

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

SUNDAY DEC 13: 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

1:00pm CFC-YFL (Rectory Dining)
1:00pm Light of Jesus (School Gym)
1:00pm Migrant Ministry (Seminar Room)

MONDAY DEC 14: ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS

6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
6:30pm Youth Ministry (Church basement)

TUESDAY DEC 15:

6:00pm Baptism Prep (Church)
7:00pm Christian Meditation (Rectory basement)
7:00pm CCO Faith Study (Rectory Library)
7:00pm CWL (School Gym)
7:30pm Ablaze Charismatic Prayer Group (Church basement)

WEDNESDAY DEC 16:

6:00am Simbang Gabi (Church)
6:30pm Bible Study (Church basement)
7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)

THURSDAY DEC 17:

6:00am Simbang Gabi (Church)
6:30pm Knights of Columbus (Church basement)
7:00pm Mass/Adoration (Church)
7:00pm RCIA (Seminar Room)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)

FRIDAY DEC 18:

6:00am Simbang Gabi (Church)
7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)

SATURDAY DEC 19:

6:00am Simbang Gabi (Church)
10:00am YM Basketball (School Gym)
1:00pm Youth Ministry (Church basement)
1:00pm Migrant Ministry (Seminar Room)
1:30pm CFC Youth (School Gym)
2:30pm Baptism (Church)
3:00pm Legion of Mary (Rectory Library)

SUNDAY DEC 20: 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

6:00am Simbang Gabi (Church)
12:00pm Migrant Ministry (School Gym)

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

5251 Joyce Street

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email: parish.smarv@rcav.org

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DEC 13, 2015

**Pastor's
Corner**

WHATEVER GOD ASKS OF YOU IS FOR YOUR JOY!

Some research indicates that the emotional diseases or dysfunctions that affect our happiness can be grouped under three categories: 1) hostility or anger, resentment 2) guilt 3) anxiety and/or depression. This research also indicates that if you heal 1) and 2) -hostility and guilt - anxiety and/or depression will go away by itself. See Fr. John Hampsch DVD's on Healing of Memories. (This may not work for heavy depression resulting from chemical imbalance. Sometimes medication is necessary.)

So how do you get rid of 1) hostility or resentment? By forgiving those who have hurt you! There is no other way, and the more serious the hurt, the more the need for forgiveness. Some parents of murdered children found peace only after forgiving the one who killed them. Now forgiveness isn't the same as reconciliation which is good, but it's more about letting God do justice when He wants it and the way He wants it. But at some point, to have peace and joy, those who have been hurt must begin to love again. Yes, even those who have hurt them a lot. They don't have to love the wrong that was done (this they can hate) but they have to love the person that caused the hurt. How? Indirectly, by volunteering in a prison, helping criminals to recover. If they can do that, they will be able to forgive. They may never be able to say it to the one who killed their child but they will be able to let go... and find peace. Forgive, and do good to your enemies! And anger and hostility will stop poisoning your life. This is the advice of Christ.

What about getting rid of number 2) guilt? By asking forgiveness from God for our wrongdoings and wherever possible, asking forgiveness from those we have hurt. Yes confession! But that request of forgiveness, to become real, must be manifest in actions according to the golden rule of Jesus: "Do unto others what you would like them to do for you." Jesus says "Bless your enemies, pray for them, do

Pastor's Corner Continued...

Pastor's Corner Continued...

good for them. If they ask you for something, give them more!" Even if they don't forgive you after that, you will find peace anyway, and forgiveness from God. They may not become your friends again but you will have done whatever reparation you can. If, for example, you have committed an abortion, pray for your child in heaven, ask him forgiveness, and volunteer for a pro-life movement and give generously time, treasures and talents. Your guilt will go away.

Now without guilt and hostility, you will find joy and peace! Anxiety and depression wont ruin your life. How come? Because you will have fulfilled the Lord's Prayer "Forgive us (remove guilt) our trespasses as we forgive those who trespassed against us" (remove hostility and anger.) The Lord's Prayer contains all we need to do, to find joy, in its seven petitions. Jesus has designed this prayer so as to remove all obstacles that prevent us from sharing His very Divine Life and likeness, He who is Love, Joy and Peace.

Why did Jesus come down to earth? "So that we may have joy, and have it to the fullest. So that we may have peace." He said "So that my joy, my peace, my life be in you, and may be complete." Not just half-hearted pleasure, entertainment, and glitter of this world.

So if you don't feel fulfilled, start thinking more about others. Do the good you can, even if it seems so little, and not good enough. Learn by what you do, that your life is not about you. Pursue the good and the salvation of others and you will find the goodness of God and your salvation. Help others become happy saints and you will become one in the process. It's God's promise!

God's whole business and life is about joy. He is 3 Persons in Love, each constantly forgetting self to love the others—and we are to become like Him.

God bless you, Fr. Pierre



PARISH NEWS

FOOTPRINTS OF GOD BIBLE STUDY

Topic on Wednesday, Dec 16: Mary: The Mother of God - Chapter 4 "The Queen of Heaven" (*The Church's dogmas and teachings on Mary*). Please note that Dec 16 is the last session of 2015. Bible Study will resume on Jan 6, 2016.

THE ANNUAL GIVING CHRISTMAS TREE

St. Vincent de Paul Society is coordinating a Giving Tree this Christmas. The branches are covered with angelic gift tags and you may select one or more. This will indicate your commitment to purchase a gift(s) for a child aged 5-16 years old. No baby or toddler items please. Please bring the unwrapped gift(s) and place it under the tree up to Dec 20. We will then distribute them to children who would otherwise be without gifts at Christmas. Thank you for your generosity.

KEEP THE HOMELESS WARM

St. Mary's Street Ministry and St. Vincent de Paul Society are collecting donations of new winter gloves, hats, scarves, thermal pants/socks and slightly used winter jackets for the homeless. Since 9 out of 10 homeless are men, we are asking for donations more for men than women. Donations can be dropped off in the big box in the foyer. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

A SPECIAL INVITATION

If you are a civilly-married couple or in a common law arrangement, we extend a special invitation to solemnize your union in a multi-couple Catholic church wedding on October 15, 2016. There will be an information session on January 14, 2016 at 7pm in the church basement. Pre-registration is required; forms are available in the Church foyer or at the Parish Office. Please deposit completed forms in the Project Cana box in the foyer. For more info, please call 604-435-9611 ext. 5 or email ec.projectcana@gmail.com.

PROJECT ADVANCE

Total pledges to date are \$127,491 or 64% of our parish goal. You have until Dec 31 to donate in order to claim the 2015 tax credit. You may donate after Mass in the foyer by debit or credit, or online at www.rcav.org/giving. Thank you for your generosity and support!

PARISH NEWS

FEED THE POOR

Filipino foods such as pancit, puto, cuchinta, bibingka, turon, ensaymada, empanada and mixed nuts will be sold for \$5 per package after all Masses this weekend. Proceeds go to feed 1,000 poor during the Int'l Eucharistic Congress in January in the Philippines; with part proceeds to our Parish.

2016 ENVELOPES

The 2016 envelopes are ready for pick up in the Church basement. Envelopes are filed by last name. If any of the information on the envelopes is incorrect, please fill out the forms found in the Church basement with any corrections.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

SPARK (GR. 6-8) – POTLUCK CHRISTMAS PARTY

Youth and their family members are invited Monday Dec 14 from 6:30-8:15pm for a potluck Christmas Party in the Church basement. Youth are encouraged to attend even without their family members. Bring friends for added fun!

FLAME (GR. 8-12)– RECOLLECTION & POTLUCK PARTY

You and your high school friends are invited to remember the real reason for the season, to better understand Advent as a time of waiting, and to begin discovering more about Jesus. After the recollection, we will have a blast and a memorable Christmas celebration, Saturday Dec 19 from 1-6pm in the Church basement.

MALE ROLE MODELS NEEDED (18 & UP)

Youth Ministry is growing and needs male role models to guide, inspire and positively affect our youth. For more info, contact Rocelyn at 604-435-9611 ext.247 or email youth.smarv@rcav.org.

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

DEANERY PENITENTIAL SERVICES

Dec 14 @ 7pm: Our Lady of Sorrows 555 S. Slocan St. Van.
Dec 15 @ 7pm: Corpus Christi 6350 Nanaimo St. Van.
Dec 16 @ 7pm: Holy Cross 1450 Delta Ave. Bby.
Dec 17 @ 7pm: Our Lady of Fatima 1423 E. 13th Ave. Van.
Dec 18 @ 7pm: St. Jude's 3078 Renfrew St. Van.
Dec 21 @ 7pm: St. Helen's 3860 Triumph St. Bby.
Dec 22 @ 7pm: St. Mary's 5251 Joyce St. Van.