



The Parish Bulletin.

FOR ALL NEWS AT ST.MARY'S PARISH VANCOUVER

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PASTOR'S CORNER

EMBRACING LENT: A SEASON OF SPIRITUAL RENEWAL

Once again, we have entered the season of Lent, a period of grace and opportunity. This period is a sign of God's care and concern despite our disobedience and denial. God calls us to use this opportunity to turn away from evil and turn towards God. This is a constant struggle. A reflective way of looking at life is to see it as a struggle between sin and grace, selfishness and holiness. Our time on earth will be successful in the measure that we put aside sin and try to live by the grace of God.

The first humans, Adam and Eve, are imagined as preferring their own inclinations to the will of God. Jesus, the Saviour, on the contrary resisted temptation, remaining faithful to what God the Father required of him. St Paul reflects on how these choices affect us: Adam's sin brought trouble on all, but we are saved and offered new life because of the fidelity of Christ.

An old priest who was blind for many years before his death, liked to urge his penitents to renew their efforts with these inspirational lines:

"We are not here to play,

to dream, to drift. We have good work to do, and loads to lift. Shun not the struggle.

Face it. 'Tis God's gift."

Temptation in one form or another is an unavoidable part of life. If we honestly examine our daily experience, we can find many aspects of temptation: impulses or tendencies counter to the right way of doing things.

Our real growth to Christian maturity comes by acknowledging and accepting the vocation of struggling against temptation, to achieve the kind of behaviour and attitudes Jesus expects.

We must submit our behaviour to his gospel. Christ and Adam show the two opposite reactions in face of temptation: Adam, archetype of sinful, evasive, self-seeking humanity, finds plausible reasons to yield to it, and rebels against God's will. Jesus, archetype of the new God-seeking man, resists temptation even repeatedly. It can only be conquered by this blend of patience and loyalty, supported by trust that what God requires of us is what is best for us.

One way of understanding Lent is to see it as the time when we try to give in to the many ways that God may be trying to touch our lives. We often think of Lent as a time when we try to give up things. There can be a real value in that. However, more fundamentally and more positively we might think of Lent as a time when we give in to the Lord who is always present to us and calling out to us. The church sets aside this season of Lent as a reminder that we may need to awaken spiritually. As we awaken spiritually, as we give in to the Lord, as we become more aware of the Lord who is around us, above us, below us, at our right hand and at our left hand, then we may experience a new desire to give up whatever is not serving our relationship with the Lord. We entered this season of Lent not just as individuals but as a community of faith. It is as a community that we are called to turn more fully towards the Lord and to walk together in his company towards Holy Week.

Fr. Joseph



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

1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

FEBRUARY 18TH, 2024

UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb 23 - FRI
Parish Movie Night

March 3-8
Lenten Retreat
Fr. Claudio Piccinini

Oct. 19
Mass Wedding

SUNDAY MASS READINGS YEAR B

FIRST READING
GENESIS 9: 8-15

RESPONSORIAL PSALM
PSALMS 25: 4-5, 6-7, 8-9

SECOND READING
1 PETER 3: 18-22

GOSPEL
MARK 1: 12-15

@stmarysvancouver





2024 YEAR OF PRAYER AS DECLARED BY HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS

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 08:00 am
 SAT 08:30 am
WED-FRI 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

****To the dearly departed****

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

UPDATES | NEWS | EVENTS

 **This Lent, let's work toward Reaping our Rights**
Development and Peace | Caritas Canada

This year, the Create Hope: Reaping our Rights campaign calls you to stand with small-scale farmers and peasant communities who feed the world while caring for the Earth. Please do this by:

1. Donate online at devp.org/give or during the Solidarity Sunday collection on March 17, (5th Sunday of Lent). Your generosity helps support over 73 projects in 36 countries around the world!
2. Learn more by reading the Mini-magazine and other resources available at devp.org/lent/resources

For more info contact **Rosanna** at **604-432-7322**

 **Line Dancing | Thursdays - 2pm - 4pm**
Catholic Women's League

CWL is hosting weekly line dancing sessions every Thursday from 2pm to 4pm at the church basement. Don't miss out on a great opportunity of friendship, fun, and exercise.


Suggested donation of \$2 | Enter through Euclid Ave basement entrance

 **Christian Life Program | Feb 4 - Mar 24 (On Sundays)**
CFC - Handmaids of the Lord Ministry | @St.Mary's Parish

Free to attend, every Sunday. Listen to talks and allow Jesus to reveal His call to you.

Every Sunday
till Mar.24
@10 am - 12 pm

 **Flora - 778-388-1938 | leetconstantino@gmail.com**
Leonora - 604-728-4424 | nora.ramos@gmail.com

 **Kindergarten 2024-2025 | Accepting Applications**
St.Mary's Elementary School - stmarys.bc.ca

Now accepting applications for the kindergarten 2024-2025 school year. *Child must be born in 2019 and turn 5 by Dec 31st.* Apply/ info contact **604 437-1312 | office.smarv@cisva.bc.ca**

 **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):

THURS 7:30PM - Rectory basement
SUN 4:15PM - St.Mary's Parish choir area

Wen | 604-780-2830 | seals.stmarys@gmail.com

 **Volunteer Opportunities | Let's make an impact!**

 **Catholic Steet Missionaries** wants you!
Are you looking to improve your skills in project management, event planning, marketing, designing, and have a heart to serve the home homeless? We want you!
778-885-9611 or email mmoy_ca@yahoo.com

 **Sancta Maria House** a Healing/Recovery Home for women is inviting female volunteers to consider joining our team. We need assistance with household management, arts and crafts, social activities and gardening. Please consider sharing your gifts and talents.
santamariahouse@agapestreetministry.org

 **Agape Street Ministry** is calling on compassionate individuals like you to join our dedicated team of volunteers! Together, let's make a difference in the lives of the working women on the streets by telling them "Jesus loves them". **info@agapestreetministry.org**

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

 **Stations of the Cross** | Every Friday @ 6:30pm followed by 7:00pm Mass

 **Parish Family Movie Night | Friday - Feb 23 7:30 pm**
Playing: "The Song of Bernadette"

Jennifer Jones, the actress who played St. Bernadette, won the Academy Award for Best Actress for her role in the movie. Come and enjoy the movie and have some popcorn.

 **Upcoming events from CSM!**
Catholic Street Missionaries

Annual Sleep Out 2024 | Mar 15-16

We invite everyone to be part of a movement that can make a change. A true sacrifice by experiencing what it's like to be homeless and spend one night outside in the cold. Check:

catholicstreetmissionaries.org/events

Hope on the Horizon | Summer Program | Aug 6-21

Calling all young adults, a summer full of spiritual enrichment is waiting! CSM is hosting a summer outreach program empowering those to live like Christ and help the homeless.

catholicstreetmissionaries.org/horizon

 **Our Lady of Fatima Junior Praesidium | Youth Program**
Legion of Mary | @ St Mary's Parish Church

Inviting youths (and their parents/guardians) ages 6 - 18 years old to join the Our Lady of Fatima Junior Praesidium. Guided by senior legionaries, learn about prayers, works of the Legion, and deepen your relationship to the Blessed Virgin Mary.
If interested, we have a [sign-up sheet at the foyer!](#)

 **St. Mary's Parish Mission | March 3-8**
By Fr. Claudio Piccinini, C.P.

Seize the opportunity, feel God's presence in your life. Mar.3 Retreat Mass | Mar.4-8 Mon- Fri there are 2 sessions + daily mass @ 8:00 am & 7:00 pm. For more info/volunteer: Mildred | **778-885-9611**
Parish office | **reception.smarv@rcav.org / 604-435-9611 ext. 0**

 **Mass Wedding | Join us Oct 19, 2024**
St.Mary's Project Cana

Married outside the Catholic Church? Desire to regularize your union for sacramental access? Join Fr. Joseph D'Souza, OP, in celebrating the Mass Wedding for civilly married couples. A cost-effective, communal celebration awaits!
For more info **rcia.smarv@rcav.org or 604-435-9611 ext. 205**

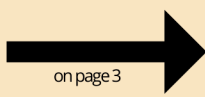
 **Donations | Your generosity is greatly appreciated.**

 **CSM | Homeless winter supplies**
Label donations as "Street Ministries" and drop off to either ushers or the parish office during regular hours.

 **Knights of Columbus Food Drive | Now till - June 30**
Canned goods, packaged noodles/ramen, and other non-perishable food items until in specially marked boxes located in the Church foyer. *St.Mary's Council 13072*
All collected food items will be delivered to The Door Is Open at the end of June 2024.

Check out our Ministries!

St.Mary's offers a diverse range of faith groups, for all ages to get involved with and grow in Christ.



PARISH MINISTRIES

PADRE PIO PRAYER GROUP & Fr. David Bellusci

**NEXT MEET
FEB 22 - THU**

Previous topic: *Psalms | Who wrote them and why?*

Online Bible Study Feb. 22, 2024, Thurs @ 7:00 pm (ZOOM)

Learn the spirituality of St. Padre Pio with catechism led by Fr. David

For more info + zoom link: pppgvancouver@gmail.com



St. Mary's Youth Ministry

**NEXT MEET
FEB 23 - FRI**

Join us for **LAUGH & LEARN GAME NIGHT!** 6:15PM – 8:00PM

A space where youth can make memories, ask deep questions, and learn how to grow in the faith with the fellowship of your friends!

Open to gr 7-12 | Catholics and non-Catholics are welcome!

Joyce | (604) 435-9611 ext. 209 | youth.smarv@rcav.org



DNA

Discipleship | aNd | Accountability

**NEXT MEET
FEB 24 - SAT**

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



MISSION ABLAZE

**NEXT MEET
FEB 20 - TUE**

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: missionablazesmvm@gmail.com



CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

*I will come to you in the Silence...
Be still and know that I am God...
Come and rest in Me*

**EVERY
TUE & WED**

Join us for meditation and prayers once a week either:

In-person: Wednesday 7:00 pm @ Rectory Basement.

Contact Cora Alcuitas - calcuitas@gmail.com

Online: Tuesday 7:00 pm

Contact Maeve Slein - mms3018@gmail.com

PARISH RESOURCES

PARISH LIBRARY

Have you checked out the collection of books, CDs, and DVDs in our library? View online catalogue at smarvancouver.ca/ministries/library

To borrow any resources Email our librarian,

Bill Murphy | wwmmurphy@hotmail.com

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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

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

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

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

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
website: stmarys.bc.ca

Stewardship Reflection

February 18, 2024 - 1st Sunday of Lent

"After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God..." -Mark 1:14

Have you ever thought about how difficult it must have been for Jesus to go to Galilee, knowing that John had just been arrested for teaching the same message that He was proclaiming. It took great love and trust for Jesus to do what the Father had sent Him here on earth to do. In the same way, living a stewardship lifestyle takes great love and trust from us. We must be willing to surrender completely to God, trusting that He will always give us all that we need to fulfill His plan for us.

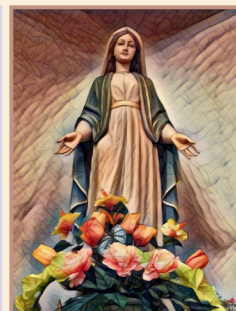
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PARISH OFFICE

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 | jdsoza@rcav.org |
| 202 | Assistant Pastor | Fr. Gabriel de Chadarévian, OP | gabrielmariedominique@gmail.com |
| 203 | Assistant Pastor | Fr. Gilles Simard, OP | gsimard@rcav.org |
| - | Resident Pastor | Fr. David Bellusci, OP | davidbellusci@yahoo.ca |
| 204 | Pastoral Assistant | Lorna Acosta | parish.smarv@rcav.org |
| 205 | PREP & RCIA Director | Edwin Cruz | prep.smarv@rcav.org rcia.smarv@rcav.org |
| 209 | Youth ministry Coord | Joyce Villaverde | youth.smarv@rcav.org |
| - | Vanspec | Christina Reyes Ocampo | vanspec.smarv@rcav.org |
| 207 | Finance and Property | Michael Gabas | smpacc@telus.net |
| 200 | Reception | Priya Menezes | reception.smarv@rcav.org |



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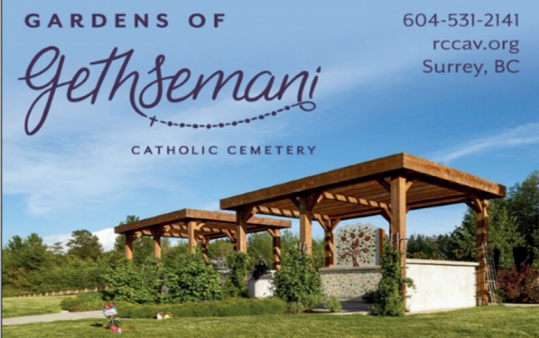
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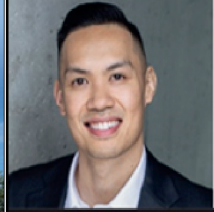
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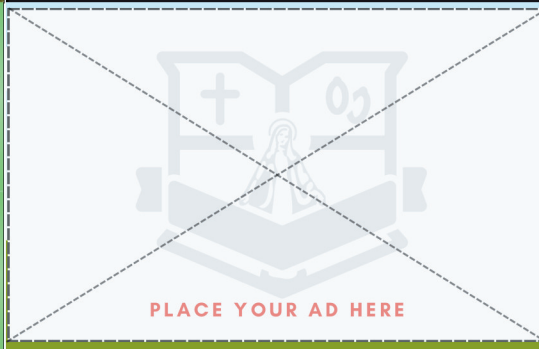
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