



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

March 1, 2009

First Sunday in Lent

Dear Parishioners,

Have you ever been horrified by the evil temptations that have arisen from within your heart? Temptations of road rage, desire to kill or to rape! Psychoanalysis shows that these thoughts are lurking in everyone's subconscious. When they do come up to our awareness (probably during times of burn-out, stress, and/or grief), we are horrified by them.



Is it blasphemy to think that in Christ, God was dealing with such temptations? In Hebrews 2:18, the Scriptures say, "*Jesus can help those who are tempted, because he Himself was tempted and suffered*".

Of course, Jesus did not have that inner complicity with evil and sin that we have inherited from Adam's original sin. But He was truly tempted, from outside. You can be sure the devil used up all his tricks on Jesus -- he threw at Him all the temptations he could. It lasted forty days! Because Christ was famished, He felt very weak.

The temptations He felt were horrifying because He was God. God holds sin and evil in horror, more than we can ever imagine. Evil is so contrary to His nature that it is unthinkable. But, through the human nature of Christ, God lets temptation enter into Him, so that He may overcome its' power. God could not get any lower to reach us ... into the depths of our misery.

God Bless You *Fr. Pierre*

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

- Sun. Mar. 01:** 2:00pm Youth for Christ (Church Basement)
3:00pm Baptism (Church)
- Mon. Mar. 02:** 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
6:30pm Sr. Youth Ministry (Rectory Basement)
7:00pm Mass (Church)
7:00pm Cath. Women League Exec (Rectory Dining)
7:30pm Marian Prayer Group (Rectory Library)
- Tue. Mar. 03:** 6:30pm PREP & Teen PREP (School)
6:30pm RCIA (Church Basement)
6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
7:00pm Christian Meditation (Rectory Basement)
7:30pm Knights of Columbus Executive (Gym)
- Wed. Mar. 04:** 10:45am Fairhaven Mass (7557 Sussex Avenue)
6:30pm PREP & Teen PREP (School)
7:00pm Street Ministry (Rectory Basement)
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room/Sacristy)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
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Thu. Mar. 05: 7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:30pm Charismatic Prayer (Church Basement)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room/Sacristy)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Fri. Mar. 06:** 9:00am Bible Sharing for Women (Rect Bsmt.)
3:00pm & 6:10pm Divine Mercy (Church)
6:30pm Stations of the Cross (Church)
7:00pm Cornerstone (Church Basement)
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room/ Sacristy)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
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Sat. Mar: 07 9:00am 2000 Hail Mary Group (Rectory Dining)
10:00am Echoes (Church Basement)
10:00am Handmaids of the Lord (School Gym)
12:30pm Bible Sharing (Church Basement)
3:30pm Legion of Mary (Church Basement)
7:00 pm Couples for Christ - FFL (Church Bsmt)
7:30pm Couples for Christ -- CLP (School Gym)
8:00pm SMYAC Coffee Night (Rectory Basement)
- Sun. Mar. 08:** 10:00am RCIA (Rectory Basement)
2:00pm Couples for Christ (Church Bsmt)

PARISH NEWS

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

During all Fridays in Lent, Stations of the Cross will be at 6:30pm and then our regular evening Mass will follow at 7:00pm

PENNIES FOR HEAVEN

St. Mary's Knights of Columbus are collecting pennies and other Canadian coins/currency to support vocations to the priesthood. Please bring donations to the foyer during **all Sunday Masses in March** and put them in the BIG bottle. Your donations will be used for the education and personal needs of our seminarians God Bless You.



SR YOUTH MINISTRY -- LIFE WITHOUT LIMBS

Does life sometimes seem unfair? How can we overcome adversity? These are questions we all face in our lives at one time or another. Come and find the amazing answer. What you hear and see will blow your mind ... guaranteed!!! Take our challenge and join us for the Sr. Youth Ministry event on **Monday March 2 at 6:30pm in the rectory basement**. This can change your life -- so you owe yourself to come and find out!!! Did I mention there will be free pizza?

Donation?

Youth Ministry needs a new/almost new microwave oven. If you are able to donate, please call Arda at 604-435-9611 ext 6.

CHRISTIAN LIFE PROGRAM

Are you looking for a program that will help: 1) bring you and your spouse or loved ones to a real relationship with God and a renewed faith in Jesus, 2) empower you in the Christian life through Baptism in the Holy Spirit, and , 3) integrate you into an environment where you can receive support for your individual Christian life or your families' Christian life? **If your answer is yes**, Couples for Christ, a Catholic community movement, invites you and all couples, including those separated, divorced and widowed, to a Christian Life Program (CLP). **The CLP will be held starting Saturday March 7, 2009 at 7:30pm in St. Mary's School Gym**. This program is conducted free of charge. Transportation will be provided upon request. Sessions consist of: a teaching, a group discussion, and a time for fellowship with free refreshments. Each session would normally last for about 2 and 1/2 hours. For further details, please contact June and Amie Morales at 604-561-9007.

PARISH NEWS

YOUNG ADULT (AGES 18+) COFFEE NIGHT FAITH DISCUSSION

Join us on **Saturday March 7 at 8:00pm** in the rectory basement for a Movie Night Event. The movie we will see is *The Message of Garabandal* -- a documentary about an apparition of the Blessed Virgin Mary to four young girls in Garabandal, Spain in the 1960's. A short discussion will follow after the movie. **Warning:** there are a couple of scenes that may be frightening to young viewers. Light refreshments will be served. Contact smyac.team@yahoo.com for more info.



ST MARY'S SCHOOL REGISTRATION

On **April 2** there will be a meeting at **7:00pm** in the school gym for new families who wish to enter St. Mary's School in September 2009. You **must attend** to receive an information package because they are not handed out from the school office.

2009 SUNDAY ENVELOPES FOR NEW PARISHIONERS

Have you recently registered and requested Sunday envelopes? PLEASE check the registration table for your box. If you cannot find your box this week, we ask your patience for one more week. Call the parish office with any questions.

ANNUAL YARD SALE

Our annual yard sale in support of the Respect Life cause will take place on **Saturday April 18**. We will be supplying more details and information in the next few weeks. In the meantime, please start your spring cleaning and save any items that you may want to donate. This includes garden items, jewelry, dishes, books etc. **NO CLOTHING PLEASE.**



MINISTRY IN FOCUS

Come and feel the joy of witnessing the parishioners descending into the church basement after the mass to interact with familiar as well as unfamiliar faces. Help prepare the drinks and snacks for them to munch on as they enjoy the friendly, vibrant, atmosphere permeating throughout everyone. If you can spare a few hours once a month, we urge you to come and join us and experience the pride and jubilation of the **Coffee Social Group**. Please contact Kerr Tomayao at 604-327-6864 or 778-868-6838.

DIOCESAN AND CPOMMUNITY NEWS

LENTEN MISSION: PRAYER/SUFFERING AND HEALING

Lent is a season that draws us closer in unity with Christ as human and yet, divine. Jacqueline Loh will discuss what prayer is, how to pray for others, what happens when we accept prayer, and of course, the topic of suffering. She is a trained planner/architect lay person who has been gifted with the grace of healing and deep insight into the vocation of the priesthood. She is currently under the direction of Archbishop Emeritus Raymond Roussin and has been ministering to priests since 2002. A minimum donation of \$10 is anticipated for the Lenten mission. Please see <http://www.GracethatReigns.com>. **Don't fall asleep at the bench!** The Mission will be at **St. Francis de Sales Church on March 2 and 3** beginning at 7:30pm in the hall and the second day in the church. Healing prayers, Exposition of the Holy Eucharist and confessions will be available.

CELEBRATE SOURCE AND PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

All families and young people from the Archdiocese of Vancouver are invited to join the Vancouver West Deanery for a night of Eucharistic Adoration to pray for vocations and to experience and discover the SOURCE of our faith through reflections, music, confession and fellowship on **Saturday March 7** from 7:30pm - 9:00pm at our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in Vancouver. Contact the Vocations Office at 604-443-3254 or vocations@rcav.bc.ca

RAISING CHILDREN TODAY

Dr. Ray Guarendi, noted clinical psychologist, author, public speaker, and radio host, will be speaking on the challenges of raising children today. Date and venue: **March 14 at 8:30am - 12:15pm** at Pacific Academy, 10238 - 168 Street, Surrey. For more info and to register visit www.pife.ca.

COME AND REST AWHILE RETREAT

On **March 21 from 8:30am to 4:30pm** at Rosemary Heights Retreat Centre. Retreat leader is Bishop Munroe. The cost of \$30 per person includes lunch. For more info or to register call Respect Life Office at 604-683-0281. Deadline is March 13.

SEARCHING IN THE SPIRIT LEADERSHIP TEAM- www.youthmin.com

Youth Ministry Office needs older teens and young adults to apply for our Searching in the Spirit Leadership Team. This dynamic team of youth and young adults will lead recently confirmed youth at our 5-day post-confirmation event in August 2009. This is an amazing leadership training opportunity!

PARISH INFORMATION

MASSES : Monday 7:00pm
Tuesday: 8:00am
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 8:00am and 7:00pm**
** followed by Adoration at 7:45pm & Benediction at 9:15pm
Saturday: 12:00noon; 5:00pm (**Anticipation**)
Sunday: 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:15am, 1:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm

CONFESSIONS

Sunday: Before all Masses (except 8:00am & 5:00pm) & After all Masses
Saturday: 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:

Contact the Parish Office at least six months prior to the wedding date to register for the required diocesan Marriage Preparation Course. One of the couple must be a registered Catholic parishioner of St. Mary's for at least one year before contacting the Parish Office.

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
E-mail: stmarys.prep@yahoo.ca

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: Arda Akoglu 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
Saturdays: 11:00am to 2:00pm

Pastor: Fr. Pierre Leblond, O.P.
Assistant Pastor: (currently on leave) Fr. Mark Hoo, O.P.
Youth Ministry/Volunteer Coordinator: Arda Akoglu
Parish Secretary: Margherita Bordignon