

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

SUNDAY DEC 4: 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

1:00pm Migrant Ministry (Rectory Dining)
1:00pm Light of Jesus (Seminar Room)
1:00pm CFC (School Gym)
2:00pm Legion of Mary (Church Basement)

MONDAY DEC 5

5:00pm Youth Ministry (Church Basement)
6:30pm CWL Executive Meeting (Rectory Dining)
7:00pm Lay Apostles (Church)
7:00pm Apologetics for Parents (Rectory Living Room)

TUESDAY DEC 6: ST. NICHOLAS

9:15am Gr 3-6 Reconciliation - School (Church)
6:45pm PREP Advent Reconciliation (School Gym)
7:00pm Spanish Rosary (Church Children's Room)
7:00pm Christian Meditation (Rectory Basement)
7:30pm Ablaze Charismatic Prayer Group (Church)

WEDNESDAY DEC 7: ST. AMBROSE

5:00pm Lay Missionaries of Charity (Rectory Living Room)
6:45pm PREP Advent Reconciliation (School Gym)
6:45pm Bible Study (Church Basement)
7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)

THURSDAY DEC 8: IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BL VIRGIN MARY

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

FRIDAY DEC 9: ST. JUAN DIEGO CUAUHLATOATZIN

5:00pm Youth Ministry (Church Basement Library)
6:00pm CFC-SFL (Seminar Room)
7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)

SATURDAY DEC 10

8:00am Lay Missionaries of Charity (Church Basement)
11:00am Mass of Anointing (Church)
12:30pm Annual Seniors Lunch (School Gym)
2:00pm CFC-FFL (Rectory Basement)
3:00pm Legion of Mary (Rectory Living Room)
4:00pm Handmaids of the Lord (School Gym)
6:30pm CFC-FFL (Church Basement)

SUNDAY DEC 11: 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

1:00pm Migrant Ministry (Rectory Dining)
1:00pm Light of Jesus (Rectory Dining)
5:00pm Knights of Columbus (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 of the Blessed Sacrament 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 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 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

Coordinator: Edwin Cruz

E-mail: prep.smarv@rcav.org

Tuesdays or Wednesdays 6:30-8pm / Teen Prep Wednesdays only

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

PASTORS & STAFF

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

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

Assistant to the Pastors: Theresa De Ocampo (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: Marianne Peraro (ext. 0)

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

Ph:604-435-9611 Email:parish.smarv@rcav.org Web:www.stmarysvancouver.ca



ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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DEC 4, 2016

Pastor's Corner

STOP AND BREAK-IN

We were promised by the inventors of the new and advanced technology that we would have to work less and less and be able to have much family time, more personal fulfillment, more leisure. Instead, we are working more and more, especially in the affluent society who have access to the new technology and its gadgets. And the more we work, the more we need divertissement, distractions, entertainment to compensate for the frustrations of the workplace; we need to reward ourselves with more gadgets and clothing. We fall into the addictive "4 Ps" – power (or control), prestige (or popularity, honor), pleasure (sex, food, alcohol), and possessions (or all that money can buy).

As these "4 Ps" are addictive, never fully satisfying, unless at the service of a goal greater than ourselves, we need more and more of them and we need to work more to pay for them. We end up worrying about losing what we already have, because we are all competing for the same goods that are in limited quantities; and we worry that we cannot be among the top ten in the honor role, in the company (or church!) hierarchy; and we worry about the size of the bank account. So we try to escape by divertissement and distractions. All of these cost money and time and all that competition create a lot of people with low self-esteem, a lot of "war zones" within ourselves, within families, communities and nations. Then we try to avoid these sufferings and the deeper questions they raise about our priorities, our goal in life, and our values.

Our life trajectory resembles a lot like the trajectory of a rabbit, chased by a fox, zigzagging desperately. Like the rabbit, we quickly change directions to avoid the crosses and the sufferings all the time. We become like a ball in a pinball machine, trying to avoid the most damaging hits that would send us into the hole.

We need to stop and reassess our direction. That is what John the Baptist is requesting us to do in our Gospel. But the pre-Christmas season is not the best time to do that.

Pastor's Corner Continued...

Pastor's Corner Continued...

Because of the enticements of the shopping mall and all those pre-Christmas parties – where we may very well eat and drink too much, and our credit cards get overloaded!

What is the secret to be able to stop running like the scared rabbit? We need to find the “pearl of great price” in us. Yes! In us; under that crust of worries and self-centredness, there is a pearl to discover. We will if we break open that crust and reach inside. This is scary. But to overcome that fear, we have the Gospel and the Holy Spirit. They assure us that we will find inside us, the tremendous, unconditional love that God has for us, for each one of us, for you. If you renounce to see your life as your own personal project of self-satisfaction; and instead, you see your life as being at the service of what is greater than you – God and His purposes for you, then you will find your place in the world, in your communities and families. “Those who try to save (to possess) their lives in the world will lose it.” Those who accept to live their lives at the service of God and His purposes for them will find it.

You will discover more and more the necessity of your existence, that you are necessary for others and that your life answers a vital need. “You will be carried along to your proper place in this world by the force of love, of the God who is Love.” (free quotation of Cardinal Jean Daniélou taken from Magnificat Dec 2016). No matter what this place of yours might be, if it is what God wants for you, you will be joyful and free. Christ will be born anew. May God draw you to the place of rebirth.

Happy Advent! God bless you, Fr. Pierre

PARISH NEWS

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

This year won't be complete without a jolly night of faith, fun, and fellowship with God and one another this Monday, Dec 5 from 6:15-8:15pm in the Church basement. Please bring food to share and invite your friends for a night to remember!

SPARK (GR.6-8) - BURNABY VILLAGE MUSEUM

Join us for an outdoor trip to Burnaby Village Museum on Monday Dec 12 and experience some old-fashioned fun and spectacular light displays. Meeting time is at 5:30pm in front of St. Mary's School (return at 9:30pm). Permission forms and fee is required by Dec 5. Please contact Youth Ministry Office for info.

PARISH NEWS

FLAME (GR.8-12) - SINGING CHRISTMAS TREE

"SCT" is a very popular & well-established Vancouver tradition. Enjoy the performance and reflection on Sat, Dec 10 from 3-4:30pm in Broadway Church. Meeting time is at 1pm in front of St. Mary's School. Free tickets are limited, so please reserve by contacting youth.smarv@rcav.org or 604-435-9611 ext.247.

FLAME (GR.8-12) - CANCELLED EVENT :

There is no youth basketball or board games on Dec 10 .

LIVING ROSARY

In celebration of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, our parish will once again pray this special candlelight rosary. On Thursday Dec 8, there will be a mass at 7PM and the Living Rosary immediately follows. Jesus gave Mary to us, to be our own Mother! With our candles lit and our hearts surrendered, we come to Mary in this solemn night of prayer.

MASS OF ANOINTING

The Mass of Anointing is on Saturday December 10 at 11am. Everyone wishing to attend this Mass is welcome. However, St Mary's Seniors Christmas Lunch sign up has reached capacity last weekend and is now full. Those already signed up can attend the lunch at 12:30 in the school gym.

LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR CHILDREN

We are inviting all 4-11 year old children to come join us for the Liturgy of the Word for Children during the 11:15am mass starting on Dec 11. We request all parents to encourage their children to attend and understand the Word of God.

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE CELEBRATION

There will be a Mass on December 12 Monday at 7:30pm in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe. After Mass, we will pray the Holy Rosary with the mysteries of Guadalupe.

THE ANNUAL GIVING CHRISTMAS TREE

St. Vincent de Paul Society is coordinating a Giving Tree this Christmas. Please pick one or more angelic gift tags from the tree in the foyer. One tag represents your commitment to bring a gift/s for one child aged 5 to 16 years old. No baby or toddler items please. Please bring and place the unwrapped gifts under the tree on Dec 10&11 and Dec 17&18. We will then distribute them to children who would otherwise be without gifts at Christmas. Thank you again for your help.

PARISH NEWS

SIMBANG GABI (MASS AT DAWN)

It's that time of year again! Join SIMBANG GABI or MASS AT DAWN for 9 consecutive days, with Archbishop Miller celebrating on Dec 16. Also, if you are interested in sponsoring one of the Masses, please sign up your name and phone # in the foyer. Thank you! See you on Dec 16 to 24 at 6am.

BIBLE STUDY

Lust treats people like things and insults the love that they are due as human beings. On Wed Dec 7, Bishop Barron discusses the sin of Lust, and the conquering virtue of Chastity. Join the free study 7 Deadly Sins, 7 Lively Virtues, Wednesdays, 6:45pm.

MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY ADVENT RETREAT

Join us on Saturday Dec 10 for the Missionaries of Charity Advent Retreat from 9:15am to 3pm in the church basement. All are welcome.

2017 ENVELOPES

The 2017 envelopes are ready for pick up in the Church basement. Envelopes are filed by last name. If any information on your envelopes is incorrect, please fill out the appropriate forms found in the Church basement with any corrections. Note: Do not use 2017 envelopes in 2016.

MESSAGE FROM THE PROJECT ADVANCE TEAM

Thank you for everyone's support and generous donation, the total Project Advance collection last weekend was \$8,800. For those who still have not contributed, you can deposit your donations through the Sunday collection basket or donate online at www.projectadvance.ca You have until end of December to make your donations in order to claim the 2015 tax credit. We trust with your support and generosity, we will be able to receive rebates back to our parish for our development project. Thank you for everyone's continuous support and participation. May you and your family have a Blessed Christmas and a wonderful New Year.

WARMTH FOR THE HOMELESS

St. Mary's Street Ministry is requesting donations of brand-new men's socks, scarves, thermal wear, gloves and hats for the homeless. Kindly put your donation in the bin in the foyer. Thank you for your generosity!