



# The Parish Bulletin.

FOR ALL NEWS AT ST.MARY'S PARISH VANCOUVER

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## PASTOR'S CORNER

ENCOUNTERING JESUS: A JOURNEY OF RENEWAL

This Sunday we celebrate the solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. The word epiphany means manifestation. As St. Paul puts it the second reading of this Sunday (Eph 3:2-6), "....this mystery was made known to the humankind..." This feast is the clear indication that the Saviour has not come to redeem only the chosen people but whole mankind, every nation, every race, every colour and every language. As the holy father Pope Francis put it: "In this way, we see revealed the glory of a God who has come for everyone: every nation, language and people, is welcomed and loved by him. It is symbolized by the light, which penetrates and illumines all things." **(Pope Francis homily at Mass on Epiphany).**

As we celebrate this feast let us embark on a spiritual journey with the three Wise men from the east who we also call the Magi or the three kings. The Magi recognised the sign of the star as something extraordinary and had the heart to follow it. God wishes to convey His message of love through various ways, and He calls us to recognise them. The Magi, after having understood the sign, took courage to set out and embark on a journey into the unknown and uncertain. This happened because they trusted in God.

Another important thing that the Magi did was to keep their eyes focused on the star throughout their journey. Many times the star disappeared from their sight but they did not lose heart because they were very much focussed. God invites us not to lose focus from His Son even when things go wrong and God seems to be not listening to our prayers.

Yet another important thing to remember is that the Magi, though focussed, had to face many hurdles and difficulties on their journey to Child Jesus. The biggest challenge for them was Herod. Herod's crookedness, evil intention, hunger for power and being blinded by these he was ready to take any extreme step. We too may face a lot of 'Herod-like' people and situations on our journey that may become hurdles, de-motivate us, try to mislead us from God. Like the Magi we are not to lose sight of our goal.

Upon finding Jesus in a most unexpected place and environment, the Magi had the heart to recognise Him and offer the most precious gifts that they had brought along and worship Him.

And finally, after having met Jesus they took a different way, that leads away from Herod. This is the indication that anyone who encounters Jesus in their life will never be the same again. They up the old ways and wish to live in the newness of life, with a renewed heart and mind.

I wish us all a very pleasant spiritual journey with the Magi. May we encounter Jesus and may He renew our heart and purpose to live a life that is worthy of our call.

*Fr. Joseph*



ST.MARY'S PARISH  
VANCOUVER  
IN CHRIST WITH MARY  
TOGETHER IN HOPE

**THE EPIPHANY OF  
THE LORD**  
**THE 2ND SUNDAY OF  
CHRISTMAS**

JANUARY 7TH, 2024

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Jan 19- FRI**  
**Seniors Gathering**

**Jan 20 - FRI**  
**Mass Wedding**  
**Info Session**

**Feb 16 - FRI**  
**Alpha Program**

### SUNDAY MASS READINGS YEAR A

FIRST READING  
ISAIAH 60:1-6

RESPONSORIAL PSALM  
PS 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13

SECOND READING  
EPHESIANS 3:2-3A, 5-6

GOSPEL  
MATTHEW 2:1-12



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all updates and new content!





Q @stmarysvancouver

### SUNDAY MASSES (AND SATURDAY)

SAT 05:00 pm (*anticipated mass*)  
SUN 08:00 am | 09:30 am | 11:15 am | 01:00 pm  
03:00 pm (*Tagalog*) | 05:00 pm | 07:00 pm

### DAILY MASSES

 MON - FRI | SAT | WED-FRI   
08:00 am | 08:30 am | 07:00 pm

### CONFESSION

**SUNDAY** before & after mass | **WEEKDAY** after mass

### DEVOTIONS

MON - FRI 07:15 am Rosary & Lauds  
WED 06:00 pm Novena: Our Lady of Perpetual Help  
THU 06:00 pm Rosary & Prayer for Vocations  
FRI 03:00 pm Divine Mercy  
06:00 pm Novena: Two Hearts of Jesus & Mary  
07:00 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
09:00 pm Benediction  
SAT 07:45 am Rosary & Lauds

**\*\*SIMONNE HOGGARTH\*\***

*Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord, may perpetual light shine upon her, may she rest in peace, Amen*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## UPDATES | NEWS | EVENTS

**HOPE ON THE HORIZON**  
CSM SUMMER OUTREACH  
**AUG 6-21 2024**  
A YOUNG ADULT MULTI-WEEK HOMELESS OUTREACH AND LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

- Open to ages: 19-30
- Community live-in
- Help the homeless
- Grow in faith
- Mentorship
- Vancouver, BC

Visit our website for more info.  
Join our waitlist for priority registration.

[catholicstreetmissionaries.org/horizon](http://catholicstreetmissionaries.org/horizon)

CATHOLIC STREET MISSIONARIES in association with: Archdiocese of Vancouver

### Save The Date Seniors | New Year, New Events

Seniors Gatherings | St. Mary's Parish

2024 is here and so are we! Save the date seniors!  
**Jan. 19th Friday 1:30-3:30** | Feb. 16th Friday | Mar. 15th Friday

To register, contact:  
[smvanseniors@gmail.com](mailto:smvanseniors@gmail.com) or **604-435-9611 ext.200**

### Mass Wedding | 2nd Info Session | Jan 20 Sat 6-8pm

St. Mary's Project Cana

Married outside the Catholic Church? Desire to regularize your union for sacramental access? Join Fr. Joseph DSouza, OP, in celebrating the Mass Wedding for civilly married couples on **Oct 19, 2024**. A cost-effective, communal celebration awaits! Join us!

**Second Info session | Jan 20, 2024 - SAT | 6-8 PM**

For more info [rcia.smarv@rcav.org](mailto:rcia.smarv@rcav.org) or **604-435-9611 ext. 205**

### Catholic Street Missionaries + St. Mary's Street Min

#### Donations for the homeless

Individually wrapped bite-size chocolates, new men's socks, blankets, sleeping bags, and adult clothing for winter camping use. Label donations as "Street Ministries" and drop off to one of the ushers or the parish office during regular hours.

#### Volunteer Opportunity | Street Ministries

We are looking for volunteers who are good at organizing events, communications, and/or would like to reach out to the homeless. If interested, contact Mildred at:

**778-885-9611 or email [mmoy\\_ca@yahoo.com](mailto:mmoy_ca@yahoo.com)**

### SCAM WARNING | E-MAIL FRAUD

Scam e-mails impersonating Fr. Joseph have been circulating. **DO NOT ENGAGE** with unverified e-mails. Stay safe.

**✘ [pastordiocesan@gmail.com](mailto:pastordiocesan@gmail.com)**

**✔ [jdsouza@rcav.org](mailto:jdsouza@rcav.org)**

If unsure contact the parish office.

### Feast of St. Joseph Vaz | Jan 13, 2024 - Sat

St. Matthew's Parish | 16079 88 Ave, Surrey

A special mass celebrated by our own Fr. Joseph D'Souza!  
Organized by the Sri Lankan Catholic Community and the Vancouver Goan Association.

**Holy Rosary at 6:40 pm**

**Holy Mass at 7:00 pm**

**Followed by fellowship after mass.**

We appreciate food contributions for the fellowship

Contact us for more info:

**John Braganza - 604-446-2510**

**Ajith Seneviratne - 604-290-6344**

### We need you! Singers, Guitarists, Bassists, cajon players

5PM Sunday Youth Choir

Looking for youth and young adults who want to offer their musical talents. **Weekly Practice** (except 3d week of the month):

THUR- 7:45PM - Rectory basement

SUN 4:15PM - St. Mary's Parish choir area

**Wen | 604-780-2830 | [seals.stmarys@gmail.com](mailto:seals.stmarys@gmail.com)**

### We're running Alpha! | Feb 16, 2024 - Fri 7:00 pm

Hosted by FFCC | At St. Mary's Parish Vancouver

Alpha creates a space where you can simply invite a friend to explore their questions over some food, a video talk, and small group discussion. The rest is up to God. Register now at:

**[forms.gle/KWarwyXdHYH2Ed5B7](https://forms.gle/KWarwyXdHYH2Ed5B7)**



REGISTER

### Secondary School 2024-2025 | Accepting Applications

Notre Dame Regional Secondary

We are now accepting applications for the 2024 - 2025 school year

**Open House | Jan 18, 2024 - SAT 5:30PM**

**Placement Exam | Jan 24 & 25, 2024**



REGISTER HERE

### Kindergarten 2024-2025 | Accepting Applications

St. Mary's Elementary School - [stmary.bc.ca](http://stmary.bc.ca)

We are now accepting applications for the kindergarten 2024-2025 school year. *Child must be born in 2019 and turn 5 by Dec 31st.* To apply or for more info contact

**604 437-1312 | [office.smarv@cisva.bc.ca](mailto:office.smarv@cisva.bc.ca)**


PROJECT ADVANCE 2023 Empowering our Parish Vision

**Thank you for your support in 2023**  
We reached our parish goal of \$120,000!

St Mary's Project Advance Committee | [projectadvance.ca](http://projectadvance.ca)


**Looking to advertise?** If your business is looking to promote, we still have spaces the bulletin! For more info **Teresa: [tky.lung@telus.net](mailto:tky.lung@telus.net)**

# PARISH MINISTRIES

**PADRE PIO PRAYER GROUP** & Fr. David Bellusci 

**NEXT MEETING | FEB 3 SAT @ 9:30 am after 8:30am mass**

Join us Dec.2nd for breakfast and a prayer group meeting and learn the spirituality of St. Padre Pio with catechism lead by Fr. David  
Email: [pppgvancouver@gmail.com](mailto:pppgvancouver@gmail.com)

**DNA** Discipleship | aNd | Accountability 

**NEXT MEETING | January 13 - SAT  
NO MEETING December 23**

D.N.A. is a men's Group meeting on the **2nd and the 4th Saturday of every month**, at **9:30am**, in the Parish Rectory basement. For more info reach out to Fr. Gabriel at: **604-435-9611, ext. 202** | [fathergabriel1@outlook.com](mailto:fathergabriel1@outlook.com)

**MISSION ABLAZE** 

**NEXT MEETING | January 9, 2024**

**Come join the Mission Ablaze Prayer Group**  
Meet and experience the power and love of the Holy Spirit  
**Every Tues @ 07:30 PM - 09:00 PM** at the church hall **IN-PERSON & ZOOM**  
Email: [missionablazesm@gmail.com](mailto:missionablazesm@gmail.com)

**CHRISTIAN MEDITATION** 

**Every Weds @ 07:00 PM** - at the church rectory basement  
Contact Cora: [calcuitas@gmail.com](mailto:calcuitas@gmail.com) or **604-339-2904**.

## PARISH RESOURCES

### PARISH LIBRARY

**Have you checked out** the collection of books, CDs, and DVDs in our library? View online catalogue at [stmarysvancouver.ca/ministries/library](http://stmarysvancouver.ca/ministries/library)  
To borrow any resources Email our librarian,  
**Bill Murphy | [wwmmurphy@hotmail.com](mailto:wwmmurphy@hotmail.com)**

### FORMED® THE CATHOLIC FAITH. ON DEMAND. [formed.org/signup](http://formed.org/signup)

1. Go to the formed site and Search by postal code: V5R 4G8
2. Select "St. Marys Vancouver 5251 Joyce Street"
3. Register with your name and email address
4. Check your emails for a link to begin using FORMED!

## CATECHISM & SACRAMENTS



### MARRIAGE

Lorna | ext.204

One of the couple must be Catholic and a parishioner of St. Mary's Parish. Contact us at least six months prior to the wedding. Make no wedding arrangement until you have met with the priest.

### RCIA

Edwin | ext. 205  
[rcia.smarv@rcav.org](mailto:rcia.smarv@rcav.org)

**Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults** is for adults in need of Baptism, First Communion, or Confirmation, or who want to learn more about the Catholic Faith.

### VANSPEC

Christina | [vanspec.smarv@rcav.org](mailto:vanspec.smarv@rcav.org)

**One-on-one special needs catechism.** Vanspec classes are led by volunteer catechists and aides who, with the assistance of the Program Director, adapt the content of each lesson and learning materials to the needs of the individual student.

### INFANT BAPTISM

ext.200  
[reception.smarv@rcav.org](mailto:reception.smarv@rcav.org)

**For infants 5 years old and younger.** Family must be registered parishioners or must reside within parish boundaries. Non-parishioners must obtain permission from the pastor of their parish.

### PREP

Edwin | ext.205  
[prep.smarv@rcav.org](mailto:prep.smarv@rcav.org)

**Parish Religious Education Program.** Catechism for children who are attending public schools. Registration opens in the summer of 2023 for SY 2023/24.

### ANOINTING OF THE SICK & FUNERALS

Please contact the parish office to schedule a visit, to speak to a priest or to arrange a service.

### ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - VANCOUVER BC

Principal: Ms. Brenda Krivuzoff  
604-437-1312 Fax: 604-437-1193  
[office.smarv@cisva.bc.ca](mailto:office.smarv@cisva.bc.ca)  
website: [stmary.bc.ca](http://stmary.bc.ca)

## Stewardship Reflection

### Epiphany of the Lord

*"They fell down and worshipped Him. Then they opened their treasures and offered Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." - Matthew 2:11*

*Notice the order of events in the Magi's visit. First, they knelt before Jesus and prayed to Him. Then they presented Him with their gifts. We, too, must take time to pray before we present our gifts to the Lord. We never know what God may be asking us to share!*

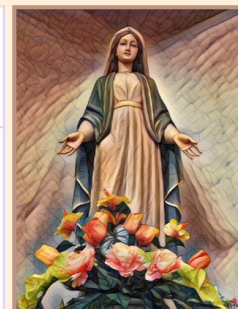


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### PARISH OFFICE

Office Hours:  
Monday to Friday  
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
604-435-9611 (phone)  
604-439-9413 (fax)  
  
Located in the Rectory which is the red brick house next to the church on Joyce Street. Buzz Reception.

EXT. 201	Parish Priest	Fr. Joseph D'Souza, OP	<a href="mailto:jdsouza@rcav.org">jdsouza@rcav.org</a>
202	Assistant Pastor	Fr. Gabriel de Chadarévian, OP	<a href="mailto:gabrielmariedominique@gmail.com">gabrielmariedominique@gmail.com</a>
203	Assistant Pastor	Fr. Gilles Simard, OP	<a href="mailto:gsimard@rcav.org">gsimard@rcav.org</a>
-	Resident Pastor	Fr. David Bellusci, OP	<a href="mailto:davidbellusci@yahoo.ca">davidbellusci@yahoo.ca</a>
204	Pastoral Assistant	Lorna Acosta	<a href="mailto:parish.smarv@rcav.org">parish.smarv@rcav.org</a>
205	PREP & RCIA Director	Edwin Cruz	<a href="mailto:prep.smarv@rcav.org">prep.smarv@rcav.org</a>   <a href="mailto:rcia.smarv@rcav.org">rcia.smarv@rcav.org</a>
209	Youth ministry Coord	Joyce Villaverde	<a href="mailto:youth.smarv@rcav.org">youth.smarv@rcav.org</a>
-	Vanspec	Christina Reyes Ocampo	<a href="mailto:vanspec.smarv@rcav.org">vanspec.smarv@rcav.org</a>
207	Finance and Property	Jordan Nidua	<a href="mailto:smpacc@telus.net">smpacc@telus.net</a>
200	Reception	Priya Menezes	<a href="mailto:reception.smarv@rcav.org">reception.smarv@rcav.org</a>



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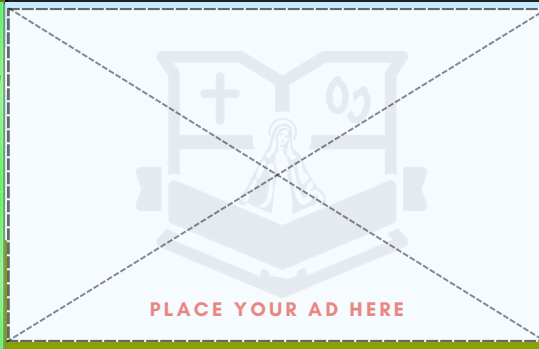
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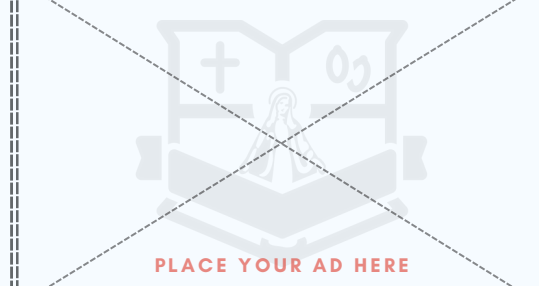
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