



**ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**

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Pastor's  
Corner

Sunday May 11, 2008



Dear parishioners,

***“Life without Your presence here,  
Life itself would disappear,  
Nothing thrives apart from You!”  
-- from the sequence of the Pentecost***

When my father died, when he breathed his last, I was holding him in my arms. I almost “felt” his spirit going out of him. The image I got was a door partly opened, and from it shone a bright yet gentle and warm light. I wished for a moment to follow my dad’s soul through the door of heaven. I had a foot on earth with my dad’s body, and a foot in heaven with his soul. Maybe the disciples felt something like that in the day of Ascension! Of course, the physical body of Christ did not stay with them but the resurrected body was to come back through the Eucharist and the Holy Spirit.

After my father died, my mom and I stayed for an hour by his bedside. At first, it felt like he was still there, in his body. Slowly the body became cold and stiff. Then I knew we could go. Dad was not there anymore.

Today, I think this is what happens to our soul when we let the Spirit of God go away. He is the soul of our soul. Without Him, our soul, our innermost self becomes dead, cold, stiff, empty, lost, unwanted, unloved. With Him, everything flourishes.

In a sense, Pentecost is the reversal of Ascension, of separation. The Spirit of Christ is back, not outside us but inside us, so that we become the body of Christ.

God bless you.  
**Fr. Pierre**



**THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH**

- Sun. May 11: PENTECOST SUNDAY/MOTHER'S DAY**  
2:00pm Couples for Christ Gen. Mtng (School Gym)  
5:00pm Youth & Young Adults Mass (Church)
- Mon. May 12:** 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)  
7:00pm Meditative Prayer (Rectory Basement)
- Tue. May 13:** 9:30am St. Mary's School Mass (Church)  
6:30pm Teen PREP (School Seminar Room)  
6:30pm Elementary PREP (School)  
6:45pm Confirmation Rehearsal (Church)  
6:45pm Baptism Preparation Class (Rectory Basement)  
6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
- Wed. May 14:** 2:00pm Willingdon Park Mass (4435 Grange St.)  
6:30pm Elementary PREP (School)  
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)  
7:15pm Hands of Veronica (Rectory Dining)  
7:30pm Marriage Prep. Class (Church Basement)  
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Thu. May 15:** 7:00pm Confirmation (Church)  
**Adoration & Benediction CANCELLED**
- Fri. May 16:** 3:00pm & 6:15pm Divine Mercy (Church)  
7:00pm Mass (Church)  
7:00pm Life in the Spirit Seminar (Church)  
**Adoration & Benediction CANCELLED**
- Sat. May 17:** 10:00am Finance Seminar w/ Doug Wellbanks (Church Basement)  
10:00am YM Annual Softball (see announcement)  
12:30pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Basement)  
4:00pm Legion of Mary (Church Basement, LWC Area)  
7:30pm CFC - Christian Life Program (Church Basement)  
7:30pm CFC-FFL Seminar (School Gym)
- Sun. May 18:** 2:00pm St. Michael's Liturgy (7451 Sussex Avenue)  
2:00pm CFC - FFL Gen. Mtng (Church Bsmt)



**FAMILY WORKSHOP ON FINANCES**

There will be a family workshop entitled “Money Issues and Families” on Saturday, May 17th, 10am in the Church Basement. This will be led by Mr. Douglas Welbanks, who is a former Director of Debtor Assistance in British Columbia. Come and learn valuable knowledge about managing finances. See the Parish bulletin boards for more information.

**PARISH NEWS**

**PREP EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION (MAY 1 - 31)**

Parish Religious Education Program (PREP) early registration for Catechetical Year 2008-2009 is now open. Take advantage of the reduced fees for the whole month of May. Register early to reserve a spot. Registration forms are available in the Church foyer and in the Parish Office. Drop off your completed Registration Forms in the PREP Office on Tuesday or Wednesday nights from 6:30pm to 8pm

**YOUTH MINISTRY'S ANNUAL SOFTBALL WITH K OF C**

On May 17, Saturday YM will have their Annual Softball Day with Knights of Columbus. Join them in a day of fun, sports, barbecue & fellowship. This event is FREE! Permission forms are required and are available at the YM website, St. Mary's School or at the YM bulletin Board. From 10am onwards.



**GREG MAGIRESCU & ST. MARY'S CHOIRS**

Greg Magirescu and St. Mary's combined choir will be singing Greg Magirescu's Mass compositions from his latest CD here at St. Mary's Parish at the 9.30 a.m., 11.15 a.m. and 1 p.m. Masses on Sunday, May 18, 2008. Greg is a noted musician



and has sung in past World Youth Day events. 50% of proceeds from the CD sales will go in aid of St. Mary's young adult pilgrims to the International Eucharistic Congress in Quebec City this June, 2008, and World Youth Day in Sydney, Australia this July, 2008.

**"I DO NOT GIVE TO YOU AS THE WORLD GIVES TO YOU" Jn14:27**

*"I met a man who suffered from depression and bitterness for over 10 years. The Holy Spirit revealed to me an image of a set of Venetian blinds - but they were only half open. From this image, I knew that he was afraid to ask for and receive all the graces that the Lord was eager to give to him. But until he understood what these graces were, he would not receive Jesus' invitation of healing. He would never be at peace. So we talked and then we prayed..."*


In the Gospel of John, Jesus says, “I give you peace, my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives to you.” A teaching on Grace and Peace will be discussed through a presentation on Evangelization through Healing on May 23 and May 24, here in St. Mary's Parish at 7pm. Jacqueline Loh is the guest speaker. She is currently in the process of completing her Master's Degree on Evangelization.

## PARISH / COMMUNITY NEWS

### THEOLOGY OF THE BODY FAITH SERIES AT ST. MARY'S

Come join Jake & Heather Khym for a special evening of storytelling, reflection, and worship based on Theology of the Body on Wednesday, May 21, 7-9pm, St. Mary's Church Basement. Admission is free. Then on Tuesdays, May 27, June 3, 10, 17, 2008, same time and place, St. Mary's Young Adult Community will present the final 4-parts of *Created and Redeemed*, a faith series based on Pope John Paul II's universal teaching, Theology of the Body. Not to worry if you missed the first half, it is still worth coming out. Trust us, this education on being human will blow you away. Young or old come on out, it's for everyone. Don't forget your workbook. If you're new, workbooks will be available for \$7.50. See you there.

### DOMINICAN "COME AND SEE" WEEKEND: THE WAY OF THE PREACHER: IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF SAINT DOMINIC.

 For men interested in exploring a vocation with the Dominicans of Vancouver, you are invited to a Dominican "Come and See" Weekend to be held from **5:30 pm Fri. May 16 to 1:30 pm Sun. May 18, 2008.** Presenters are: Dominican Master of Novices, Fr. Yves Bériault, OP and the Dominican Novices. The event will be held at the Rectory of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish.

**Deadline for registration will be Wednesday, May 14, 2008.**

Cost will be \$25/person. For more information, please contact Fr. Mark Hoo, OP at [frmarkhoo@yahoo.com](mailto:frmarkhoo@yahoo.com) or at (604) 435-9611 ext. 5.

### CARNATIONS FOR MOTHER'S DAY

Give your Mom or any Mom you know (or do not know) a small token of appreciation for their love and caring this Mother's Day Sunday. Why not offer them a Carnation so they can proudly wear it and let the world know that they have received the Best Mom of the Year Award? St. Mary's Knights of Columbus will be selling Mother's day Carnation flowers for \$1 minimum donation before and after all Masses in the Church foyer. All proceeds will be donated to the Missionaries of Charity who run a home for Single Mothers. They are also visiting the Jails (Women's Prison, Pre-trial Centre and Youth Jail), and give food to the needy.



## PARISH / COMMUNITY NEWS

### INTERNATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

**Attention: There are still 6 spots available with the St. Mary's International Eucharistic Congress Pilgrims.**

They have been made available because of the larger tour bus and the extra plane tickets that we were able to arrange for. This brings the total to more than 32 St. Mary's pilgrims who will be heading for the International Eucharistic Congress as a body. **Once again, preference will be given to young adults.** Spots are available on a first come first serve basis. The total package will be close to \$1250/person. To reserve a spot, contact Fr. Mark on or before Friday, May 16th.



### PUT YOUR GUESSING SKILLS TO THE TEST!!!

Are you good at "guess-timating"? Feeling lucky? Then why not enter the "Count the Pennies" competition? Guess how much money is in the container in the church foyer and you could win one of the many prizes (e.g. vouchers for a haircut, gift cards for Safeway, Jacob's & St. Andrew's bookstore, dinner, Bibles, cinema tickets, T-shirts, Starbucks mugs and more.) Tickets are available for sale in the church foyer after all Masses. \$1 per guess or 6 guesses for \$5. All proceeds go towards the pilgrims for International Eucharistic Congress in Quebec in June. Your Support is very much appreciated. God bless!

### PARISH EDUCATION COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

The St. Mary's Parish Education Committee, (PEC) is calling for nominations for the PEC for 2008. 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 Thursday May 15, 2008. The election of members is scheduled to take place on Sunday, May 25, 2007.

### DONATIONS TO THE VICTIMS OF MYANMAR CYCLONE

Development and Peace is accepting funds to help victims of the devastating Nagris Cyclone, which has left over 22,000 dead and thousands more homeless after hitting Myanmar's Irrawady Delta region on Saturday May 3. For more information, visit: <http://www.devp.org/devpme/eng/pressroom/2008/comm2008-05-06-eng.html>

## PARISH INFORMATION

### MASSES

Mondays to Fridays: 8:00am  
Wed., Thurs., Fri: 7:00pm\*\*  
\*\* followed by Adoration at 8pm & 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

### 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.

**HOLY COMMUNION** Available to shut-ins. Contact 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  
Coordinator: Eli Bautista Tuesday and Wednesday 6:30 to 8:00pm

### ST. MARY'S YOUNG ADULT COMMUNITY (SMYAC)

Leader: Jonquil Francis and Joseph D'Silva  
Email: [smyac\\_team@yahoo.ca](mailto:smyac_team@yahoo.ca) Website: [www.smyac.ca](http://www.smyac.ca)  
**YOUTH MINISTRY** E-mail: [stmarys\\_ym@yahoo.com](mailto:stmarys_ym@yahoo.com)  
Coordinator: Eli Bautista Website: [www.saintmarysyouth.com](http://www.saintmarysyouth.com)

### ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Mr. Kevin Smith (Principal) Website: [www.stmary.bc.ca](http://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.  
**Youth & PREP Coordinator:** Eli Bautista  
**Parish Office:** Margherita Bordignon/Ossie Fernandes