

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

SUNDAY MAR 26: 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

2:00pm Couples for Christ (Church Basement)
10:00am Youth Ministry YA (Rectory Dining)
11:00am RCIA (Seminar Room)
1:00pm SFC (School Gym)
1:00pm Light of Jesus (School Gym)
2:00pm CSM (Rectory Living Room)

MONDAY MAR 27

6:00pm Light of Jesus (Seminar Room)
7:00pm Ablaze Core (Rectory Dining)
7:30pm Apologetics (Rectory Living Room)

TUESDAY MAR 28

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

WEDNESDAY MAR 29

6:30pm Knights of Columbus (Seminar Room)
6:45pm PREP 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 MAR 30

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

FRIDAY MAR 31

7:30am CISVA (Church Basement)
4:00pm VBS (Rectory Dining)
6:00pm SFL (Seminar Room)
6:00pm Street Ministry (Rectory Living Room)
6:30pm Stations of the Cross (Church)
7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room)
9:00pm Benediction (Church)

SATURDAY APR 1

8:00am PREP Retreat (Church Basement)
9:00am Dominican Laity (Rectory Basement)
9:30am Dominican Laity (Rectory Living Room)
8:00am 2000 Hail Marys (Rectory Dining)
10:00am Handmaids of the Lord (Seminar Room)
2:00pm CFC-FFL (Rectory Basement)
2:30pm Baptism (Church)
3:00pm Street Ministry (Church Basement Library)
3:00pm Legion of Mary (Rectory Living Room)
5:00pm Ablaze Leadership Retreat (Church Basement)
7:00pm CFC (School Gym)
6:00pm Migrant Workers Stations of the Cross (Church)

SUNDAY APR 2: 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

1:30pm Couples for Christ (Church Basement)
11:00am RCIA (Seminar Room)
1:00pm Migrant Ministry (Seminar Room)
1:00pm Light of Jesus (School Gym)
2:00pm CSM (Rectory Living Room)

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 Chadarevian, 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

5251 Joyce Street

Vancouver BC V5R 4G8

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email: parish.smarv@rcav.org

web: www.stmarysvancouver.ca

Facebook: www.facebook.com/stmarysvancouver

MAR 26, 2017

**Pastor's
Corner**

NOW I SEE!

When a baby is just born, he/she is almost blind. He was used to live in the darkness of the womb. Now, he has to get accustomed to so much light. At first, he cannot distinguish the shapes, or contour of what he sees. His mother will be the first person he will recognize as distinct. That will be painful! He will call his mother with loud cries and she won't come. Panicky, he will realize that she is not just an extension of his own self, that he could not control her. But the grace of that experience is that slowly the baby will gain an awareness of himself as distinct from the mother, and as distinct from his environment. He will feel alone and he will try to bring everything, people and stuff, to himself, in a very self-centered way. We all begin with this distorted view of the world, of life, of self, and of other. We all begin as the man born blind in John 9.



Our life journey, our deepest conversion is about learning to see things aright. We need to find God in our lives if we are to put everything in the right order; we need to find God if we are to see the world, the people, ourselves as they truly are! This is the grace of conversion. This is redemption from the consequences of original sin. These consequences are: our

spiritual mind has been obscured, darkened. We are in the dark; we don't see people and life as they are. We don't get it. We don't grasp the meaning of it. When grace comes in, we say, "I was blind, now I see."

When we receive that grace and RESPOND to it, our world is changed. We will find ourselves saying to our spouse, "I was wrong about you, I misunderstood you, I misinterpreted your actions and motivation." Slowly, we will learn to see as Christ sees – to love as he loves. We will become another Christ, and we will see Christ even in our enemies, even in those we used to despise.

This conversion will transform the way we react to the socio-cultural assumptions (or prejudices) of our Canadian culture. We will see that abortion is not "normal", that the other human being is not a competitor or a threat to us; that the only way to overcome evil is by goodness.

Yet all this moral conversion needs to be affirmed and deepened, to be rooted in Christ, in God. Christ needs to find you, amidst your busy life. It's only when **Christ finds the man**



who had been blind, that this man is able to see that Jesus is the ultimate foundation of his being, and of the world. The blind man bows to Jesus, acknowledging Christ as the center of his life, the center of the world. The blind man no longer lives for himself but for the Other, in whom he receives back everything. He is becoming like Jesus, totally related to the Father, and he can be another Jesus for all the others. The man who had been blind needed to be challenged and persecuted by the Pharisees, by his neighbours, by his own father and mother before he could see who Jesus truly is. How about you? This might be necessary if you are to be able to say at last, "I was blind but now I see".

God bless you! Fr. Pierre

PARISH NEWS



BIBLE STUDY

The raising of Lazarus is more than just a miracle. It points to Christ's power to unbind us from the dead areas of our lives. Come to Lectio Divina this Wednesday, Mar 29 at 6:45pm in the church basement. We will study, meditate on this Gospel account and pray for Jesus to breathe new life into our own lives today.

LENTEN SPIRITUAL READING

It is a long standing custom in the Church to do some spiritual reading during Lent. The Parish Library has just what you can ready. Check us out in the Church basement. If the Library door is open come in and take a look.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: SAINT MARY'S VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS): MAKER FUN FACTORY 2017

Do you like to be around children? Have you ever wanted to impact their lives by showing them how awesome Jesus is? Saint Mary's VBS will once again be having a one week morning bible camp for children aged 6 to 11 years old and we are now looking for volunteers to guide and assist the children. We will learn bible verses, bible stories, and play games to experience God's word and how it relates to our lives. Active high schoolers (Grade 9 & above) and adults can register today! Please email Dana & Christina at cvbs.stmaryvan@gmail.com for more information.

SPARK (GR.6-8) - OPEN DOOR POLICY

Do you wish that you can freely speak about your concerns and things that matter to you and still be accepted after? What usually occupies your mind? On Mon, March 27 from 6:15-8:15pm in the Church basement, your leaders would like to know the things that matter to you - in a respecting and loving environment. Invite your friends too! :)

COME AND EXPERIENCE THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT!

Join us for the Life in the Spirit Seminar for eight Tuesday evenings, from April 25 to June 13, from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. at St. Mary's Parish, Vancouver in the Church basement. Childminding available and light refreshments provided. To register, contact Mita at 604-435-7561 or Edna at 778-689-7775 or email missionablazestmary@gmail.com. Sponsored by St. Mary's Mission Ablaze Charismatic Prayer Group.

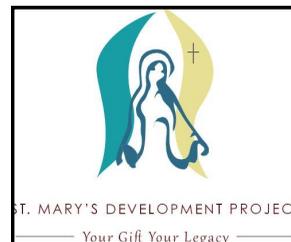
PPPG - BECOMING A POWERFUL INTERCESSOR

The power of our intercessory prayers does not depend so much on the quality of the Saint who intercedes for us. It depends more, among other things, on the purity of our hearts and on the radicality of our trust in the Lord. We will explore briefly these topics on the upcoming prayer meeting on Apr 8. Moreover we will continue with the biography of Padre Pio in the Man of Hope series. A year of trial for Padre Pio on his first novitiate year in Morcone in 1903. See you at the Padre Pio Prayer Group meeting on Saturday, Apr 8 at 9:30am in the Church Basement.



SUNDAY ENVELOPES

Please indicate on the outside of the Sunday and Special Offering envelopes the amount contained inside. This will greatly help reduce the workload of the volunteers who help to count the collection every week. Thanks for your cooperation.



ST. MARY'S SCHOOL RAFFLE

Want to win a trip for two to Paris with all accommodation and tours included? Or an Apple iPad Air 2 or cash of \$500?? St. Mary School raffle is up for sale again, \$2.50 per ticket or \$25 for a booklet, you have till June 25 to purchase the tickets. All proceeds will go to the Building Fund. What better way to support our school and a chance to win some fabulous prizes!! For more information please contact Teresa Lung at 604-802-0890 or email tky.lung@telus.net The Knights of Columbus will be selling tickets after each mass this weekend. We accept cash, interac or credit cards. Thank you in advance for your support and participation.

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE/CARITAS CANADA

Thank you for all who participated in the Hunger Meal. Because of your generous donations, we collected \$577.50. This money will be used for development projects in areas affected by war, famine and stricken by calamities. God Bless!

MVA'S PROVINCIAL ELECTION ACCOUNTABILITY ASSEMBLY

The MVA Group at St. Mary's is inviting all to come to our upcoming Provincial Election Accountability Assembly at the Italian Cultural Centre at 3075 Slocan Street, Vancouver (at South Grandview Hwy). It will be held on Tuesday Apr 4 at 6pm-8pm. St. Mary's group along with members from 50+ other community, labour, faith, and educational organizations will be there. We will ask the leaders of BC's provincial parties to commit to commonly agreed proposals that will bring much needed change to BC. The proposals are centred around four major issues - transit, income justice, affordable housing, and health care, especially for seniors. If you are affected by any of these issues, please come to show your support. For further information call Richard Lange at 778-995-2010 or RSVP at http://www.metvanalliance.org/provincial_election_rsvp.

MIGRANT WORKERS' WAY OF THE CROSS

It's Lenten season again and St. Mary's Migrant Ministry will be holding its "Migrant Workers' Way of the Cross" on Saturday, April 1, after the 5pm Mass. An activity initiated by the Archdiocese, this special way of the cross, is now being held in our parish for the third time. We encourage parishioners to join the ministry as they recollect how their struggles relate to Christ's journey to Calvary. Just like Christ who triumphed over death, the migrant workers are resolute to overcome their challenges."

A DAY OF PRAYER AT WESTMINSTER ABBEY - SAT. APR 29

Catholic Street Missionaries invites you to a Day of Prayer at Westminster Abbey on Saturday April 29. The day will include mass, confession, a talk by Fr. Larry Lynn and private prayer time. \$25 per person (includes transportation). All are welcome! Register at the parish office Monday to Friday 9am-5pm. Limited spaces. Register early! Inquiries: call Mildred 778-885-9611 or email mmoy_ca@yahoo.com

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR PROJECT ADVANCE 2017

Calling for volunteers! Our committee urgently needs volunteers to assist in 2017 Project Advance. If you are a new parishioner, come join us and show your support for the parish. If you have participated in previous year, we sure need your expertise in assisting us to make this event more successful. Volunteer cards are available in the church foyer; please return all cards by Mar 26. There will be an information plus training meeting on Apr 5 at 5pm at the Rectory.