ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
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Sunday, July 15th, 2007

Pastor's Corner

Dear Parishioners:

It has been exactly 2 weeks since I have been back from my holidays and it has been for the most part a restful one. Now, it is Fr. Pierre's turn to take his holidays and I also wish him a restful one indeed!

I want to stick to the theme of *holidays* for this week's **Pastor's Corner** precisely because many of us will be taking our holidays very soon if we haven't done so already. Even our Pope is presently on holidays for 2 ½ weeks in the Italian Alps. First of all, there is good precedent for holidays as we can see Christ and his disciples taking time off to rejuvenate themselves from their hectic ministries. Passages such as *Mark 6.31-32* come to mind where Jesus tells his disciples to "'Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest awhile.' For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat."

Here is what Pope Benedict recently had to say about the virtue of holidays. He said that holidays are a "gift of God…that allows one to revive the physical and spiritual energies necessary for life's journey." Quoting St. Bernard of Clairvaux, our Pope tells us that working too hard can be bad for the spirit, "…watch out for the dangers of an excessive activity, whatever…the job that you hold, because many jobs often lead to the 'hardening of the heart,' as well as 'suffering of the spirit…"

There is so much truth to St. Bernard's observations especially today when oftentimes the nature of work ends up taking us away from precious little time with family and loved ones, so much so that we become resentful! This is so as "work" becomes more and more influenced by "market forces" that work to the detriment of other aspects of our familial and personal relationships! Only a few weeks ago, a parishioner sadly told me that he will be transferred to another city by his company, while his immediate family stays on in Vancouver! How is this supposed to foster the family? Certainly religions, and especially Christianity, need to be in dialogue with our "market driven" society so as to attempt to, once again, humanize the work place!

Meanwhile, it is *holidays* that we turn to, precisely to renew and strengthen those familial ties, and not only that, but, hopefully, our ties as well with God and nature. Allow me to end with a quote from Pope Benedict, who wishes all, "especially those most in need, the possibility of taking a little vacation to reinvigorate your physical and spiritual energies and recover a salutary contact with nature." My sentiments exactly! Happy summer holidays to you. *God bless, Fr. Mark.*

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Sun. Jul. 15: 2:00pm St. Michael's Liturgy (7451 Sussex Avenue)

Mon. Jul. 16: 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)

Tue. Jul. 17: 12:00pm Seniors Lunch Bunch (Rectory Dining)
6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
7:30pm IMPACT - Faith Studies (Church Basement)

Wed. Jul. 18: 5:00pm L'Arche Mass (7401 Sussex Avenue)
6:30pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:00pm IMPACT - Cornerstone (Church Basement)
9:30pm Benediction (Church)

Thu. Jul. 19: 7:30pm Charismatic Prayer (Church Basement)

Fri. Jul. 20: 3:00pm Divine Mercy Devotion (Church)
6:30pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:15pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
9:30pm Benediction (Church)

Sat. Jul. 21: 10:00am Legion of Mary (Church Basement)
11:00am YM Annual Softball (see announcement)
12:30pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining)

Sun. Jul. 22: 2:00pm Willingdon Park Liturgy (4435 Grange St)

CONGRATULATIONS & BLESSINGS !!

July 08: *Krizia Claire Destacamento Cruz,*

BAPTISMS

Karmelle Mir Diasnes, Johnrey Conde Guillano, Laurenzo Weigand Maddatu, Cassandra Rose Seco, Calix Cherwin Tadiosa

WEDDINGS

July 07: *Randy Vertucio and Arlyn Panopio*
Jack Ong and Pollyanna Sher

Have a Blessed

PARISH NEWS

PREP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Would you like to make a difference in the lives of young people? Do you have the gift of teaching? Do you enjoy sharing your faith? Do you know what catechism means? Are you willing to volunteer your time? If you answered yes to any of these questions, please call Eli at the Parish Office 604-435-9611(ext 6).

CHURCH NOTICE BOARDS AND POSTERS ON DOORS & WALLS!

All flyers/posters etc. for the church notice boards, must be pre-approved by the Parish Office before they are posted on the notice boards, and are subject to removal without notice. All concerned are strongly advised not to post notices/posters etc. on the walls, doors and furniture of the church. Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated in order to preserve our church premises. Thank you and God Bless. *Fr. Pierre.*

"PRAYER RAISING 2007" AND FREE HOLY FACE ITEMS

St. Mary's Street Ministry will be distributing prayer cards at the end of all masses to "raise prayers" for the people we minister to. Please take a prayer card home and pray for the ladies and men everyday. Remember, God listens to your prayer! We need your prayer support! Also, we are giving away Holy Face cards, medals and leaflets for free. (Donations will help cover the cost and will be greatly appreciated). **Check out our table in the foyer.**

SMYAC SUMMER VOLLEYBALL

On **Sunday July 15**, at 4pm come out to play some ball, and enjoy the hot, hot sun at the same time. Bring water and sunscreen! We play at the Central Park Volleyball Pit by Swanguard Stadium. (Enter at the Kingsway entrance to the parking lot).

YOUTH MINISTRY ANNUAL SOFTBALL

Be part of the biggest Youth Ministry sporting event of the year on **Sat. July 21** from **11am to 4pm**! It is YM's Annual Softball!!! This event is ***FREE but PERMISSION FORMS ARE REQUIRED.*** See the YM Bulletin Board or YM Website. Event is open to youth in Gr. 6 - 12.

ALL PARISHIONERS …NEW AND OLD … PLEASE NOTE

The best way to inform us of an address change is to complete a blue "Change of Information Form" available at the information table. Putting the info on your Sunday envelopes sometimes gets missed & we don't get the new phone number. If you have moved in the last few months, please make sure we know. **Many boxes of Sunday envelopes remain unclaimed at the information table. If you recently completed a parish registration form and asked for envelopes. Please pick them up.** *Thank you*

COMMUNITY NEWS

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL - MON. JUL. 16

A special celebration will be held at Guardian Angels Parish, 1161 Broughton St., Downtown, Vancouver. Holy Mass at 7:00pm with Fr. John Horgan as main celebrant with the Discalced Carmelite Fathers. Reception follows at the Millennium Parish Hall. All are welcome!

LEGION OF MARY - DAY OF RETREAT

Sat. July 21 from 1:00pm - 4:00pm with Mass at 5:00pm at St. Anthony Church (480 East 47th Avenue, Van) All are welcome.

SPANISH MASS AT HOLY ROSARY CATHEDRAL - SUN. JUL. 22

Beginning this month, there will be 2 Masses in Spanish, held at the Holy Rosary Cathedral (Richards & Dunsmuir Street, Vancouver), on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month, at 6:30pm.

CATHOLIC ENGAGED ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

Jul. 27-29. Helping engaged couples understand the Sacrament of Marriage and their vocation. Register at www.ceewest.com or 604-451-3300.

SUMMER TRAINING

Register now for the Youth Ministry Office's popular Summer Training evens: ***Youth Leader*** **(Aug 13-17)** and ***Searching in the Spirit*** **(Aug 20-24)** Both will be held at beautiful Camp Jubilee at the base of Mt. Seymour. Check out www.youthmin.com for more info… don't miss out!

PLAN NOW TO ATTEND THE ARCHDIOCESAN SUMMER INSTITUTE

In our fast changing society, parents are often caught unprepared for the numerous "Teachable Moments" that have the potential to turn every parent into the "primary educator of their child." Sign up now for a special series, "Focus on Parenting" offered by Chuck Luttrell on **Aug. 17**. Further details and registration: Office of Religious Education (604-683-0281 or ore@rcav.bc.ca) or register on-line at www.rcav.bc.ca/ore.

CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE

Registration has begun for September 2007. For more information please contact www.corpuschristi.ca or 604-822-6862.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITYAT THE CENACLE

Part time, temporary office help with possibility of moving into permanent full time needed. Computer literacy and telephone skills necessary. Call Sister Monica at 604-266-7677

ETERNAL WORLD TELEVISION NETWORK

EWTN is a Catholic TV station available through Shaw digital cable (channel 249) that is dedicated to airing family and religious programming from a Catholic point of view.

COMMUNITY NEWS

36TH ANNUAL SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RENEWAL COMMUNITIES CATHOLIC RENEWAL CONVENTION

5 DAY RETREAT, **Aug. 30 – Sep. 3.** Enjoy a spirit-filled 5 days of prayer, praise and worship amidst the incredible sights and sounds of Anaheim! Guest speakers include Linda Schubert, Linda Koontz, Fr. John Hampsch, Francis & Judith MacNutt and more! For details please take a flyer from the registration desk in the foyer. For further information on the tour contact Lennie David 604-597-8227 / 604-594-7296.

RETROUVAILLE : A PROGRAM OF HOPE DESIGNED TO HELP COUPLES IN HURTING MARRIAGES

Next Vancouver weekend **Sep. 14 - 16**. Space is limited. For more information please call: 604-530-6710 or visit our website at www.retrouvaille.org. To pre-register online, go to www.retrouvaille.org/dates.php .

SEMINARY OF CHRIST THE KING VOCATION LIVE-IN - Nov. 2-4

The Seminary of Christ the King, Mission, BC, is planning a weekend LIVE-IN for young men who are interested in the priesthood or the life of a religious brother, and want to see for themselves what seminary life is like. The Seminary of Christ the King has students in high school (Grades 8-12), in college (Arts I-IV), and in theology. The LIVE-IN is open to anyone who is thinking of entering the seminary in the next few years. The LIVE-IN provides an opportunity to spend two days at the Seminary and to become acquainted with other young men who have the priestly or religious vocation in mind. Those attending should arrive any time Friday evening, preferably between seven and eight o'clock. Bring a sleeping bag, school clothes, and some old clothes for sports, a towel, etc., and your high school transcript or your last report card. The suggested fee is $25. The program will include interaction with priests, brothers and seminarians, daily Mass and prayer, recreational activities, sports, and some reflective reading. Anyone planning to come should fill in the application form, available on the notice board in the foyer, and forward it to: Vocation Live-In, Seminary of Christ the King, Mission, BC V2V 4J2, or the info may be phoned to 604-826-8715 or faxed to 604-826-8725 or e-mailed to: rector@sck.ca.

COMMUNITY NEWS

THE 18TH ANNUAL MARRIED COUPLES' RETREAT

Will be held on the weekend of **Sep. 14-16**, at Westminster Abbey, Mission and will be directed by Rev. Paul Curtin, CSsR. (Redemporist). Retreat theme: "FOLLOWING JESUS: EUCHARIST AS FOOD FOR THE JOURNEY." Cost per couple $295.00. To register call Anne 604-464-1958 or Marg. 604-921-7136. Space is limited.

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)
Leader: Jonquil Francis and Joseph D'silva
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