

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

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)

MONDAY FEB 29:

TUESDAY MAR 1:

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

WEDNESDAY MAR 2:

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

THURSDAY MAR 3:

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

FRIDAY MAR 4:

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

SATURDAY MAR 5:

9:00am 2000 Hail Mary (Rectory dining)
10:00am Handmaids of the Lord (Seminar Room)
10:00am Youth Basketball (School Gym)
3:00pm Legion of Mary (Rectory Library)
3:00pm CFC-FFL (School Gym)
7:00pm Fr Rob Galea Concert (Church)

SUNDAY MAR 6: 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

9:00am Fundraising breakfast (Church basement)
1:00pm Migrant Ministry (Seminar Room)
1:30pm CFC (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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FEB 28, 2016

*Pastor's
Corner*

RESISTING LOVE?

Why do I keep repeating the same sins over and over again, even when I confess them often? Is there something I am missing? Yes. It's likely that I am missing true repentance; Jesus speaks a lot about repenting. Two times in today's Gospel, Jesus says "Unless you repent, you will all perish as they did." (Luke 13: 3 and 5) Jesus didn't teach about having long examinations of conscience. He wasn't obsessed with us needing to get a squeaky clean slate each time we confess. Pope Francis said going to confession is not like going to the dry cleaner and coming back with clean laundry for a small price, ready to get it dirty again within a week.

Obviously there is a lot of misunderstanding about repentance and confession. Repentance is not about feeling sorry for ourselves; it's not being hurt because I didn't meet my expectations about myself; that is coming from pride. Repentance is sorrow, not turned on myself, but turned toward God. It's an awareness that God is so good that he wants me to be fully alive. Yet I keep resisting Him, I am afraid of Him. I am called to be like the burning bush of Moses: illumined by the fire of God's love yet not destroyed. Not consumed by it! But I keep showing my selfish, destructive ways. St. Gregory of Narek who died in the year 1003, a Doctor of the Church, an Armenian monk, expresses beautifully what repentance is. We can all identify with him and in what he says. (quote from Magnificat, February 2016, pages 407-408)

Repentance

And although on many occasions you attempted
to draw me to you by reaching out your helping hand,
I rejected it, as the prophet accused Israel.

And although I promised and made a covenant

Pastor's Corner Continued...

to please you, I did not keep it,
but again perverted it into something evil.
Reverting to my old ways,
I sowed the field of my heart with thorns of
sin for a harvest of dissension.
The words of the God-fearing holy prophet apply to me,
for you expected grapes but instead I sprouted thorns.
I became an unappetizing fruit of bitterness,
outcast from the garden.
Swaying violently in unsteady winds,
always blowing to and fro, I wavered.
Like the voice of blessed Job,
I followed my path of no return.
I built my house upon the sands in foolishness.
Misled by the broad gate,
I missed the narrow gate to life.
I closed myself off from the pilgrimage of exodus.
I spitefully uncovered the abyss of destruction.
I blocked my hearing against your teaching of life.
I covered the eyes of my soul against the cure of life.
I did not recoil from the wasting of the mind from torpor,
in spite of your trumpet of wrath.
I was not sobered by the reports of the fiery trial,
on the day of judgment.
I did not awaken from the slumber of mortal sleep.
I did not give comfort to your Holy Spirit in my
bodily tabernacle.
I did not inhale the allotment of grace you granted me.
With my own hand I wreaked havoc,
in the words of the proverb teller, killing my living soul.
And what is the use of composing these meager and
paltry verses in my state of remorse which passes
all measure and evades all cure?
Now it is up to you to offer life to my dead soul
and without vengeance to visit me, a condemned prisoner,
O Son of the Living God, to you be all glory.
Amen.

God bless you, Fr. Pierre

PARISH NEWS

FOOTPRINTS OF GOD BIBLE STUDY

Topic on Wednesday Mar 2: Peter: Keeper of the Keys - Chapter 4 "The Authority of the Chair" (*The Chair of Peter is the sign of the Pope's unique authority*). Ongoing Bible Study every Wednesday from 6:30-8pm in the Church basement. Start at any session; prior attendance not required. Free, including study guides!

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 or contact Dr. Paul Ungar at 604-588-5696 or Cathy Neugebauer at ve7cld@shaw.ca.

SPARK (GR. 6-8) - NEXT EVENT

Please note that there is no Spark event on Feb 29.

FR. ROB GALEA CONCERT

Join us for an evening concert with Fr Rob Galea and Psalm Ninety Eight Music Ministry. Fr. Galea is an ordained Catholic priest serving in Sandhurst Diocese in Australia. He has also written a number of songs for various campaigns and international conferences. Saturday Mar 5 at 7pm in the Church. Cost: \$15. Tickets on sale after Mass.

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

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

For the 50th anniversary of Development and Peace, Archbishop Miller will celebrate mass at Holy Rosary Cathedral on Monday Feb 29 at 4:50pm. Reception and light refreshments to follow at the Holy Rosary Parish Hall. Everyone welcome.

PROTESTANT AND CATHOLIC DISCOVERY

There will be a Catholic/Evangelical Conversation on Tuesday Mar 1 from 7-9pm at Coastal Church, 1160 West Georgia St. Vancouver. This will be a relaxed, respectful and joyful conversation and will help us grow together in faith, love and service as valued members of the Body of Christ.

ONE CONFERENCE 2016

The theme for this year's ONE Conference is In the Father's Mercy. Angèle Regnier will speak on how mercy leads to freedom. Ken Yasinski will inspire us to open ourselves to the eternal mercy of God, and take practical steps towards our full potential in life- to be a saint. Gwendoline Allison will challenge us to be of service to those in need. Join us Saturday Mar 5, from 9am-5:30pm. Tickets available at the Parish Office or at rcav.org/one.

LENTEN RETREAT: THE NAME OF GOD IS MERCY

Join retreat director Catherine M. Kelly, M.Div., as we explore Pope Francis' invitation to encounter the Mercy of God. Saturday Mar 5 from 8:45am-4pm at St. Mark's Parish, Vancouver. Register <http://bit.ly/20M1gbV>.

VOCATION LIVE-IN FOR WOMEN

On the weekend of Mar 18-20, there will be a Monastic Life Workshop for ladies interested in the consecrated life at Westminster Abbey, Mission. More info 604-826-8975.

THEOLOGY OF THE BODY COURSE

Come and discover God's original design for us, our call to holiness, and our destiny with him in heaven, with Fr. Alan Boisclair, BA, MDiv, STL (Marriage and the Family). Register at rcav.org/TOB.

Apr 11-Jun 27 from 7-9:15pm at Canadian Martyrs
Apr 13-Jun 29 from 7-9:15pm at Holy Cross
Apr 12-Jun 28 from 7-9:15pm at John Paul II Pastoral Centre