



ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
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Pastor's
Corner

Sunday, April 29th, 2007

How do you know you are in the Father's hand?

Dear Parishioners, I learned about shepherding from my friends who had been shepherds in the back-country of Portugal some fifty years ago. Their ways of tending the sheep were almost unchanged since Christ's time. Each shepherd would bring his flock to a good pasture. During the dry season, the different flocks would have to share the same "secret" pastures. As a result, the sheep from different flocks would mingle together and form a huge flock. How could the shepherds discern their own sheep from the others and separate their flocks? After all, all the sheep look alike. The sheep themselves don't recognize their own fellow sheep! The only way they could regroup in their original flock would be through the voice of their own shepherd. So each shepherd would stand at a different corner of the pasture and from there, each one would simultaneously call his own sheep with a special call. Immediately, each sheep would recognize the voice of his shepherd, among all others, and walk toward him. Soon all the flocks would be untangled and reconstituted.



We are Christ's sheep. Could we recognize his voice among others. Jesus said, "My sheep hear my voice. I know them and they follow me.... No one will snatch them out of hand" (John 10:27-28). Do I have such a sense of relatedness to the Lord? Such a personal bonding with him, as to enable me to discern his presence and his calling, anytime, anywhere? Mary Magdalene recognized Christ's voice in the cemetery by the way he spoke her name. If you pray to God, face to face, in good times and in bad, and seek to know his will and accomplish it daily, you will slowly learn to recognize his voice, not by its sound, but by its content, its relevance and timing. Then you will know that you are in the Father's hand. You will know that nothing and no one could snatch you out of it, without your consent.



God bless, Fr. Pierre.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

- Sun. Apr. 29:** 2:00pm YM Joint Open Gym (School Gym)
 3:00pm Baptisms (Church)
- Mon. Apr. 30:** 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
 7:00pm Meditative Prayer (Rectory Basement)



MAY - MONTH OF MARY

Pray the Rosary Daily



- Tue. May 01:** 12:00pm Seniors Lunch Bunch (Rectory Dining)
 6:30pm Teen PREP (Rectory Basement)
 6:30pm Elementary PREP (School)
 6:45pm Confirmation Parents' Mtg. (Schl Seminar Rm)
 6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
 7:30pm Charismatic Core (Rectory Library)

- Wed. May 02:** 8:30am Respect Life (Rectory Dining)
 10:45am Fairhaven Eucharistic Service (7557SussexAve.)
 6:30pm Elementary PREP (School)
 6:30pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
 6:45pm Confirmation Parents' Mtg. (Schl Seminar Rm)
 7:00pm RCIA (Rectory Dining)
 7:00pm CWL Executive (Rectory Library)
 7:00pm Street Ministry (Rectory Basement)
 9:30pm Benediction (Church)



- Thu. May 03:** 7:15pm Hands of Veronica (Rectory Basement)
 7:30pm Charismatic Prayer (Church Basement)

- Fri. May 04: FIRST FRIDAY**
 8:00am Mass followed by Adoration all day
 3:00pm Divine Mercy (Church)
 6:30pm Mass followed by Adoration
 7:15pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
 9:30pm Benediction (Church)



- Sat. May 05:** 10:00am Legion of Mary (Church Basement)
 12:30pm Bible Sharing (Church Basement)
 7:00pm Christian Life Program (School Gym)

- Sun. May 06:** 2:00pm Youth for Christ (Church Basement)
 3:00pm Baptisms (Church)

PLEASE SWITCH OFF YOUR CELL PHONES AND DISCARD YOUR CHEWING GUM IN THE FOYER BINS BEFORE YOU ENTER THE CHURCH. THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION

PARISH NEWS

PARISH PICNIC VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

Our Parish Summer Picnic is scheduled on Canada Day (**July 1st**). We are still in need of volunteers to help in this very exciting Parish event. If you would like to help in this parish community event, please contact Eli Bautista 604-435-9611 or through stmarys_ym@yahoo.com



YM JOINT OPEN GYM

Join us this Sunday in our YM Joint Open Gym. Open to all youth in Grades 6 to 12. **Apr. 29, at 2pm in the School Gym.**

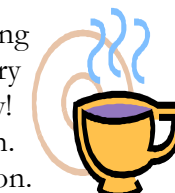


PREP EARLY REGISTRATION (May 1 - 31)

Parish Religious Education Program (PREP) Early Registration for Catechetical Year 2007-2008 is now open **from May 1 to 31**. Slots are open from Grades 1 to 12 catechism classes. Register early and avail of the reduced fees. Pick up your registration forms from the Parish Office or Church foyer. A copy of Baptismal Certificate is REQUIRED from all students.

SMYAC COFFEE NIGHT

Fri. May 4, 8:30pm Rectory basement! All young adults (ages 18 - 39) are invited to attend this very special edition of our monthly spiritual activity! The topic for this month is: 12-Step Program. How Faith helps with the battle with addiction. Light refreshments will be served!



PROJECT ADVANCE 2007

Time sure flew by quickly and once again our committee is preparing for this year's Project Advance event. Please take a moment to read the 2007 Project Advance brochure that is enclosed in this bulletin. It outlines in detail the causes that will be supported by the campaign and a sample of a monthly gift plan. There will be a video presentation at all Masses on **May 5/6** to give you a more in depth detail of this year's goals. For parishioners who have contributed in the past, pledge cards have been mailed to you again this year. Committee members will be available next week to collect returned pledges or register new donors. Thank you in advance for your generous support and participation in this important parish event.

VISITATION OF THE SICK BY HANDS OF VERONICA

If a loved one is a patient in Burnaby General Hospital and would like to have a visit from a member of the Hands of Veronica group, please contact the Parish Office with information.

PARISH NEWS

COME AND TREAT YOUR MOTHER

St. Mary's CWL will be hosting a Mother's Day buffet lunch on **May 13**. Tickets will go on sale this weekend after all Sunday Masses. Special packages for a family of 4 will be available this weekend ONLY for a price of \$50.00. This offer is limited and will be sold on a first come first serve basis. Menu selection and ticket pricing will be posted in the foyer.



"WORKING SOLUTIONS FOR SKILLED IMMIGRANTS" PROGRAM

Are you a skilled immigrant unable to find work in BC or in your field of expertise? WORKING SOLUTIONS at Douglas College, a BC Skills Connect program, will help you land a professional job. This program offers free services and training funds to assist internationally trained professionals to launch their careers in Canada. Discover how this program can help YOU get back to doing what you are trained to do. Presentations by a Career Consultant from Douglas College will be held in the Church Basement this **Sun. Apr. 29** after 9:30am, 11:15am & 1:00pm Masses and **Sat. May 5** after the 5:00pm Mass. For more information please call 604-777-6099.

GETTING READY FOR KINDERGARTEN - WORKSHOP

Thu. May 24, 6:45 pm at St. Mary School.

St. Mary's school is presenting a workshop for parents on learning opportunities at home that will better prepare them for school. Please don't miss this opportunity to better prepare your child for Kindergarten. Elementary educators will offer activities and ideas that you can do at home that will be both enjoyable and important to your child's learning. This workshop is for parents of children who have not yet started Kindergarten ages 3 – 5 years. If your child is beginning Kindergarten in September or still has a year or two to wait, this workshop is for you. Admission is free, but you must call to reserve a space. Call the school at 604-437-1312 or email school@stmary.bc.ca

THE ST. MARY'S PARISH EDUCATION COMMITTEE (PEC)

Calling for nominations for the PEC for 2007. For nomination forms or more information please contact either of the following members of the nomination committee - Mr. Ed Tee at 604-436-4078, or Mrs. Michelle Eisner at 604-327-0827. Completed nomination forms must be received by one of the above nomination committee members by Thu. May 17. The election of members is scheduled to take place on **Sun. May 27.**

COMMUNITY NEWS

ST. JUDE'S PRO MUSICA PRESENTS "MAGNIFICAT!"

Sat. May 5 at 8pm. Music by Telemann, Hoffman, W.F. Bach and arias from the Cantatas by J. S. Bach, with Carolyn Sinclair - soprano, Anne-Elise Keefer - baroque flute, Paul Luchkow - baroque violin, Nan Mackie - viola da gamba, Michael Jarvis - harpsichord. St. Jude's Church, Renfrew & E. 15th., Vancouver. Tickets \$20 general admission, \$15 students & seniors available at the door, or Parish office 604-436-6700 ext 321 or for more information visit www.baroqueplayers.com.

VOCATIONS IN PROGRESS

We invite single Catholic men (ages 17 & up) to join us as we look at *"Chaplaincy? When did we share Jesus' suffering?"* The next meeting will be held on **Sun. May 6** at St. Andrew's Parish, 480 E 47th. Ave. Vancouver (between Fraser & Main St.) at 7:30pm in the Luminous Hall. For more information, please call Fr. Hien Nguyen or Fr. Tom Smith at the Vocations Office 604-443-3254. Or visit our website at: www.vocationsvancouver.com.



Your questions are Very Important to us.

GOSPEL CONCERT AT CORPUS CHRISTI CHURCH

"Jesus says, Testify!" is a musical which presents the story of the Resurrection using a modern medium to communicate Gospel values via word, image, music and song. **Sun. May 6** at 6:30 pm. (6350 Nanaimo St., Vancouver - 48th Ave. & Nanaimo). Tickets are \$10 each. Please contact Demi, 604-322-1355 or the parish office, 604-324-2265 for tickets or more info.

VOCATION LIVE-IN

May 11 - 13 for boys or young men interested in the priesthood or consecrated life, at the Seminary of Christ the King in Mission BC.

For more information, call 604-826-8715.



SPECIAL MASS AND PRAYERS IN HONOUR OF THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

Sat. May 12, 11:30am at The Cathedral of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, Rosary, and Consecration to the Sacred and Immaculate Hearts. Please bring family and friends, all are welcome! Refreshments to follow in Holy Rosary Hall. Donations of finger food appreciated. For info regarding Birthright please call 604-687-7223.



COMMUNITY NEWS

THE KENOSIS MALE CHORUS PRESENTS "O PURE VIRGIN."

In honour of the Holy Mother of God, during "The Month of Mary". Featuring chant from Russia, Byzantium and Serbia, and choral masterpieces of the Western World.



Thu. May 10, 8:00pm at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Langley and **Saturday May 12, 8:00pm** at St. Jude's Catholic Church in Vancouver. Admission \$10 at the door. For more information please contact Dan Steenburgh, Musical Director, Kenosis Male Chorus (604) 537-6825 or email Daniel.Steenburgh@gmail.com.

PARISH INFORMATION

MASSES Mon. - Fri. 8:00am; Sat. 12:00 pm
Wed. & Fri. 6:30pm followed by Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament & Benediction at 9:30pm
Saturday 5:00pm (**Anticipation**)
Sunday 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:15am, 1:00pm, 7:00pm

RECONCILIATION Saturday 11:15-11:45am; 4:15-4:45pm;
Sunday 10:45-11:05am
(An appointment for reconciliation may be made at any time)

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

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL

Thursday - 8:00am; Saturday - 12:00pm

FIRST FRIDAY Adoration Throughout the day after Masses

Masses: 8:00am followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
6:30pm followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Benediction: 9:30pm

BAPTISM To register your child, contact the Parish Office.

MARRIAGES One of the couple must be a registered Catholic parishioner of St. Mary's. Contact the Parish Office at least six months prior to your wedding date and prior to registering for the required diocesan Marriage Preparation Course.

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

PREP Religious education program for children attending public schools.

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

ST. MARY'S YOUNG ADULT COMMUNITY (SMYAC)

Leaders: Jonquil Francis and Eileen Carlson
Contact: smyac_team@yahoo.ca Website: www.smyac.ca
YOUTH MINISTRY E-mail: stmarys_ym@yahoo.com
Coordinator: Eli Bautista Website: www.saintmarysyouth.com

ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL Kevin Smith (Principal)

K-Grade 7 (604) 437-1312 Fax (604) 437-1193 Website: <http://www.stmary.bc.ca>

PARISH OFFICE HOURS Monday - Friday 9:00am - 5:00pm
Pastor : Fr. Pierre Leblond, OP
Assistant Pastor : Fr. Mark Hoo, OP
Youth and PREP Coordinator : Eli Bautista
Parish Office: Margherita Bordignon / Ossie Fernandes