

23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY – SEPTEMBER 4, 2011



The real crunch of today gospel's challenge is not so much personal conversion (which is important in itself) as safeguarding the welfare of the entire community. Jesus teaches his disciples how to deal with conflicts and strife in the church. The challenge he lays down is the hard work of addressing rifts directly, honestly, repeatedly and prayerfully. The desired outcome of the entire process is repentance and reconciliation. What is essentially at stake is not merely the healing of a personal rift, but the very life of the church as a community.

In the first reading God appoints the prophet Ezekiel to confront the wicked. It is truly our responsibility for calling others to live rightly. This is not an easy mission, but not impossible with the help of the Lord.

Repentance, healing and reconciliation are realities which touch on life hereafter as we proclaim that the kingdom of God is at hand. In this life we will never be a perfect community or a perfect church because we always have the human dimension at work, with its imperfections and weaknesses. The very life of the church as a community requires tireless reconciliation because the church, as the Body of Christ, proclaims a wholeness and unity not achievable by our human selves. Ultimately, when we act as church to reconcile, we are acting as the Body of Christ in partner with our Head, Christ himself. We want to preserve the integrity and unity of that Body as well as help others live the gospel values that are the giving light of our faith community. We ourselves are not the reconcilers; it is the power of Christ acting through his body.

In our own lives, we know how easily relationships can be damaged and how difficult it is to heal them. Such experiences are painful for all parties; yet healing and reconciliation are only possible by an honest exchange.

2011 PROJECT ADVANCE APPEAL We achieved the Archdiocese's assessment of \$35,900 from **198** pledges/gifts for \$87,922.25 We are 13% from our total goal of \$100,000. *Thank you!* Others may put your gifts in the Sunday collections or send them to the parish office. Or pledge online by going to www.RCAV.ORG/Project_Advance Your PARTICIPATION is just as important in this annual appeal for the building of God's kingdom on earth.

CWL MEETING On Saturday, September 10th, after the 9:00 am Mass, the ladies of the CWL invite you to their monthly meeting. All ladies of the parish are welcome.

COLLECTION FOR THE FAMINE IN THE HORN OF AFRICA Archbishop Miller would like the parishes in our archdiocese to take up a collection next weekend, September 10/11 for the people affected by the famine in Africa. The government of Canada will match our donations. Please use your September's Collection for the Needy envelope (Sept 18th) to make your donation. May the Lord bless us for our generous response to the poor in our world.

PARISH'S ITALIAN DINNER A delicious home-made Italian dinner will be served on Saturday, October 15th, after the 5:00 PM Mass. Tickets are available at the parish office or at next weekend's Masses. Mark your calendar!

PREP CLASSES Our new PREP school year begins on Tuesday, September 13th, at 6:00 to 7:15 pm. We will be taking new registrations next weekend after all the Masses. If you have a child for first Holy Communion or Confirmation, please be sure to register with the PREP coordinator, Cynthia Reyes. This is important for the extra preparations. The PREP teachers will be commissioned in their ministry at the 11 am Mass, Sunday, Sept. 11th. Please pray for them.

LINE DANCING Will resume on Wednesday, September 14th at 1:30 pm. For info, please call Pat at 604-266-6179.

† MASS INTENTIONS †

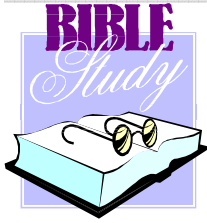
Monday	Sep. 5	<u>9:00 a.m.</u> For the special intention of Sean Sy.
Tuesday	Sep. 6	<u>9:00 a.m.</u> For the repose of the soul of Felix Ko.
Wednesday	Sep. 7	<u>9:00 a.m.</u> For the repose of the soul of Dr. Santos Iloretta.
Thursday	Sep. 8	<u>9:00 a.m.</u> For the special intention of Wilma Putt.
Friday	Sep. 9	<u>9:00 a.m.</u> For the special intentions of Christine & Antony Heung.
Saturday	Sep. 10	<u>9:00 a.m.</u> For the repose of the soul of Florencio Lim. <u>5:00 p.m.</u> For the special intention of Nicholas Leung.
Sunday	Sep. 11	<u>9:00 a.m.</u> For the special intentions of All Holy Name Parishioners. <u>11:00 a.m.</u> For the repose of the soul of Yen Ching Shum.

APOSTLESHIP OF PRAYER FOR THE HOLY FATHER'S INTENTIONS IN SEPTEMBER

General: *Teachers.* That all teachers may know how to communicate love of the truth and instill authentic moral and spiritual values.

Mission: *Church in Asia.* That the Christian communities of Asia may proclaim the Gospel with fervour, witnessing to its beauty with the joy of faith.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



OUR PARISH'S GREAT ADVENTURE BIBLE STUDY—THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

resumes on Wednesdays, September 7th to November 23rd, 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM. For new participants, the only cost is buying the manual at St. Andrew's Religious Gifts Store. For more info., please contact the parish office.

OPEN HOUSE On Tuesday, October 4th, we will bid *Adieu* to the Sisters of Charity of the Immaculate Conception, who will be leaving to go back to New Brunswick. We will begin with a Thanksgiving Mass at 5:00 pm, to be followed by a reception of finger foods. Your donation of finger foods will be gratefully accepted.

Goodbye!

CALLING ALL PARISH MUSICIANS The revisions to the Roman Missal Mass text, coming Nov. 27th, will affect some of the music we sing at Mass. There are two workshops being offered to help all liturgical musicians prepare for these changes. Sept. 12th 7 - 9 pm at Holy Cross Parish, 1450 Delta Ave. in Burnaby or Sept. 19th 7 - 9 p.m. at Immaculate Conception 8842 119 St. in Delta. For more info., visit www.rcav.org/missal or call 604-683-0281

EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLES OF THE WORLD EXHIBIT Sept. 16—18 at St. Mary's Parish, 5251 Joyce St., Vancouver. Exhibit hours are: Friday, Sept. 16, 10am-4pm and 6-9 pm; Saturday, Sept. 17, 9am-4pm and 6-9pm; and Sunday Sept. 18, 9am-3:30pm

RED MASS For the Catholic legal community will be held Sept. 22 at Holy Rosary Cathedral and will be followed by a reception with keynote speaker, Fr. Raymond de Souza. For more info and tickets, visit www.rcav.org/redmass

FORTY DAYS FOR LIFE CAMPAIGN Sept. 28 to Nov. 6, 2011 at Women's Hospital in Vancouver. A peaceful public witness to help bring an end to the tragedy of abortion. For more info., visit www.40daysforlife.com/vancouver-bc or call the Respect Life Office at 604-683-0281.

FALL PROGRAMS AT ST. MARK'S COLLEGE Registration is now open for Continuing Education courses: "Ignatian Spirituality—Discovering Christ's Call to Contemplation and Action" by Fr. Elton Fernandes, SJ, "A New Mission for a New Millennium" by Archbishop Miller, "Understanding the Mass Anew with the New Missal" by Father Bill Burke and "How is Vatican II Affecting Us Today?" by Father Martin Moser, OMI. All courses cost \$50 each unless otherwise specified. For registration, call St. Mark's at 604-822-6862 or email continuinged@stmarkscollege.ca.

LIVING WITH AN ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE October 7-10, A Thanksgiving Weekend Retreat based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius, particularly the Principle & Foundation & the Contemplation to Attain Divine Love. Join Sr. Joyce Kemp, international retreat director at Bowen Island's Rivendell Centre. Call Sr. Monica at the Cenacle: 604-266-1611 for more info. / registration.

Scripture Readings

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ezekiel 33:7-9; Ps. 95; Romans 13:8-10; Matthew 18:15-20

Sep. 5, Mon., Colossians 1:24—2:3; Ps. 62; Luke 6:6-11

Sep. 6, Tues., Colossians 2:6-15; Ps. 145; Luke 6:12-19

Sep. 7, Wed., Colossians 3:1-11; Ps. 145; Luke 6:20-26

Sep. 8, Thurs., **Feast of the Birth of Mary**

Romans 8:28-30 or Micah 5:2-5a; Ps. 13; Matt. 1:1-16, 18-23

Sep. 9, Fri., 1 Timothy 1:1-2, 12-14; Ps. 16; Luke 6:39-42

Sep. 10, Sat., 1 Timothy 1:15-17; Ps. 113; Luke 6:43-49

STEWARDSHIP: A Disciple's Response

In Saint Paul's letter to the Romans he suggests that God lavishes his love upon us through Jesus Christ, who calls us to the kind of loving relationship, if we so choose it, that demands accountability. It is like, in Saint Paul's vocabulary, a kind of "debt" that we can never "pay-in-full." But we begin to repay by following the direction of one of the most familiar statements in the Bible: "Love your neighbour as yourself." Good stewards realize that God does not call them just to love those who are easy to love, but to love the unloved and the hard-to-love people in this world as well. This week, remind yourself: "I am put here as an ambassador of God's love."

RETRouvaille A Christian peer ministry, has helped recover the marriages of thousands of couples experiencing all kinds of marital crisis. For confidential info or to register for the program beginning the weekend of Oct. 14—16, email 1009@retrouvaille.org or call 604-530-6710.

CATHOLIC STUDENT ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

The Canadian Catholic Student Association Western Conference is coming to St. Mark's College and other locations Oct. 28-30. Join students in Catholic leadership from campuses across Western Canada. Highlights: Archbishop Miller, talks on Caritas in Veritate, prayer, Mass, service projects, banquet, and the famous "Twist and Shout" talent night! For more information, email stmarks.campusministry@gmail.com

AGAPE STREET MINISTRY A Catholic Street Outreach is in great need of women and men who would commit themselves to one night a week to offer love and hope to women on the streets. If you love Jesus, your church and can smile, and share a hug you will be a light in the darkness for many. Areas involved Surrey and Vancouver. Training provided. Please call 604-590-2460.

REVISED ROMAN MISSAL Changes are coming this Fall to some of the prayers and responses of the Mass. "Is it true that we will no longer say "Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again?" Get answers to questions like this and others through the Archdiocesan website at www.rcav.org A list of resources is also available online.