



ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Pastor's
Corner

Sunday August 10, 2008



Dear Parishioners,

In today's homily, I will be sharing about how many of us in society are likely living what Henry David Thoreau has noted as "lives of quiet desperation." And, why is that? Because many are hungering for something more after having tasted all the so called "good things" of the world, and yet finding them wanting. Because, as St. Augustine reminds us, our hearts are all restless ultimately for God. Only in God can our restlessness be stilled, and happiness found. But then, that presupposes that there are also those of us who dare to express this point to the many who are restlessly searching everywhere for their centre. In the year 1929, thanks to the help of J.R.R. Tolkien and friends gently re-introducing C.S. Lewis to God, he converted. The following is an excerpt from Lewis' book that shares of his conversion, ultimately thanks to friends of his who dared share this gift, this treasure, with Lewis:

"You must picture me alone in that room at Magdalene, night after night, feeling whenever my mind lifted even for a second from my work, the steady unrelenting approach of Him whom I had so earnestly desired not to meet. That which I greatly feared had at last come upon me. In the Trinity Term of 1929 I gave in and admitted God was God, and knelt and prayed: perhaps the most dejected and reluctant convert in England. I did not see then what is now the most shining and obvious thing: the Divine humility which will accept a convert even on such terms... The words *compelle entrare*, compel them to come in, have been so abused by wicked men that we shudder at them, but properly understood, they plumb the depths of the Divine mercy. The hardness of God is kinder than the softness of men, and His compassion is our liberation."

-- C.S. Lewis, *Surprised by Joy*

God bless, Fr. Mark



THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

- Sun. Aug. 10:** 2:00pm St. Michael's Mass (7451 Sussex Ave.)
2:00pm CFC General Meeting (Church Bsmt.)
5:00pm Youth & Young Adults Mass (Church)
- Mon. Aug. 11:** 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
- Tue. Aug. 12:** 6:30pm Baptism Preparation (Church)
6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining)
- Wed. Aug. 13:** 7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room/Sacristy)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Thu. Aug. 14:** 7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:30pm Charismatic Prayer (Church Basement)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Fri. Aug. 15: ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED MOTHER**
3:00pm Divine Mercy (Church)
6:15pm Divine Mercy (Church)
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room/Sacristy)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Sat. Aug. 16:** 10:00am Handmaids of the Lord (School Gym)
12:30pm Bible Sharing (Church Basement)
3:30pm Legion of Mary (Church Basement)
6:30pm CFC Pastoral Formation (Church Bsmt.)
- Sun. Aug. 17:** 2:00pm St. Michael's Liturgy (7451 Sussex Ave.)
5:00pm Youth & Young Adults Mass (Church)

SCHOOL/PARISH NEWS

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL VACANCY FOR GRADE 7

St. Mary's Catholic School has 1 vacant spot in Grade 7 for this coming September. Families/Parents who are interested to apply may contact **Mr. Kevin Smith** at the School office: (604) 437-1312) during weekdays between 9am & 4pm.

MOVIE OF THE WEEK – YOUNG ADULTS (ages 18+)

Tues. Aug. 12 6:40 p.m. Station Square at Metrotown. We will be watching *The Sisterhood of Traveling Pants 2* over at the theatres. We are going to meet by the entrance at 6:30 p.m. Please RSVP us at smyac_team@yahoo.ca or contact Erwin (604) 729-0853.

CATHOLIC BIBLE SEMINAR

On Sept. 12, 13 & 14 in the Church Basement. Fr. Jim Nisbet, a noted Bible scholar from California will talk about the **1st & 2nd Letters of Peter**. Registration forms are available in the foyer. Call Gerry at (604) 882-9205 for more information

PARISH NEWS

PROJECT ADVANCE 2008 UPDATE

The latest update on the progress of our Project Advance is that we are at 88% of our projected target. We are very close to meeting our goal so please continue to send in your pledge forms that were mailed out. New donors may pick up a donation form at the information table. The Project Advance Team thanks you for your generous contribution & support.

ST. MARY'S INTERNATIONAL FAMILY FAIR



St. Mary's CWL (in coordination with all Parish Groups) is happy to announce that the planning for the **International Family Fair on Sunday, Aug. 31, 2008, 10:30am to 5:00pm**, is well on its way. Located at the back parking lot of the school, there will be lots of fun & games, sumptuous food, kids' corner, entertainment, silent auction, grand prizes, plants & crafts, etc. **We need your help to "shelter" this event.** We are requesting those who have **free-standing canopies** to let us borrow them for the whole day. Please contact Christina Liew-Johannus at (604)759-9150 or email her at christina_johannus@yahoo.com. Thanks and God bless!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GOLF TOURNAMENT
The K of C, St. Mary's Council 13072 sponsors the 5th Annual Fr. McGivney Memorial Golf Tournament on **Saturday, Aug. 16. 100% of funds raised will go to the candidates to Priesthood and Religious Life who come from St. Mary's Parish.** To register, please call Ryan (604) 603-8870 or Adel (604) 837-6945.

ANOTHER NIGHT FOR TEEN PREP STARTING THIS SEPTEMBER

We have opened another night of Teen PREP. Starting this September, Teens will have a choice between Tuesday OR Wednesday nights. Teen PREP is open to all youths in Grades 8 to 12 who want to learn more about their faith, or to prepare to receive the Sacraments, or just 'hang out' with other Catholic teens. Registration is now open.



PREP REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN
The registrations for our Catechism program is now open. Most of the Tuesday classes are already full while Wednesday classes are still open so we encourage parents and guardians to register early. Registration forms are available in the Church foyer or at the Parish Office.

PARISH/COMMUNITY NEWS

HOW ABOUT AN ACT OF KINDNESS TO THE HOMELESS?

St. Mary's Street Ministry invites parishioners to do an act of kindness. We are providing you with beautiful scripture/info cards for the homeless. Take a few scripture/info cards and a candy bag at our table after mass, & give them out to the homeless people you see on your way to/from work this week. Jesus said: "Whatsoever you do to the least of my brothers, you do it unto me." — Matthew 25:40

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR APPLICATION DEADLINE-EXTENDED

Will be responsible for organizing and directing efforts to involve volunteers in the Parish with the various ministries and groups. The requirement will be around 10 hours per week, for a 1-year term (likely to be renewed). Submit your résumé and a cover letter to the Parish Office or email: stmarys@telus.net. Submission deadline: Monday, August 11.

THE WESTERN CANADIAN CHINESE CATHOLIC LIVING CAMP

This Camp will be held on the Labour Day long weekend (Aug. 29 to Sept. 1) at Camp Jubilee in North Vancouver. The title for this year is **"Got Gifts? God Gives!"** Young adults (ages 17 to 35) are invited to join us. For more information, please call Simon Kwok at (604) 780-2889 or visit: www.wccclc.net

CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC CONFERENCE

On Sept. 26 & 27. This year's Conference Theme is taken from 2 Timothy 4:2 "...proclaim the word... be persistent..." The keynote speaker is Deacon Alex Jones from the Diocese of Detroit. Archbishop Raymond Roussin will celebrate the closing Mass. For tickets and more information, please call (604) 597 8227 or email: fireblade@shaw.ca

FILIPINO MASS - EVERYONE IS INVITED

Everyone is invited to a Filipino Mass on Monday, August 11th, 7:00pm at St. Bernadette's Parish. The "Akafellas" choir will be singing and Fr. Ray Usman will be the Celebrant.

200th ANNIVERSARY OF THE DAUGHTERS OF CHARITY

A special Mass will be held at St. Mark's Chapel on Wednesday, Sept. 17th at 12:10pm. There will also be an exhibit about the work and ministries of the Daughters of Charity worldwide.

FREE WORKSHOP

It will be about "Tenants' Rights and Tenancy Law". At the Parish Hall of St. Patrick's in Vancouver (2881 Main St.), on Thursday, Aug. 14th from 10am to 11am. Everyone is welcome

ARCHDIOCESE/COMMUNITY NEWS

PILGRIMAGE TO THE GROTTA OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES

On Saturday, August 16th. There will be Confessions, a Mass, a processions, the Holy Rosary will be prayed, and ends with Benediction. Those who have booked seats on the bus will have to be in the parking lot at 9:15am. Bus leaves at 9:30am

YOUTH SUMMER TRAINING

Register now for the Youth Ministry Office's Youth Summer Training event: ***Searching in the Spirit*** (August 18 to 22) at Camp Jubilee at the base of Mt. Seymour. Check out www.youthmin.com for more details.

VANCOUVER ARCHDIOCESAN SUMMER INSTITUTE

On August 22 & 23, 2008 at Holy Cross Secondary in Surrey. Sponsored by the Office of Religious Education, it offers catechetical and adult faith formation courses for all interested adults. Pre-registration is required. For all course descriptions and to register, please visit: www.rcav.bc.ca/ore and click on "Summer Institute" or call (604) 683-0281.

PROJECT ADVANCE 2009

Application for a "Special Needs" grant for 2009 is now available on the Project Advance website: www.rcav.org/project_advance/2008/latestnews.htm. Deadline for applications is on Sept. 30, 2008. For more info, please contact the Project Advance Ofc. at 604.683.0281 or Fr. Glenn Dion at 604.682.6774

THEOLOGY OF THE BODY

Come and discover God's plan for Life and learn about this revolutionary teaching of Pope John Paul II. This 11-week course begins on **Thursday, Sept. 18 from 7pm to 9:15pm** at **Our Lady of Lourdes Parish** (828 Laval Square, Coquitlam). Cost is \$40/person which would include the text *Man and Woman He Created Them-A Theology of the Body*. Instructor is Fr. Alan Boisclair, BA, MA, STL in marriage and family. To register, please contact the Respect Life Office at (604)683-0281.

CATHOLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE

It will be held at the Executive Plaza Hotel in Coquitlam on Sept. 18th. Our theme this year is "Best Practices at the End of Life" with speakers addressing issues of Do Not Resuscitate Orders, Palliative Care for Dementia Patients and Advance Care Directives. The conference will include a Mass with Archbishop Roussin and dinner at the end of the day. The registration brochure is available at chabc.bc.ca or by calling (604) 524-3427. Everyone is welcome to attend.

PARISH INFORMATION

MASSES

Mondays to Fridays: 8:00am
Wed., Thurs., Fri: 7:00pm**
** followed by Adoration at 7:45pm & Benediction at 9:15pm
Saturdays: 12:00noon; 5:00pm (**Anticipation**)
Sundays: 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:15am, 1:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm

CONFESSIONS

Sundays: Before & After ALL Masses
Saturdays: 11:15am to 11:55am, 4:15pm to 4:55pm, 6:10pm to 6:40pm
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 Masses

Masses: 8:00am followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
7:00pm followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Benediction: 9:15pm

BAPTISMS: 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.

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
ST. MARY'S YOUNG ADULT COMMUNITY (SMYAC)

Leader: Joseph D'silva
Email: smyac_team@yahoo.ca Website: www.smyac.ca
YOUTH MINISTRY (YM) E-mail: stmarys_ym@yahoo.com
Coordinator: Eli Bautista Website: www.saintmarysyouth.com

ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Mr. Kevin Smith (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
Pastor: Fr. Pierre Leblond, O.P.
Assistant Pastor: Fr. Mark Hoo, O.P.
YM & PREP Coordinator: Eli Bautista
Parish Office: Margherita Bordignon/Ossie Fernandes