



ST. PIUS X PARISH

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ARCHDIOCESE OF VANCOUVER

Archbishop Most Rev J. Michael Miller, CSB



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

February 18, 2024

SUNDAY MASSES:

SATURDAY

5:00PM

SUNDAY

9:00AM & 11:00AM

DAILY MASS:

MONDAY

7:00PM

TUESDAY — FRIDAY

8:00AM

SATURDAY, HOLIDAYS

9:00AM

CONFESSIONS:

SATURDAY

4:00PM OR BY APPOINTMENT

ADORATION:

EVERY FRIDAY FOLLOWING MORNING MASS

AND ENDING WITH BENEDICTION AT 2:30PM



DISPOSITIONS FOR LENT

Ashes were sprinkled on our heads on Ash Wednesday, but Lent is lived in the heart. "Even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning. Rend your hearts, not your garments" (Joel 2:12-13). Paradoxically, giving God our whole heart requires that it first be pierced, even broken. Herein do we find the dispositions of compunction and contrition.

The traditional Lenten disciplines – fasting and abstinence, almsgiving, prayer and silence, keeping vigil, and lectio divina (spiritual reading) – are not ends in themselves. They are the proven ways to experience compunction and contrition, to feel the ache of the pierced and broken heart.

Fasting and abstinence crack the heart's stony shell because hunger makes us vulnerable. Our Lord, however, would have us fast joyfully, as if we were feasting. One of the fruits of fasting is spiritual joy. Fasting cleanses and refines the palate of the soul, opening us to "taste and see that the Lord is sweet" (Psalm 33:9). "When you fast, do not look dismal... Anoint your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you" (Matthew 6:16-17). The fasting that pleases our Lord makes the face cheerful and lifts up the heart.

Fasting (not eating) and abstinence (not eating certain foods, like meat) do not have to be enormous feats of ascetical prowess. Our fasting and abstinence should always be proportionate to our health and state in life. The value of fasting and abstinence is that they lead us to feel a certain emptiness. They put us in touch with our real hunger, the hunger that only God satisfies. Ultimately, all fasting and abstinence reach a Eucharistic finality. Our Lord assures us, "He who comes to me shall not hunger, and he who believes in me shall never thirst" (John 6:35). Fasting accomplishes its goal when it sends us hungering and thirsting to the Word of God and to the holy mysteries of the Faith.

Almsgiving opens the heart to others and, in so doing, opens the heart to Christ. Again, the fruit of almsgiving, or gladsome giving, is spiritual joy. There is joy to be found in giving something away. There is joy to be found in doing without that which is superfluous so that another may have what is necessary. Lenten almsgiving invites each of us to ask some hard questions: Do I have the use of two or three or four of anything when I could easily make do with one? Saint Basil the Great says that the one who accumulates things, storing them up in closets and hiding them away in trunks, is robbing from the poor of Christ. Almsgiving empties our hands, as it were, and frees them to receive what God ardently desires to give us. "He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty" (Luke 1:53).

Silence is integral to the holiness of Lent. The monastic tradition values silence for two reasons. "In much talk you shall not escape sin" (Proverbs 10:19). Avoiding sin is in itself an excellent reason to be silent. Moreover, silence disposes the heart to hear the Word and to be pierced by it, "for the Word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and spirit, of joints and marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12). God speaks to us now as he spoke to the prophet Elijah "in a still small voice" (1 Kings 19:12). If we wish to hear the voice of God, let us be silent.

(to be continued in next weekend's bulletin)

May this special season of grace, this holy Lent, bring us many blessings that draw us closer to each other and closer to God.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be celebrated in the church every Friday during Lent at 7:00 pm.

SECOND COLLECTION:

Next weekend for the Building Fund.

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE:

It is written: "The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve." Matthew 4:10

Tempted between the riches and power of this world and service to God, Jesus chose service to his Father. If we wish to truly follow Jesus, we, too, must decide to turn away from worldly power and riches and put God at the center of our lives. Lent is our time to prune ourselves of earthly things, and develop and nurture heavenly things. Lent is a time to repent and to let go of the other "gods" we have put before God.

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED:

For the repose of the soul of Allan Tait, son of our parishioners Ida and Tom Tait, who died after a courageous battle with cancer. We extend our prayers and sympathies to the Tait family.

For the repose of the soul of CWL member Joanne Durkin. We extend our prayers and sympathies.

52 REASONS TO JOIN THE CWL:

6 Compassion: Do you recognize the human dignity in all people? Do you feel motivated to do something to help others? Catholic Women's League members embark on many projects that directly impact those who are disadvantaged in society. How can YOU help? Become a member and be part of the solution.

MEMBERSHIP: If you missed our Membership Drive, you can still join or renew your yearly membership. Contact Barbara Johnston. Her contact information is on the back of the Parish Bulletin. CWL membership is \$42/year, DAS membership is \$15/year (optional). *Pay by Cash, Cheque, or E-Transfer. Thank you to all our new Members and all members who renewed their yearly membership.*

FEBRUARY 22, 2024 AGM – 7 PM MEETING ROOM
GUEST SPEAKER - MAUREEN CARTER - DAS
OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL
DOMESTIC ABUSE SERVICES
Manager of Thrifter's Paradise

ASSEMBLY OF WESTERN CANADA BISHOPS:

The Bishops of Western Canada will be celebrating Mass on Tuesday, February 20th, at St Paul's Parish in Richmond. Mass will begin at 5pm. All are welcome to attend.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

Sancta Maria House: Is a Healing/Recovery Home for women that is inviting female volunteers to consider joining their team. They give assistance with household management, arts, crafts, social activities, and gardening. Please consider sharing your gifts and talents. For more information please contact sanctamariahhouse@agapestreetministry.org.

Agape Street Ministry: Is calling on compassionate individuals like you to join their team of volunteers. Together, difference can be made in the lives of working women on the streets. For more information please contact: info@agapestreetministry.org.

PRO LIFE MASS AND PRAYER VIGIL: Monthly Mass and vigil to pray for respect for all human life, from conception to its natural end. Hosted by the Archdiocese of Vancouver, it takes place on the first Saturday of each month at 9:00 a.m. (8:30 a.m. in April). The Mass is followed by the rosary and other prayers either at a church with Adoration or at a local hospital. All are welcome! beholdvancouver.org/events.

MEN'S SHELTER MINISTRY:

Pick up of sandwiches and/or baked goods to deliver to the Catholic Men's Shelter will be Friday, February 23rd, 1:30-2pm, in the exit parking lot of the parish.

2023 INCOME TAX RECEIPTS:

Receipts for envelope donations and Project Advance have been mailed to you directly from the parish this past week.

PRAY FOR THE SEMINARIANS THIS LENT:

Each day of Lent is assigned to a young man in our Archdiocese who is preparing for the priesthood. There is a calendar in the vestibule with their names.

CATHOLIC CHURCH AND THE FOUR STEPS OF RECONCILIATION: A free talk will be held on February 29th at 7pm at St Mark's College. Learn more via beholdvancouver.org/events.



PRINCIPAL : MISS CHARLAINE FRANCIS
OFFICE: 604-929-0345
EMAIL: OFFICE@SAINTPIUS.CA
KINDERGARTEN TO GRADE 7

WEBSITE: WWW.SAINTPIUS.CA
INSTAGRAM: SPXGUARDIANS

OUR SCHOOL IS A VIBRANT FAITH AND LEARNING COMMUNITY DEDICATED TO DEVELOPING THE FULL POTENTIAL OF EACH CHILD USING CHRIST AS OUR CENTRE. WE ARE BLESSED WITH CARING AND DEDICATED EDUCATORS COMMITTED TO INSPIRING LIFE LONG LEARNERS IN ALL AREAS. WE WELCOME THE OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE THE MANY ENRICHING LEARNING EXPERIENCES WITH YOU AND YOUR FAMILY.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:
MONDAY-FRIDAY
10AM-1:30PM
604-929-1404
PARISH.SPX@RCAV.ORG

REGISTRATIONS AND DONATION ENVELOPES:
REGISTRATION TO THE PARISH AND REQUEST FOR DONATION ENVELOPES ARE AVAILABLE IN THE VESTIBULE OR YOU MAY CALL THE PARISH OFFICE.

REQUESTS FOR MASSES:
FOR THE LIVING AND DECEASED.
PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE.
SUGGESTED MASS STIPEND IS \$10.
MASS CARDS MAY ALSO BE PURCHASED FROM THE PARISH OFFICE.
FOR A COST OF \$3.00

MARRIAGES:
TO BEGIN THE SPIRITUAL AND PRACTICAL PREPARATION FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE, PLEASE CONTACT FR. JEFF AT LEAST 9 MONTHS IN ADVANCE.

BAPTISM:
PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE TO ARRANGE AN INTERVIEW AT LEAST ONE MONTH PRIOR.

VISITATION OF THE SICK:
Please call the parish office when a parishioner or family member is hospitalized or housebound to arrange visitation, Holy Communion and Anointing.

BERKLEY CARE CENTRE:
Every 1st Wednesday at 1:30pm.
Mass or Prayers with Communion.

ST PIUS X PARISH

PARISH GROUPS AND CONTACT INFORMATION & TO VOLUNTEER:

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

BARBARA JOHNSTON
236-999-1286

LECTORS

CECILIA McLAREN
604-729-4543

BUILDING MAINTENANCE

DAVID BOYER 604-929-6430
DAVID HOLSWORTH 604-929-5180

GREETERS

WE ARE IN NEED OF MORE USHERS/GREETERS

AT ALL THE MASSES

PLEASE CALL PARISH OFFICE

TO VOLUNTEER

604-929-1404

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To volunteer for Friday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament please contact Lisa Miiller
adoration.spx@gmail.com

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***Come and pray the Rosary
every Saturday morning
before Mass
at 8:30am***

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ST. PIUS X CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

FOLLOW US – See what's happening!
Check out our Bulletin Board
in the Church vestibule.

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DOMESTIC ABUSE SERVICES

Our Lady of Good Counsel: 604-640-7543

BIRTHRIGHT:

MONDAY—FRIDAY,
110-207 West Hastings St. 604-687-7223
RACHEL'S VINEYARD: 604-525-0999