

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH



SUNDAY AUG 23: 21ST SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

1:00pm Light of Jesus (School Gym)

MONDAY AUG 24: ST. BARTHOLEMEW

6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)

TUESDAY AUG 25:

7:30pm Ablaze Charismatic Prayer Group (Church basement)

WEDNESDAY AUG 26:

7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)

9:00pm Benediction (Church)

THURSDAY AUG 27: ST. MONICA

7:00pm Mass/Adoration (Church)

7:00pm CFC (School Gym)

9:00pm Benediction (Church)

FRIDAY AUG 28: ST. AUGUSTINE

7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)

7:40pm Healing Ministry (Crying Room)

9:00pm Benediction (Church)

SATURDAY AUG 29: PASSION OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

10:00am Handmaids of the Lord (Seminar Room)

10:00am YM Basketball (School Gym)

2:30pm Baptism (Church)

3:00pm Legion of Mary (Rectory library)

7:00pm CFC (School Gym)

SUNDAY AUG 30: 22ND SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

1:00pm Light of Jesus (School Gym)

1:00pm Migrant Ministry (Seminar Room)

1:00pm CFC-YFL (Church basement)

PARISH INFORMATION

WEEKDAY MORNING MASS: Monday - Friday: 8am

Weekday Morning Rosary 7am / Weekday Morning Lauds 7:30am

WEEKDAY EVENING MASS: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 7pm
followed by Adoration at 7:45pm & Benediction at 9pm

SATURDAY MASS: Our Lady's Mass 8:30am

SUNDAY MASS: Anticipated Mass Saturday 5pm

Sunday: 8am / 9:30am / 11:15am / 1pm / 3pm (**Tagalog**) / 5pm / 7pm

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP:

Wednesday 6pm

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL:

Thursday: 7:20am & Saturday: 8am

DIVINE MERCY: Friday 3pm & 6:15pm

FIRST FRIDAY: Adoration from 9am-9pm

CONFESSION:

Weekdays: After all Masses (except Thursday Evening Mass)

Saturday: 9am-9:30am, 4:15pm- 4:55pm, 6:10pm- 7pm

Sunday: Before & After all Masses

An appointment for confession may be made through the Parish Office

HOLY COMMUNION: Available to shut-ins. Contact Parish Office.

BAPTISM: To register your child, see website or contact Parish Office.

MARRIAGE: One of the couple must be Catholic and a parishioner of St. Mary's Parish before requesting the sacrament of marriage. Email the Parish Office: parish.smarv@rcav.org **at least six months prior** to the wedding date to register for the required diocesan Marriage Preparation Course.

RCIA: Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults.

Coordinator: Edwin Cruz Email:rcia.smarv@rcav.org

PREP/TEEN PREP: Catechism for children attending public schools on Tuesdays or Wednesdays 6:30pm-8pm / Teen Prep Tuesdays only

Coordinator: Edwin Cruz E-mail: prep.smarv@rcav.org

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY: Coordinator: Rocelyn Catris

Email: youth.smarv@rcav.org

ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal: Ms. Brenda Krivuzoff Website: www.stmary.bc.ca

Phone: (604) 437-1312 Fax: (604) 437-1193

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Monday to Friday: 8:45am to 5pm

Phone: (604) 435-9611 Fax: (604) 439-9413

E-mail: parish.smarv@rcav.org Website: www.stmarysvancouver.ca

PASTORS & STAFF

Pastor: Fr. Pierre Leblond, O.P. (ext. 6)

Assistant Pastor: Fr. Gabriel de Chadarévian, O.P. (ext. 3)

Pastoral Assistant: Vesna Jankovic (ext. 6)

Finance & Property Manager: Ossie Fernandes (ext. 7)

Youth & Young Adult Ministry: Rocelyn Catris (ext. 247)

RCIA/PREP Coordinator: Edwin Cruz (ext. 5)

Reception: Theresa De Ocampo (ext. 0)



ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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AUG 23, 2015

**Pastor's
Corner**

"HE IS HERE!" (St. John Vianney at the Mass)

As a young student in theology, long ago, I was having a hard time accepting that Jesus Christ is completely present in the Eucharist: body and soul, humanity and divinity. I wished that the priest giving communion during the Mass would say to me "The Person of Jesus Christ," or "The Divine Soul of Christ," but not "The Body of Christ." The insistence on the "Body" was shocking to me. I had a hard time to answer the priest "Amen" meaning yes. Are you scandalized? Well, the friends of Jesus abandoned Him in today's Gospel (John 6:53, 60-69) when He told them that "unless they eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, they have no life in them" (verse 53.) "Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him." (verse 66) Jesus doesn't back off. He insists that He doesn't speak symbolically. His flesh is "true food and true drink" (verse 55 of last week's Gospel.) Jesus would rather let His twelve apostles go away than soften His teachings.

"So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" In other words, take it or leave it. There is no wiggle room here. No compromise. Yes or no as in the first reading of this Sunday Mass.

Now, I have come to believe that Jesus is truly present, in the Eucharistic bread and wine, body, soul, humanity, divinity. Here are some of the steps that I went through, in order to confess the faith. 1) First, I realized that the Body of Jesus that is present in the transubstantiated bread is the Risen Body of Jesus. It is the body that, by the grace of God the Father, has been suffused by the Holy Spirit as much as can possibly be for God, yet preserving the true humanity and the true divinity of Jesus. Paul speaks of a "spiritual body," a body that has both the characteristics of the flesh (The Risen Christ can still eat, and be touched after His Resurrection) and the characteristics of the Spirit (Christ's Body can be present, everywhere at the same time, on all the

Pastor's Corner Continued...

Pastor's Corner Continued...

altars of the world. Only God can have that privilege; even the angels don't have it.) Before His Resurrection, Christ could not give His blood to drink or His flesh to eat, that would have been cannibalism and He would have died of it before His Passion. Even on Holy Saturday, He could not have His disciples eat His dead body in the tomb, that would have been necrophagy, a very serious crime. Only when His Body is raised up and transformed, can He give Himself, body, soul, and divinity. A spiritual reality can give itself completely to another person without being annihilated. A Risen Body, like the one we will have, is no less real than a physical body, it is more real.

2) The second step towards a greater understanding and acceptance of the Real Presence, came for me when I realized that I had not fully accepted the Incarnation of God in the flesh. "The Word was God, and the Word became flesh. Through Him, everything came into being." (John's prologue.) My faith was falsely mystical and not incarnational. I came to know and understand that in Jesus Christ there is one Divine Person, the Word or the Second Person of the Trinity, united to two natures, who remain fully themselves without diminution or alteration, the divine nature and the human nature. Christ's body is not just an artificial covering of His Divinity. His Body is in the very circle of the Trinity, FOREVER! His Body, united to His Divinity is our unique and indispensable access to His very Person and to the Father and the Spirit. There is no other way to an intimate relationship with God, for each one of us and for all humankind as a whole. In the Risen Body of Jesus, the mystical marriage between Humanity and God is already accomplished. We have to participate in Jesus Christ, through His Risen Body if we want to be united with Him.

3) Finally, Jesus Christ who is the Word made flesh, who created the Universe by His Word, can, by His words, change the bread and wine into His Flesh and Blood. His words are creative. They don't just describe what is already there. They create. "Come out, Lazarus. And the dead man came out," walking to answer His call. Jesus re-created the life of Lazarus. At every Mass, Jesus says, "This is my Body." He cannot lie.

May you treasure the Eucharistic Presence, and realize its effects every moment of your life.

God bless you, Fr. Pierre

PARISH NEWS

R.C.I.A. ACCEPTING INQUIRERS

Are you an adult who would like to join the Catholic Church? Perhaps you are a baptized Catholic, but lack the Sacrament of First Communion or Confirmation. Maybe you just would like to learn more about the Catholic faith and what the Church teaches. Welcome to RCIA! We start in early September and are taking registrations now. Please contact rcia.smarv@rcav.org.

MIGRANT MINISTRY

St. Mary's Migrant Ministry and ISSofBC are hosting a very interesting workshop on Sunday August 23 in the School Seminar room from 1-3pm. The topic, "Changes to the Canadian Citizenship Act" will be presented by Tim Bailey, an immigration and refugee lawyer. Learn about new residency requirements, eligibility, required documents and the impact of the changes to future Canadian citizens. Register with Lenn Castro at stmarysmigrant@gmail.com or Chit Arma at resochoita.arma@issbc.org or 604-684-7498 ext 1666.

SENIOR YOUTH BASKETBALL

Basketball is open for grades 8-12 on Saturday, Aug 29 from 10am-12pm in the School Gym.

CAMP FLAME: RANSOMED (GR.9-12)

Have you been hurt before? Most of us, if not all, certainly have been. Perhaps you or someone you know could benefit from receiving healing through this upcoming retreat on Sept 25-27 in Camp Capilano, North Vancouver. Space is limited, so reserve early. For info, contact Rocelyn at 604-435-9611 ext.247 or email youth.smarv@rcav.org.

YOUTH MASS USHERS (GR. 6-ADULT)

Are you looking for an opportunity to serve at Mass? Are you a youth or young adult? The Sunday 5pm Youth Mass is accepting new ushers who would like to grow in their faith through service. If you are interested or would like to learn more about the position please contact samuelfarinas@gmail.com or 604-441-2314.

PARISHIONER INFORMATION

Please remember to notify the parish office of change in address and/or phone number at reception.smarv@rcav.bc.ca.

PARISH NEWS

BIBLE STUDY

On September 9, we will begin the acclaimed Bible study series called The Footprints of God. "Unlike any video or film series ever made", this presentation "explores more than 2000 years of Jewish and Christian history." Author Steve Ray will take you to actual Bible locations, combining spectacular cinematography, solid Catholic teaching, and his unique, enthusiastic style in a lively travel documentary format that makes difficult concepts easy to understand. Join us every Wednesday at 6:30pm in the Church basement. Free, including study guides! The schedule is posted on the bulletin board in the foyer.

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

ARCHDIOCESAN SUMMER INSTITUTE

One-day courses include: Basics of the Faith, Overview of the Liturgy, Leadership Skills for Ministry. Training is also offered for music ministry, lectors, ushers, PREP, LWC, RCIA. Saturday Aug. 29 from 10-4pm at Holy Cross Secondary, Surrey. Cost \$35 includes lunch. Register at rcav.org/oc-summer/ or call 604-683-0281.

MARIAN PILGRIMAGE

Marian Pilgrimage to the Grotto in Portland Sept. 4-6, 2015. Price per person: \$399.00. Call Teresita 604-868-2354 or email: aquinas@telus.net.

CHARISMATIC HEALING CONFERENCE

The annual Catholic Charismatic Healing Conference will be on Friday Sep 18 and Saturday Sep 19 at the Chandos Pattison Auditorium, Surrey. Conference and bus tickets (to the conference) are both available at \$10 each in the parish office during office hours.

ARCHDIOCESAN VOCATIONS FAIR

Join us on Sunday, Sept. 20 from 1-5pm at St. Patrick's Parish Hall, Vancouver for an Archdiocesan Vocations Fair. With 54 religious orders currently serving in the Archdiocese of Vancouver, this is a great opportunity to learn more about the work they do. Come celebrate the many different religious orders in the diocese, both men and women, followed by Mass in the Church celebrated by Archbishop Miller. Visit vocationsvancouver.ca for more details.