



# The Parish Bulletin.

FOR ALL NEWS AT ST.MARY'S PARISH VANCOUVER

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## PASTOR'S CORNER

EMBRACING DIVINE MERCY: A JOURNEY OF FAITH AND COMPASSION

Since year 2000 the Catholic Church celebrates second Sunday of Easter as the Divine Mercy Sunday. The readings for this Sunday show us our need for God's Divine Mercy, which is offered to us through the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the forgiveness of our sins, and through each celebration of the Sacraments (all instituted to sanctify us), when we receive them in trusting Faith.

On this Sunday, we are hearing once again the familiar story of Thomas, who had to touch and see before he believed. If, like Thomas or like me, you struggle to comprehend the resurrection. Jesus understands this. He has mercy on us in our doubts, in our fragile need to see for ourselves. When he returned to that locked room, it wasn't for the ten who had already seen him, it was for Thomas—the one who had not. Jesus always pursues his lost sheep. As he said to St. Faustina, the great apostle of today's feast, "the greater the sinner, the greater the right they have to my mercy."

"For the story of Thomas is in fact the story of every believer. There are times of difficulty when life seems to belie faith, moments of crisis when we need to touch and see. Like Thomas, it is precisely in those moments that we rediscover the heart of Christ, the Lord's mercy. In those situations, Jesus does not approach us in triumph and with overwhelming proofs. He does not perform earth-shattering miracles, but instead offers us heartwarming signs of his mercy. He comforts us in the same way he did in today's Gospel: he offers us his wounds. We must not forget this fact. In response to our sin, — the ugliest of sins, whether ours or someone else's — the Lord is always present offering us his wounds. Do not forget this. In our ministry as confessors, we must let the people see that in the midst of their sin, the Lord offers his wounds to them. The wounds of the Lord are stronger than sin.

Jesus makes us see the wounds of our brothers and sisters. In the midst of our own crises and our difficulties, divine mercy often makes us aware of the sufferings of our neighbour. We think that we are experiencing unbearable pain and situations of suffering, and we suddenly discover that others around us are silently enduring even worse things. If we care for the wounds of our neighbour and pour upon them the balm of mercy, we find being reborn within us a hope that comforts us in our weariness. Let us ask ourselves whether of late we have helped someone suffering in mind or body; whether we have brought peace to someone suffering physically or spiritually; whether we have spent some time simply listening, being present, or bringing comfort to another person. For whenever we do these things, we encounter Jesus. From the eyes of all those who are weighed down by the trials of life, he looks out at us with mercy and says: Peace be with you! In this regard, I think of Our Lady's presence with the Apostles. I also recall that we commemorate her as Mother of the Church on the day following Pentecost and as Mother of Mercy on the Monday following Divine Mercy Sunday. May she help us move forward in our very beautiful ministry" (**Homily of his holiness Pope Francis, St Peter's Basilica, Second Sunday of Easter, "Sunday of Divine Mercy", 24 April 2022**)

Today, picture God's ocean of mercy, imagine yourself dropped in as a little rock of salt, and dissolve in those faithful words: "My Lord and my God, I trust in you."

Fr. Joseph



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

2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER  
(DIVINE MERCY)

APRIL 7TH, 2024

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Apr.13  
Half-Day Recollection

Apr.19  
Seniors Gathering

May.9  
March 4 Life

### SUNDAY MASS READINGS YEAR B

FIRST READING  
ACTS 4: 32-35

RESPONSORIAL PSALM  
PSALMS 118: 2-4, 13-15,  
22-24

SECOND READING  
1 JOHN 5: 1-6

GOSPEL  
JOHN 20: 19-31

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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

\*\*FAITHFULLY DEPARTED\*\*

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, may perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace, Amen

# ANNOUNCEMENTS UPDATES | NEWS | EVENTS

 **New Hope on the Horizon Opportunity!**  
*Catholic Street Missionaries* **April.30**  
*Deadline*

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.

**Financial support offered. Special bursaries are available for those who want to join this summer!**

Visit our website and contact us for more info...

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



## Catholic Women's League Announcements

 **CWL 2024 Membership Drive - April. 14th 10am -2pm**

The Catholic Women's League invites all ladies in the parish 16 years old and up to visit our info booth at the foyers and in the basement on Sunday, April 14th from 10am to 2pm. A great opportunity for all ladies of all ages to learn more about CWL. See for yourself what the sisterhood of faith, fun, and fulfillment can do for you. Brochures and membership forms are available in the foyer for anyone interested.

For more info and registration please contact

**Cynthia Yambao - [y.cean@yahoo.ca](mailto:y.cean@yahoo.ca)**

**Teresa Lung - [tky.lung@telus.net](mailto:tky.lung@telus.net)**

 **Annual Mother's Day Brunch - May 5th 9:30am - 1pm**

A great opportunity to treat your lovely mother or special friends to a fabulous brunch and show her your appreciation. We have great menu, at a very low cost so buy your tickets now before it's sold out!! **Ticket price is \$28 per adult, children 6-12 years \$12 and FREE for children under 6.** (Please note, ticket will be honored until 1:30pm)

For more info or purchase tickets please contact

**Beth Hernandez - [bethhernandez86@yahoo.com](mailto:bethhernandez86@yahoo.com)**

**Lenn Castro - [lenn.castro.yvr@gmail.com](mailto:lenn.castro.yvr@gmail.com)**

 **SMS Parent Support Group Raffle | Now till June.19**

*St. Mary's Fundraising Team | Raffle license # 148639*

St. Mary's Raffle Event are back! Tickets will be on sale starting March 25th for **\$2.50 per 1 ticket**. Get a ticket for some great cash prizes! *Raffle starts March.25 and ends June.19th and Draw Date on June 21st - 2:00pm at the school.*

**1st Prize \$5,000 | 2nd \$2,000 | 3d \$1,000 | 4th and 5th \$500**

All proceeds are for the development project of the school. Thank you for your support and good luck!!

 **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](mailto:mmoy_ca@yahoo.com)**

 **VBS Railway 2024 | Vacation Bible School is back!**

It's finally happening! After 4 years, Saint Mary's is officially running Vacation Bible School this summer August 19 to 23! If you're interested in working with children and teaching God's lessons, email us at **[cvbs.stmaryvan@gmail.com](mailto:cvbs.stmaryvan@gmail.com)** for more information. Registration TBA.

 **March4Life | May.9 - Thurs | Victoria, BC**  
*M4L Victoria & Knights of Columbus + Columbus Homes*

Join us for the March for Life in Victoria, BC, on May 9, 2024! Starting with Mass at Sacred Heart Parish, Delta, at 9:15 am, presided over by Archbishop Miller, we'll embark on a journey of advocacy for life. Catch the 11:00 am ferry to Victoria and participate in the March from Centennial Square to the BC Parliament Buildings. Speakers will enlighten us on vital life issues. Let's make our pro-life stance visible and impactful. Together, let's stand for life! **[m4lvictoria.ca](http://m4lvictoria.ca)**

*Buses are available from select parishes. Deadline to register for bus transportations is April.25th ; for transportation inquiries, contact **Jim Canil at [jrcanil@telus.net](mailto:jrcanil@telus.net)**.*

 **Seniors Gatherings | Save the dates!**

**Friday April 19th, 1:00pm**  
**Frauds & Scams - talk by Ann Marie.**

Light refreshments served.

To register contact the parish office:

**604-435-9611 ext. 0**

Next gatherings: May 17th, Jun 21st



 **Half-Day Recollection | April. 13th - Saturday @ 9:00 am**

*Our Lady of the Assumption Church & Fr. David Bellusci*

The Recollection will start with a Mass, followed by two talks on Jesus: Sacred Heart and The Sacred Mass, and culminate the event with a Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction at 12 noon. We hope you can join us. For more info, call Nette A. at **604-837-3184** or email **[GuardofHonor.Vancouver@shaw.ca](mailto:GuardofHonor.Vancouver@shaw.ca)**

*Hosted by the Guards of Honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Association and the Legion of Mary, Queen of Peace Praesidium*

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

 **Kindergarten 2024-2025 | Accepting Applications**

*St.Mary's Elementary School - [stmary.bc.ca](http://stmary.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](mailto:office.smarv@cisva.bc.ca)**

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

 **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!**  on page 3

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

 **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



## St. Mary's Youth Ministry

NEXT MEET  
APR 19 - FRI

**April 19 @ 6:00pm - 8:30pm | Movie Night | Elemental**  
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](mailto:youth.smarv@rcav.org)



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

NEXT MEET  
TBA

**Previous Topic: Book of Proverbs**  
Join us online via zoom, and learn the spirituality of St. Padre Pio.  
For more info + zoom link: [pppgvancouver@gmail.com](mailto:pppgvancouver@gmail.com)



ST. MARY'S 1PM  
MASS CHOIR

*We need you!*



ST. MARY'S 5PM  
YOUTH CHOIR

1PM Mass needs singers and piano players, to share praise in song.  
Every **FRI 7:30PM** - Parish choir area  
**Sam Law** | [samszman@gmail.com](mailto:samszman@gmail.com)

5PM Mass is looking young adults who want to offer their musical talents (singers, guitarists, bassists, cajon players). Weekly practice  
**THURS 7:30PM** - Rectory basement | **SUN 4:15PM** - Parish choir area  
*\*Except 3d week of the month*  
**Wen** | 604-780-2830 | [seals.stmarys@gmail.com](mailto:seals.stmarys@gmail.com)



**DNA**

Discipleship | aNd | Accountability

NEXT MEET  
APR 13 - 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](mailto:fathergabriel1@outlook.com)



**MISSION ABLAZE**

NEXT MEET  
APR 2 - 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**  
For zoom link + info Email: [missionablazesm@gmail.com](mailto:missionablazesm@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](mailto:calcuitas@gmail.com)  
**Online: Tuesday 7:00 pm**  
Contact Maeve Slein - [mms3018@gmail.com](mailto:mms3018@gmail.com)



**Our Lady of Fatima Junior Praesidium**

A Legion of Mary Youth Program

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!**



# 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.



**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)  
[stmary.bc.ca](http://stmary.bc.ca)



**ANOINTING OF THE SICK & FUNERALS**

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



**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.



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

**1-on-1 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.

## Stewardship Reflection

**Apr. 7, 2024 - Divine Mercy Sunday**

*"The community of believers was of one heart and mind, and no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own..." - Acts 4:32*

All that we are and all that we have is a gift from God! Think of your family, your friends, your life, your talents and your money - these are all gifts from God! We aren't really owners of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts God has blessed us with. We are called to be grateful and generous with all of our gifts for the benefit of others.

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## 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** | [wmmurphy@hotmail.com](mailto:wmmurphy@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!

### 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	Pastor	Fr. Joseph D'Souza, OP	<a href="mailto:jsouza@rcav.org">jsouza@rcav.org</a>
202	Assistant Pastor	Fr. Gabriel de Chadarevian, 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 Priest	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	Michael Gabas	<a href="mailto:smpaccetelus.net">smpaccetelus.net</a>
0	Reception	Priya Menezes	<a href="mailto:reception.smarv@rcav.org">reception.smarv@rcav.org</a>







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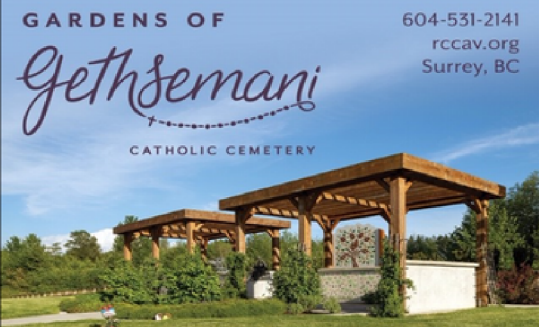


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