



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

NOVEMBER 4, 2012

**Pastor's
 Corner**

WHY WE STILL NEED GOD

Most people today reduce both the spirit of Christianity and its rules, to the second tablet of the Law: those who are concerned with love of neighbor. The first tablet, the first commandments about our duties toward God, are basically ignored. If we neglect these, we then will slowly come to see Christianity as a moral way of life, a wisdom, a way of seeing and living. God will slowly disappear from our horizon. And when this happens in a country, in a culture, everything goes berserk, and mad, as Pope Benedict said.

Look at these facts: 52 million abortions in the U.S.! More deaths through abortion than through World War II. One American state now is looking to legalize post-birth "abortion," that is to kill babies even two months after their birth. Now even Catholic schools in Ontario might be forced by the Government to teach our children the "morality" of same-sex marriage, that is an option just as good as the hetero-sexual marriage. Some American states are pushing to legalize polygamy and polyamory. (This last one means that several men and several women live together and consider themselves legally married to each other and everyone of the group. There are half a million of these in the States.) At the Stanford Symposium, some well known and acclaimed scientists proposed genetic manipulations of the female egg (ovule) that coupled with freezing of the unfertilized ovule would allow women to freeze them when they are young, and choose later, say when they are advanced in their career, to have fertilized in-vitro by a man of their choice, and then have the fertilized egg implanted in a surrogate mother. This way, the woman would not lose any precious time and continue her career without any interruption.

Then consider the "demographic winter." To keep its population at the same level each couple needs to have 2.1 children. Now, we are well below that. Even the immigrants

Pastor's Corner Continued...

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don't reach that critical 2.1. What are the consequences? Pretty soon it will create the inverted pyramid age distribution: a lot of retired people for few earning workers. Already, some Nordic countries are giving large subsidies to encourage people to have more kids. But in vain! Meanwhile Europe will be populated by a majority of Muslims before 2050. Finally consider the facts that a great proportion of young people don't marry anymore, not even a civil wedding. In the States, 62% of the first babies of women under thirty are born out of wedlock. And with a rate of more than 50% divorce, we will have millions of fatherless children, and many reconstituted families with a lot of step-fathers and step-mothers, and half-sisters and half-brothers. This will create a lot of suffering in the future, and many social problems. To this, let us add world famine in the third world countries; a problem that we could solve if we really wanted to do it.

We need God to really love one another and do what is good for the future of civilization. Without Him, we are unable to die to our own selfish agenda. Selfish love blinds us to the others, and leads us to corrupt judgments, unbridled affections. And it does all this in a manner that is imperceptible to us. Even when, by the grace of God, we become aware of this, we are still unable to do what is right, to love as God loves. We need the grace that can be received only through a real friendship with God, our Lord.

God Bless you, Fr. Pierre



PARISH NEWS

SPARK (gr 6 & 7) – GAMES NIGHT

The fun continues with SPARK at our Games Night! As a bonus, we will be awarding our Power Points Champ! Will one of our top contenders bring home the prize, or will an underdog rise up and steal the win? Come & join the fun on Monday, Nov 5 at 6:30pm in the Church basement. With all the games we have, the next Power Champ could be you!

FIRE (gr 8 & 9) – NO EVENT

There will be no event on Friday, Nov. 9 for FIRE. Members are encouraged to attend our Invisible Children presentation this Sunday, Nov 4 at 6:30pm in the Church basement.



PARISH NEWS

YOUTH MINISTRY - DARE YOU TO MOVE

Have you seen the Kony 2012 video that went viral? Did you do anything and everything to end the injustice of innocent children being kidnapped everyday? The Invisible Children Team is back at St Mary's with their new video "Move", which will dare you to move to do your part and save the lives of countless innocent children in Africa. Leave APATHY behind and join us. This event is for all **youth** (gr 6-12) and all **young adults** (18-35). Join us this Sunday, Nov 4 at 6:30pm in the Church basement.



YOUNG ADULTS – SERVING THE HOMELESS



Do you know where your next meal is coming from? Do you care about those who don't know? All young adults (18-35) are invited to join us as we prepare and serve a meal to our less fortunate brothers and sisters at "The Door Is Open." Come and join the Young Adult Group as we serve the homeless with sandwiches, fellowship and prayers next Saturday, Nov 10 at 8:30am. For more info or to register, please contact Arda at 604-435-9611 (ext.6) or arda@marysyoung.com.

CAMP FLAME

This is a retreat you won't want to miss out on! Come and find out for yourself what all the buzz is about. Throughout this special weekend you will laugh, cry, yell, scream and pray. Come and form memories that will last a lifetime. Registration forms are available from the parish office or from the Youth Ministry Website www.marysyoung.com/forms. What are you still waiting for? Go and register!!!



CAN YOU PRAY FOR CAMP FLAME?

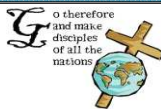


Youth Ministry has organized a retreat for our youth (gr 10-12). We are blessed with a great team to help us make this retreat possible. However, we still need your help to ensure that the success of this event. We need your prayers for God's protection and guidance for the retreat. To schedule your prayer hour please go to <http://www.doodle.com/vc2kwqw7fkk2wa4y>. Specify your name and put a check mark on the date/time of your preferred hour. Please feel free to adopt more than one hour if you'd like. We thank you in advance for your cooperation. If you have any questions, please contact Ana at

PARISH NEWS

EVANGELIZATION WORKSHOP

There will be a workshop for those who desire to share Jesus with their family and friends, and are looking for practical tools to do so, on **Tuesday, Nov. 6** at 7:30pm in the Church basement. Everyone is welcome.



CATHOLIC APOLOGETICS

Do you want to be equipped to *DEFEND* your faith? Are you eager to *WITNESS* and *EXPLAIN* your faith? Then come to a free Catholic Apologetics Seminar on **Saturday Nov. 10, 17, 24** from 9:30am-11am. Listen to outstanding speakers: Kyle Neilson (*Director, Office of Evangelization*), Pavel Reid (*Director, Catholic Family Services*), and Graham Osborne (*BC Catholic columnist and apologist*). All are welcome!

GET THE FLU SHOT, NOT THE FLU!

Pharmacists from Extra Foods Pharmacy will offer a flu clinic on Monday, Nov 12 and Sunday, Nov 18 from 9am-3pm in the Church basement. The vaccine is free for people over 65 years old, people with chronic conditions, pregnant women, aboriginal people, caregivers of children/elderly, and health care workers. Please see the display table in the foyer for more information. Please sign up, fill out a form, and bring it with you to your appointed time. Don't forget to bring your care card!

NOVEMBER CANDY DRIVE

Save your Halloween candy for the poor! St. Vincent de Paul Society and Street Ministry Outreach are collecting Halloween candy during the month of November. To donate, please place your candy in the boxes provided in the foyer. Thank you for your generosity.



ST MARY'S CRAFT FAIR & PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Sunday Nov. 25 from 9am-3pm. Pancake breakfast (Small \$2/Large \$3.) Start your shopping early: crafts, baking, jewelry and more! Table rental single \$15, additional tables \$10. Contact Eileen Hardy 604-436-3655.

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Do you know someone who loves serving Christ and His Church? If you know someone who exhibits such passion for their volunteer work, please fill out one of the blue "Volunteer of the Year" nomination forms in the Church foyer and deposit it into the red box. You can nominate only one person.



THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Sunday Nov. 4: (31st Sunday in Ordinary Time)

- 1:30pm Youth for Christ (Church Basement)
- 6:20pm Bible Study (Seminar Room)
- 6:30pm Invisible Children (Church Basement)

Monday Nov. 5:

- 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
- 6:30pm YM- SPARK Gr 6-7 (Church Basement)
- 7:00pm MVA (Rectory Basement)
- 7:00pm Lay Apostle (Church)
- 7:00pm CWL Executive (Rectory Dining)

Tuesday Nov. 6:

- 7:00pm Christian Meditation (Rectory Basement)
- 7:30pm Evangelization Workshop (Church Basement)

Wednesday Nov. 7:

- 10:45am Fairhaven Mass (7557 Sussex Ave.)
- 6:00pm Novena Our Lady of Perpetual Help (Church)
- 7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)
- 7:30pm Neo Catechumen (Church Basement)
- 7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room)
- 9:00pm Benediction (Church)

Thursday Nov. 8:

- 7:00pm Mass/Adoration (Church)
- 7:00pm RCIA (Church Basement)
- 7:00pm Theology of the Body (Seminar Room)
- 9:00pm Benediction (Church)

Friday Nov. 9: (Dedication of the Lateran Basilica)

- 3:00pm & 6:15pm Divine Mercy (Church)
- 6:00pm Fast & Pray (Rectory Basement)
- 7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)
- 7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room)
- 9:00pm Benediction (Church)

Saturday Nov. 10: (St. Leo the Great)

- 9:15am DNA (Rectory Basement)
- 9:30am Apologetics (Church Basement)
- 3:00pm Legion of Mary (Church Basement)
- 6:30pm CFC (School Gym)
- 6:30pm CFC-FFL (Church Basement)

Sunday Nov. 11: (32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time)

- 1:00pm CFC (Church Basement)
- 2:00pm Light of Jesus (School Gym)
- 6:20pm Bible Study (Church Basement)

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-9:30am, 4:15pm- 4:55pm, 6:10pm- 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.

RCIA: Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. Contact soberg@rcav.org.

PREP: Catechism Program for children attending public schools on Tuesdays or Wednesdays 6:30pm-8:00pm

Coordinator: Stefan Oberg E-mail: soberg@rcav.org.

TEEN PREP: Interactive Catechism Sessions for Teens on Tuesdays 6:30pm-8:00pm

Coordinator: Stefan Oberg E-mail: soberg@rcav.org.

YOUTH MINISTRY: E-mail: arda@marysyouth.com

Coordinator: Arda Akoglu Website: www.marysyouth.com

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: 9:00am to 5:00pm

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.
Assistant Pastor Fr. Gabriel de Chadarevian, O.P.

Assistant to Pastors Vesna Jankovic
Office Manager Ossie Fernandes

Youth Ministry/Volunteer Coordinator Arda Akoglu

Youth Ministry Assistant Ana Alfonso