistant to Pastor**

Vesna Jankovic

**Office Manager**

Ossie Fernandes

**Youth Ministry/Volunteer Coordinator**

Arda Akoglu