



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

November 23, 2008

Dear Parishioners,

Here is a reflection by **Gerald Darring** on this *Solemnity of Christ the King*:

“The very concept of Christ the King might seem rather triumphalistic [today]. But look carefully at this king as portrayed in today’s parable: he was hungry and thirsty and naked and ill and in prison.

And who are his loyal subjects?

They are those who give food to the hungry and drink to the thirsty, who welcome strangers and clothe the naked, who comfort the ill and visit prisoners. What a king and what a kingdom!

The goal of this king is not to oppress his subjects with his power but rather to *break the power of evil*. In this kingdom the evils of economic, medical, and criminal injustice are confronted and overcome by subjects who not only respect the *King of creation* but also *glory in his justice and live in his love.*”

Let us therefore, as Christ’s subjects, not just fulfill our Sunday obligations by coming to church and leaving Christ aside the rest of the week. But, let us share instead in His grace, by being Christ’s hands and feet, mouthpiece and instrument, so as to bring healing, life and hope to this broken world of ours, until Christ returns our world, whole and entire, healed and restored, back to God, His loving Father.

God bless, Fr. Mark

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

- Sun. Nov. 23:** 10:15am Willingdon Park Liturgy (4435 Grange St)
 2:00pm CFC-FFL General Mtg (Church Bsmt)
 2:30pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining)
 5 :00pm Youth & Young Adults Mass (Church)
- Mon. Nov. 24:** 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
 7:00pm Christian Meditation (Rectory Basement)
 7:30pm Marian Prayer Group (Rectory Library)
- Tue. Nov. 25:** 6:30pm PREP & Teen PREP (School)
 6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
- Wed. Nov. 26:** 8:30am Respect Life Group (Rectory Dining)
 6:30pm RCIA (Church Basement)
 6:30pm PREP & Teen PREP (School)
 7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
 7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room/Sacristy)
 9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Thu. Nov. 27:** 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. Nov. 28:** 10:00am St. Michael’s Mass (7451 Sussex Avenue)
NEW TIME 9:00am Bible Sharing for Moms (Rect. Bsmt)
 3 :00pm & 6:15pm Divine Mercy (Church)
 7:00pm Mass (Church)
 7:40pm Talk by Jacqueline Loh (see bulletin ad)
 followed by Adoration & Healing Prayer
 9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Sat. Nov. 29:** 12:30pm Bible Sharing (Church Basement)
 3:00pm RCIA (Church)
 3:30pm RCIA (continues in Rectory Basement)
 3:30pm Legion of Mary (Church Basement)
 6:15pm Light Up for Christmas (see bulletin ad)
 6:30pm CFC-Christian Life Program(RectoryBsmt)
 7:00pm CFC - FFL Unbound (Church Basement)
- Sun. Nov. 30:** 2:30pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining)
 3:00pm Baptisms (Church)
 5:00pm Youth & Young Adults Mass (Church)

PARISH NEWS

ST. MARY'S CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR & PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Sunday November 23: 8:30am - 3:00pm. Start your day with pancake breakfast in the school gym, shop for gifts, knick knacks and more. Relax and enjoy yourself as you mingle with fellow parishioners and neighbourhood friends. Lunch will also be served. If you are attending the 100th anniversary Archdiocesan Mass, be sure to attend this popular annual event before heading to G.M. Place. Tables are still available to crafters: \$15 each or two tables for \$25. Contact John at 604-433-0884



CHRISTMAS CARDS AND CAKE SALE

This weekend, **November 22/23**, our Respect Life Group will be selling beautiful Christmas cards and delicious Christmas cakes in the Church foyer. Shop early for a good selection and support the good works this parish ministry does



NEW TIME FOR MOTHER'S BIBLE SHARING

Beginning **Friday November 28**, **Bible Sharing for Mothers** will be moving to a **new time of 9:00am**. Come and join us in the **rectory basement** for weekly group discussions and coffee.



Please enter through the front door, not the back stairwell.

DOES GOD REALLY LISTEN?

Having returned from Florida, where she received prayer and confirmation from Sr. Briege McKenna and Fr. Kevin Scallon for her ministry, Jacqueline Loh will present a topic on **Friday November 28 beginning at 7:40pm in St. Mary's church**. Entitled Does God really listen?, the discussion will be on *how to pray effectively and how to receive and increase the Grace of Faith*. Immediately following, there will be prayers for healing. Please go to <http://www.gracethatreigns.com> for more information. A love offering will be asked. Her ministry has been approved by the Archdiocese of Vancouver.



"LIGHT UP FOR CHRISTMAS"

St. Mary's welcomes all parishioners and families to celebrate its annual **"Light Up For Christmas" on November 29** at the conclusion of the 5:00pm Saturday Mass. We will be lighting up our Christmas Tree and Billboard sign - "Keep Christ in Christmas" courtesy of Knights of Columbus, St. Mary's Council 13072 The Knights of Columbus will distribute an Advent Wreath Prayer Card. Don't miss this "Enlightening" Christmas Spirit activity! **A thought:** How will you keep Christ in Christmas this year?



PARISH NEWS

HELP LIGHT UP THE ADVENT WREATH

At each Saturday evening and at all Sunday masses during the season of Advent, we invite a family to process in with the altar servers and priests and to light the Advent wreath candle(s) for that Sunday.



This family represents all those present in the congregation. In order to provide an opportunity for a wide variety of families to be involved, there is a sign-up sheet in the foyer. Please give a contact name and telephone number.

BENEFIT CONCERT FOR TALITHA KOUM HOUSE

On **Saturday November 29, 2008 at 7:30pm in St. Mary's Church**, come and enjoy Christmas



music as well as traditional and popular tunes arranged for four-part a cappella harmony. **The Gentlemen of Fortune**, an award winning male barbershop harmony chorus have performed here for the last two years and have been very well received. Don't miss this chance to enjoy great music at this concert which supports the women recovering at Talitha Koum House. Tickets: call Denece at 604-985-4872, or, from the volunteers in the foyer after Mass.

FREEDOM

St Mary's Parish is hosting an evening of Reconciliation on **Friday, December 5**. The evening will begin with Mass at 7:00pm followed by Praise & Worship, Testimony, Adoration, and Reconciliation. There will be 6 - 8 priests available to hear confessions. We would like to encourage parish wide participation in this event in an effort to fulfill an objective of our parish goals: *"To challenge each individual to encounter and embrace Christ in their personal lives."* Please come and embrace the power and grace of the Holy Spirit. Benediction could be delayed from the usual 9:15pm until about 9:45pm - - depending on when the confessions are finished.



YOUNG ADULTS (AGES 18+) MULTICULTURAL NIGHT

Saturday December 6 evening -- exact time to be determined. This month's theme is Italy. Cost: approximately \$15. Stay tuned for all the important details in next week's bulletin

ST MARY'S CHRISTMAS LUNCH FOR SENIORS

On **Saturday December 13** a special Christmas Luncheon will be hosted in honor of all our St. Mary's Seniors (65 years and above) **by reservation only**. Lunch will be served at approximately 1:00 in the school gym following the 11:30am Mass of Anointing. Reservations: call John (604-433-0884) or Margherita in the Parish Office (604-435-9611 ext #3)



DIOCESAN/ COMMUNITY NEWS

MASS FOR DECEASED BISHOPS, PRIESTS AND RELIGIOUS

Annual Mass for deceased bishops, priests and religious will be at **Holy Rosary Cathedral, November 26 at 12:00noon**. All are welcome to this special liturgy, to be concelebrated by the priests of the Archdiocese. Pray for those who have laboured for the Church in Vancouver and pray that the Lord will send dedicated men and women to continue their work.

MORNINGS OF RECOLLECTION

Madonna House continues the Morning of Recollection with a gathering on **Saturday December 6 from 9:30am - noon**. Please join us. Bring bible and rosary to 5450 Trafalgar St Vanc

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS—ARCHDIOCESE OF VANCOUVER

Saturday, Dec 13 at 8:00pm: Handel's Messiah at the Vancouver Orpheum Theatre, a special celebratory performance with the Vancouver Chamber Choir. Seating is limited! Costs are: \$45 for Lower Balcony seats and \$36 for Upper Balcony seats. (These prices are reduced from the regular public rate)

'Traditions of Faith and Service' -- the first ever popular history book (200 pages) published about the Archdiocese of Vancouver, written by historian Dr. Jacqueline Gresko. It covers the Archdiocese as a whole, as well as individual parishes. Cost is \$39.00 (tax included)

Order books and reserve tickets for Handel's Messiah through Margherita in the parish office or Nahtie at nvcaro@shaw.ca

THE PATRICK WEBB ESSAY CONTEST

This competition is open to secondary school students between grade 9 and 12. There are two different topics to choose from. First prize is \$300 and second prize is \$200. For more information please contact Arda at 604-435-9611 extension #6.

MONTH OF HOLY SOULS

In November, the Church reminds us of our duty to pray for the dead. It is good to recall the meaning of Christian death as expressed in the rites of Christian burial. The Bishops of BC have issued guidelines to explain the Church's mind on the subject of funerals. You can access them at: www.rcav.bc.ca

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Superintendent's Office of the Catholic Independent Schools of Vancouver is seeking a full time person to work in our Catholic faith based office. The ideal candidate will be able to efficiently multi-task, be a good communicator, have advanced skills in Microsoft Office Suite, be conformable in a small, fast-paced office. Working knowledge of business technology is an asset. Info: www/csva/bc/ca. Fulltime begins ASAP

PARISH INFORMATION

MASSES

Monday & 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: 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
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: Fr. Mark Hoo, O.P.
Youth Ministry/Volunteer Coordinator: Arda Akoglu
Parish Secretary: Margherita Bordignon