

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

244 Lawrence Street, New Westminster, BC. V3M 5L1

https://holyspiritnewwest.ca

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PAROCHIAL ADMINISTRATOR - REV. TOMSON EGIRIOUS





Third Sunday of Ordinary Time (The Sunday of the Word of God), Year B, 21st January 2024

'Lord, teach me your paths'

Today, as the Roman Catholic Church celebrates this 'Sunday of the Word of God', Pope Francis reminds us: Christ Jesus is knocking at our door in the words of sacred scripture. If we hear his voice and open the doors of our mind and hearts, then he will enter our lives and remain ever with us.

In the **First Reading**, Jonah takes the word of God to the people in Nineveh. They hear it, are inspired to change their evil ways, and God shows them his mercy. God's love and forgiveness are at the heart of the Psalm, as we pray for better understanding of the ways in which the Lord invites us to live our lives.

St Paul issues a challenge to the Christian community in Corinth in this week's **Second Reading**. At the centre of this, though, is an encouragement to us to free our minds and hearts from reliance on the things of this world, and to place our hope in the reign of God.

The Gospel speaks of the opening of the hearts and minds of the first apostles as they leave behind everything they know in order to follow Jesus.

This week, perhaps I can give myself the gift of a little extra time with scripture. I pray that the Lord will open my mind and heart, so I can see more clearly where my path with him lies.

stbeunosoutreach.wordpress.com

MASS TIMES

Weekend Mass

Saturday 9 am & 5 pm Sunday 9 am & 11 am

Weekday Mass

Monday, Wednesday & Thursday - 9 am Tuesday & Friday - 7 pm

Sacrament Of Confession

Saturday 9.30 am - 10am 4 pm - 4.30 pm or by appointment

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday To Friday

10:00am - 4.30pm Lunch Break 12pm - 1pm

Saturday

10.00am - 12:00 noon

Office is closed on Monday



In his intention for January 2024, Pope Francis prays:
"In January, we pray that the Holy Spirit may help us to recognise the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of the different rites within the Catholic Church."

Parish Ministries, Organization & Services

Altar Servers Ministry

Be The Light Ministry Coordinator: Noli Pangilinan

Catechetical MinistryPREP Winnie Bernardo

Catholic Women's League President : Cecile Cartago

Knights Of Columbus Robert Yang

Legion Of Mary

Ministry Of Hospitality Coordinator: Jose Cruz

Ministry Of Lectors
Coordinator: Armando Cordova

Music Ministry Dr. Audrey Zylmans Ana Marie Avendano

Noreen Nicolas

Project Advance Team

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SACRAMENTAL LIFE OF THE PARISH

BAPTISM: Call the parish office to register for the Baptism Preparation Course. This is for parents and godparents. It is held every 1st Saturday of the month from 1pm to 3pm. Baptism is every 3rd Sunday of the month at 1pm

MARRIAGE: Arrangements are to be made through the pastor at least six months prior to your wedding date. A marriage preparation course is a requirement of the Archdiocese. Secure a spot at all Marriage Prep courses. Go to registration webpage: http://rcav.org/m-prep/

CONVALIDATION: If your marriage was not celebrated as a Sacrament and you wish your marriage to be recognized by the Church, then call the parish office to make an appointment to see **Fr. Jack ANOINTING OF THE SICK**: Call the parish office to request a hospital visit or for communion to

the sick at home.

FUNERALS: Please contact the office before making any arrangements with the Funeral Home.

MASS INTENTIONS: Did you know, Catholics can "offer" Mass?

We do so for multiple reasons such as thanksgiving, for another person/s such as a birthday, graduation or wedding anniversary or as is most common, for the repose(peace) of the soul of someone who has died. Mass Offering envelopes are available at the back of the Church

Parish Events

1. Seeking Volunteers for 2024 for The Parish

The parish is always seeking volunteers for the various Ministries operating within the parish. We are especially encouraging young people to become altar servers. The only requirement is that they have received their First Holy Communion.

Anyone who is interested in any of the Ministries, or would just like more information, please talk to Fr. Tomson or the Ministry coordinator.

2. Knights of Columbus, Pancake/Tapsilog Breakfast

The monthly pancake/tapsilog breakfast will be held on Sunday, 28th January, in the Parish Centre after the 9:00am and 11:00am Masses.

This is a fund raising event, and in order to maintain it as such, the Knights are sad to announce that prices on some items will have to be raised.

3. 2024 Sunday Offering Envelopes

A reminder that there are still some Sunday Offering Envelopes that haven't been picked up yet. They are located next to the votive candle stand in the main entrance to the Church. Regrettably there are no calendars left.

Please discard any envelopes that you have from previous years as your number is different this year.

Archdiocesan Events

Together For Good Marriage Workshop (\$60 per couple - Early Bird rate \$50 till Feb 5) Register

About this Event

One day could change your marriage! Thousands of couples across Canada have dedicated one day to building a marriage that stays together for good.

In partnership with FamilyLife Canada (<u>familylifecanada.com</u>), we are offering the Together for Good Marriage Workshop that will give you tools, exercises and guided conversations to help you and your partner grow a healthier, more joy-filled and resilient marriage.

Registration is required. The fees include a workbook and lunch. Limited spots. Book early to secure a spot. **Deadline to register is February 19th.**

Location - Date and Time

Corpus Christi Parish, 6350 Nanaimo Street Vancouver, BC

Saturday, Mar 02, 2024 9:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Our Relationship with God

Given that we are created in God's own image and likeness, it is not an exaggeration to say that these human relationships are Godlike. I want to reflect the ultimate basis for those relationships: our relationship with God and God's relationship with us.

Each one of us is embraced with God's love. This union is not dependent on whether we worship God or even know God exists. Every person's life, from the moment of conception, is itself a sharing in God's existence. Even though a newborn infant can't be conscious of a mother's presence, we know the mother is present to her infant very consciously.

We were made to be in a conscious and personal relationship with God. We who are blessed with knowing of God are called to a personal relationship with the Creator. Some relationships are based on fear—even terror. Our relationship with God is the opposite because it is based on love. The key word is personal. For example, an atheist who is interested in comparative religions can know more about the concept of God than 99 percent of ordinary believers, nevertheless, as a professed atheist, he won't have a personal relationship with God given his intellectual stance. But his disbelief in no way removes God's love and desire for him.

Our personal relationship with God is based on who we are as people. What is startling is that while we cannot reach out and embrace God with our arms, we can do just that with our hearts. Our physical size is of no importance here because love is based in the human soul. Isn't it true that a smile from an infant gazing at the face of her mother totally transforms the mother in ways she could not describe?

Jovian Weigel, OFM - Franciscan Spirit Blog

https://www.franciscanmedia.org



Saints for January

January 12

Saint Marguerite Bourgeoys

"God closes a door and then opens a window," people sometimes say when dealing with their own disappointment or someone else's. That was certainly true in Marguerite's case. Children from European as well as Native American backgrounds in 17th-century Canada benefited from her great zeal and unshakable trust in God's providence.

Born the sixth of 12 children in Troyes, France, Marguerite at the age of 20 believed that she was called to religious life. Her applications to the Carmelites and Poor Clares were unsuccessful. A priest friend suggested that perhaps God had other plans for her

In 1654, the governor of the French settlement in Canada visited his sister, an Augustinian canoness in Troyes. Marguerite belonged to a sodality connected to that convent. The governor invited her to come to Canada and start a school in Ville-Marie (eventually the city of Montreal). When she arrived, the colony numbered 200 people with a hospital and a Jesuit mission chapel.

Soon after starting a school, she realized her need for coworkers. Returning to Troyes, she recruited a friend, Catherine Crolo, and two other young women. In 1667, they added classes at their school for Indian children. A second trip to France three years later resulted in six more young women and a letter from King Louis XIV, authorizing the school. The Congregation of Notre Dame was established in 1676 but its members did not make formal religious profession until 1698 when their Rule and constitutions were approved.

Marguerite established a school for Indian girls in Montreal. At the age of 69, she walked from Montreal to Quebec in response to the bishop's request to establish a community of her sisters in that city. By the time she died, she was referred to as the "Mother of the Colony." Marguerite was canonized in 1982.

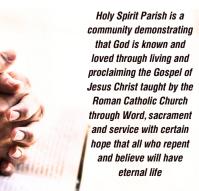
Reflection

It's easy to become discouraged when plans that we think that God must endorse are frustrated. Marguerite was called not to be a cloistered nun but to be a foundress and an educator. God had not ignored her after all.

https://www.franciscanmedia.org/

Mission

Vision



- 1. We see a parish that is diverse, Spirit-filled and vibrant, joyously worshipping together.
- 2. We see a parish generously caring for each other with our time, treasure and talents.
- 3. We see a parish with relevant, active and well-led ministries that are mission-oriented.
- 4. We see a new parish hall built in the next 3-5 years that serves as a gathering space for parishioners to learn, connect, grow and celebrate our faith.



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- 3. Enter your name and email
- 4. Enjoy and share with others

