

## THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

### **SUNDAY FEB 21: 2ND SUNDAY OF LENT**

1:00pm CFC-YFL (Rectory dining)  
1:00pm Migrant Ministry (Seminar Room)

### **MONDAY FEB 22: CHAIR OF ST. PETER**

### **TUESDAY FEB 23:**

7:00pm Apologetics (Rectory Library)  
7:00pm Christian Meditation (Rectory basement)  
7:30pm Ablaze Charismatic Prayer Group (Church basement)

### **WEDNESDAY FEB 24:**

6:30pm Bible Study (Church basement)  
7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)  
7:00pm Building Committee (Rectory Dining)  
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room)  
9:00pm Benediction (Church)

### **THURSDAY FEB 25:**

7:00pm Mass/Adoration (Church)  
7:00pm RCIA (Seminar Room)  
9:00pm Benediction (Church)

### **FRIDAY FEB 26:**

6:00pm CFC-SFL (Seminar Room)  
6:00pm CFC-SFC (School Gym)  
6:30pm Stations of the Cross (Church)  
6:30pm Development & Peace (Rectory Dining)  
7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)  
7:00pm Holy Trinity Community (Rectory Library)  
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room)  
9:00pm Benediction (Church)

### **SATURDAY FEB 27:**

10:00am Handmaids of the Lord (Seminar Room)  
10:00am Youth Basketball (School Gym)  
1:30pm CFC Youth (School Gym)  
2:30pm Baptism (Church)  
2:30pm Youth Ministry (Rectory basement)  
3:00pm Legion of Mary (Rectory Library)  
7:00pm CFC (Church basement)  
7:00pm CFC-FFL (School Gym)  
7:00pm Taize/Adoration (Church)

### **SUNDAY FEB 28: 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT**

10:00am Young Adults (Rectory Dining)  
1:00pm CFC-YFL (Rectory dining)  
1:00pm Light of Jesus (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**

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**FEB 21, 2016**

*Pastor's  
Corner*

## FROM JESUS TO EINSTEIN AND BACK

"The most beautiful thing we can experience is the mysterious. It is the fundamental emotion that stands at the cradle of true art and true science. He who does not know it and can no longer wonder, no longer feel amazement, is as good as dead, a snuffed-out candle. It was the experience of mystery... that engendered religion. A knowledge of the existence of something we cannot penetrate, our perceptions of the profoundest reason and the most radiant beauty, which only in their most primitive forms are accessible to our minds – it is this knowledge and this emotion that constitute true religiosity; in this sense, and in this alone, I am a deeply religious man." (Albert Einstein)

I am convinced that all of us had or will have one or many of these deep spiritual experiences of wonder. But we are so busy with practical things to do that we don't give these experiences the credit and the time they deserve. As a result our faith becomes dry, the Mass becomes boring, prayer almost impossible. We need to reconnect these moments of wonder when we sense that reality is more beautiful than we thought, we need to reconnect these moments with the God that is in the Church, in the tabernacle, or the monstrance, or in the hands of the priest at the Consecration, and in your hands when you receive Communion.

How can we describe these moments of deep religious experiences? Bishop Barron said they are experiences of spiritual "things" within the ordinary, in and through the ordinary, and a keen conviction that the spiritual reality is far greater and far more beautiful than ordinary experiences. We don't need to be Einstein to have these experiences. Einstein got them not so much because of his powerful mind, but because he was so childlike, and so free. Sometimes, in nature, at sea, on the mountain, you will have a glimpse of the One who must be behind all this beauty. Or it can be in

*Pastor's Corner Continued...*

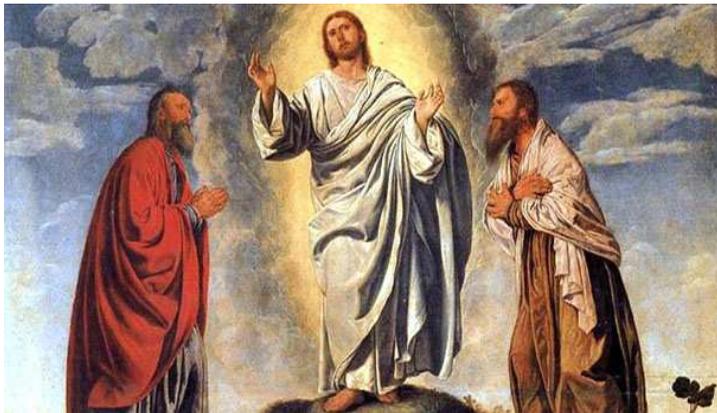
*Pastor's Corner Continued...*

relationship = the experience of being loved and forgiven unconditionally, by another human being, and/or by God Himself. You get a glimpse of yourself as God sees you! It can even happen while you are going through a life-threatening disease, as I did about 3 years ago. Recently I met a person who had gone through a similar experience at the same time. Indeed my I.C.U. room No. 1 had become a sacred place and still is for me today. The effects of that experience are still enduring today. It is a new attitude towards life. I am now more detached from the things of this world, but at the same time I can enjoy more fully. Because I don't cling to them, I can truly love them.

With this in mind, I invite you to read today's Gospel of the Transfiguration. Peter, James and John saw the divinity of Jesus shining in and through His humanity. And St. Paul says in the second reading that God will conform our mortal bodies to the body of His glory. "We shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is." (1 John 3:2)

*God bless you, Fr. Pierre*

Einstein had a deep experience of the beauty beyond the world even while enjoying sailing with his stepdaughter on Saranac Lake in New York State. "*When one was with him on the sailboat, you felt him as an element (of nature). He had something so natural and strong in him because he was himself a piece of nature... He sailed like Odysseus*" (Margot Einstein)



## PARISH NEWS

### FOOTPRINTS OF GOD BIBLE STUDY

Topic on Wednesday Feb 24: Peter: Keeper of the Keys - Chapter 3 "The Kingdom & The Keys" (*Peter, Jesus' Royal Steward, begins leading the Church*). Ongoing Bible Study every Wednesday from 6:30pm to 8pm in the church basement. Start at any session; prior attendance not required. Free, including study guides!

### CHRISTIAN LIFE PROGRAM (CLP)

We invite all married couples, singles, divorced, separated, widows/widowers to a Christian Life Program sponsored by Couples for Christ on Saturday Feb 27 at 7:30pm in the church basement. CLP is an integrated course on the basics of Christianity leading to a renewed understanding of God's call to us as Christians. Refreshments served, no fees. Bring your children to join the Kids for Christ CLP. Info: George/Susan 778-668-7422, Ricky/Rocky 778-855-0398 or email gpader1956@yahoo.ca.

### PSALM 98/FR. ROB GALEA—PHOTO SHOOT

The concert fundraiser for Fr. Rob Galea will be held on Saturday Mar 5 in the Church from 7-9pm. We are creating a souvenir program that will include photos of parishioners and organizations. Your contribution of \$60 will buy a half page, or \$120 for a full page cover. All donations will receive a tax receipt, and photo shoots are complimentary. Photo shoots are in the Church basement after all weekend Masses throughout the month of February.

### ADORATION WITH TAIZE MUSIC

Please join us in Adoration to pray for an end to sex trafficking, the street people, our volunteers and loved ones, on Saturday Feb 27 from 7-8pm in the Church.

### CATHOLIC FORUM

In this Catholic Forum, Paul Ungar MD, PhD, a theologian and registered psychologist with 45 years experience, will discuss why and how to accept death and forms of grief and bereavement. Come with your questions and bring a friend on Tuesday Mar 1 at 7pm in the Church. By donation. For additional info, visit [www.dominicanlaity.ca/forum](http://www.dominicanlaity.ca/forum) or contact Dr. Paul Ungar at 604-588-5696 or Cathy Neugebauer at [ve7cld@shaw.ca](mailto:ve7cld@shaw.ca).

## PARISH NEWS

### PARISH LENTEN RETREAT MARCH 14-16

Everyone is called to receive the mercy of the Father through a personal relationship with Christ. During this Lenten retreat, Andre Regnier will lead us through an encounter with the person of Jesus Christ, drawing us into a personal relationship where we can embrace the mercy that is offered to us. Andre Regnier is the founder of Catholic Christian Outreach which has been established on campuses across Canada and internationally. The retreat will take place in the Church, everyone is welcome!

**Mar 14-16 (Morning/Evening sessions are the same)**  
**8am Mass followed by Retreat Talk**  
**7pm Mass followed by Retreat Talk**

### HUNGER MEAL

In solidarity with our brothers and sisters around the world who suffer from hunger, please join us for a Hunger Meal of rice soup and toast in the Church basement next weekend Feb 26/27. Donations go to Development and Peace Share Lent.

### SPARK (GR.6-8) – POTLUCK FAMILY NIGHT

Come join a post-holiday celebration on Mon Feb 22 from 6:30-8:15pm in the Church basement. Have fun with family members and friends of all ages. If family members can't join, youth are still welcome to join!

### YOUNG ADULTS (Ages 18-39) – MONTHLY ROSARY

Every last Sunday of the month, young adults gather to pray the Rosary at 10:30am in the Rectory Dining room. This is followed by a social until 12:30pm. Get to know your peers and join in prayer on Sun Feb 28. Please access through the back door, near the school bus.

### 40 DAYS FOR LIFE MID-WAY RALLY

Take a stand for life on Sun Feb 28 from 2-4pm outside BC Women's Health Center (W 29th Ave @ Heather St). Let us pray for an end to abortion in our city and beyond. Everyone is invited! If you would like to be with a group, please come to the Parish Office at 1pm. Minors will need a permission form available on the Youth Ministry bulletin board, Parish Office or at <https://goo.gl/pPHg6l>.