



# HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

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

<https://holyspiritnewwest.ca>

email: [parish.hs@rcav.o](mailto:parish.hs@rcav.o)

PHONE: 604-521-0334

PASTOR - REV. JOAQUIM DIAS



## Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year B, 4th February 2024

**'He heals the broken hearted, he binds up all their wounds.'**

This Sunday, the readings invite us to look more deeply into the experience of human suffering. It is only through Christ that our pain and despair can and will be transformed. Just like the suffering people in today's Gospel, we all long for Christ. It is through prayer that our yearning will be fulfilled.

Job (**First Reading**) expresses total despair at the great losses that he has experienced; he seems overwhelmed by the frailty of life. The suffering in our world today perhaps makes it easy to relate to his sentiments.

**The Psalm**, however, is like an antidote to the howls of loss that Job exclaims. It speaks of healing for broken hearts and minds; of wounds being bound and tended by our loving God, whose wisdom extends across a universe that he knows and loves intimately.

In the **Second Reading**, Paul writes of how his own experience of Christ and the Gospel impels him to share the Good News with others. He feels that he is like a slave to the Gospel, and is happy to accept this role.

**Today's Gospel** portrays the early days of Jesus's healing ministry in Galilee. After praying with the community in the synagogue, Jesus responds with compassion to all the sick and suffering people who are brought to him. He begins his days in prayerful solitude and is drawn by a desire to bring his Good News to as many people as possible.

Let us pray for the grace to respond with wisdom and compassion to the suffering and needs of our time. May we centre our lives in prayer and by the grace of God be determined like St Paul to bring the Good News to our broken and hurting world.

[stbeunosoutreach.wordpress.com](http://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 February 2024, Pope Francis prays:  
For the terminally ill

We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.

## Parish Ministries, Organization & Services

### Altar Servers Ministry

### Be The Light Ministry

Coordinator: Noli Pangilinan

### Catechetical Ministry

PREP Winnie Bernardo

### Catholic Women's League

President : Cecile Cartago

### Knights Of Columbus

Robert Yang

### Legion Of Mary

Fidel Carolino

### 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

Art & Violet Tonido

Jun & Liezel Javier

### Building Committee

Theo Vanden Hoven

### Fund Raising Committee

Ruth & Jeric Alvarez

## 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**

**ANOIDING 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. Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday falls on 14th February this year. There will be two Masses; the morning Mass will be at 9:00am and the evening Mass at 7:00pm.

### 2. Old Palms

If you have any old palms that were distributed at previous Palm Sundays, please bring them to the Church to be burned for Ash Wednesday. There will be a box in the main entrance of the Church to place them in.

### 3. Knights of Columbus monthly meeting

The Knights of Columbus will be holding their monthly meeting on Sunday, 10th February, in the Parish Centre, at 2:30pm.

### 4. 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.

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 ([familylifecanada.com](http://familylifecanada.com)), 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

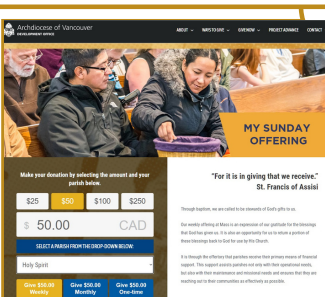
**Saturday, Mar 02, 2024 9:30 AM - 4:00 PM**



Your gift to Project Advance will grow your parish and expand the reach of Christ's love to those who need it most.

#ProjectAdvance

Give online [projectadvance.ca](http://projectadvance.ca)



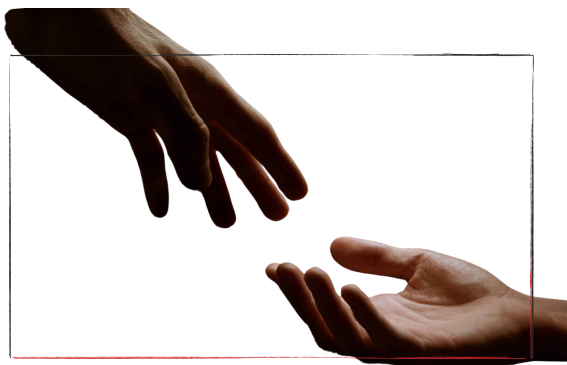
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**Please visit our website:**  
[holyspiritnewwest.ca](http://holyspiritnewwest.ca)





## Divine Assistance



### • *Padre Pio's letter to Raffaelina Cerase, 1914:*

Be careful not to lose sight of the divine presence in any of your actions. Never undertake any work or activity without first having lifted your mind to God and committing that activity to him with holy intentions. Do the same when you offer thanks for the outcome of all your actions. Always examine whether things unfolded in accord with the right intentions you had at the outset, and if you find anything defective, humbly ask the Lord for forgiveness with a firm resolution to amend your failings.

You must not be disheartened or sink into sadness if your actions do not attain the perfection you intended. What do you expect? We are all fragile, we are earth, and not every plot of land produces the fruit intended by the farmer. Let us always humble ourselves after our failures, recognizing that we are completely helpless without divine assistance.

—from the book *Padre Pio's Spiritual Direction for Every Day* by Gianluigi Pasquale and Marsha Daigle-Williamson Ph.D

<https://www.franciscanmedia.org>



## Saints for February

### Saint Blaise - February 03

We know more about the devotion to Saint Blaise by Christians around the world than we know about the saint himself. His feast is observed as a holy day in some Eastern Churches. In 1222, the Council of Oxford prohibited servile labor in England on Blaise's feast day. The Germans and Slavs hold him in special honor, and for decades many United States Catholics have sought the annual Saint Blaise blessing for their throats.

We know that Bishop Blaise was martyred in his episcopal city of Sebastea, Armenia, in 316. The legendary Acts of St. Blaise were written 400 years later. According to them Blaise was a good bishop, working hard to encourage the spiritual and physical health of his people. Although the Edict of Toleration (311), granting freedom of worship in the Roman Empire, was already five years old, persecution still raged in Armenia. Blaise was apparently forced to flee to the back country. There he lived as a hermit in solitude and prayer, but he made friends with the wild animals. One day a group of hunters seeking wild animals for the amphitheater stumbled upon Blaise's cave. They were first surprised and then frightened. The bishop was kneeling in prayer surrounded by patiently waiting wolves, lions and bears.

The legend has it that as the hunters hauled Blaise off to prison, a mother came with her young son who had a fish bone lodged in his throat. At Blaise's command the child was able to cough up the bone.

Agricolaus, governor of Cappadocia, tried to persuade Blaise to sacrifice to pagan idols. The first time Blaise refused, he was beaten. The next time he was suspended from a tree and his flesh torn with iron combs or rakes. Finally, he was beheaded.

### Reflection

Four centuries give ample opportunity for fiction to creep in with fact. Who can be sure how accurate Blaise's biographer was? But biographical details are not essential. Blaise is seen as one more example of the power those have who give themselves entirely to Jesus. As Jesus told his apostles at the Last Supper, "If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you" (John 15:7). With faith we can follow the lead of the Church in asking for Blaise's protection.



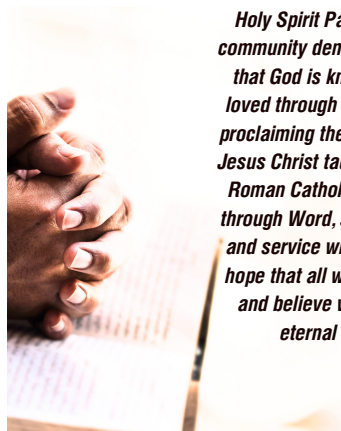
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### Mission

*Holy Spirit Parish is a community demonstrating that God is known and loved through living and proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ taught by the Roman Catholic Church through Word, sacrament and service with certain hope that all who repent and believe will have eternal life*

### 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.







Place your AD's here for only \$150 for minimum 6 months or \$275 for 12 months  
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**Gerri Torres**  
Real Estate Professional  
604.761.3464



**Peter Tolentino**  
Personal Real Estate Corporation

778 239 2666  
[peter@ptolentinoirealty.ca](mailto:peter@ptolentinoirealty.ca)  
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[www.mortgagearchitects.ca/GinaBactol](http://www.mortgagearchitects.ca/GinaBactol)  
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**Darly Capellan**  
Insurance Advisor

Suite 460, 628 - 6th Ave.  
New Westminster, B.C.  
V3M 6Z1

Business: 604-515-0770  
Facsimile: 604-515-0710

Cellular: 778-998-2086  
Residence: 604-528-3855

[darly.capellan@fddfinancial.com](mailto:darly.capellan@fddfinancial.com)



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**Ethelyn David**

[ethelyn.d@kearneyfs.com](mailto:ethelyn.d@kearneyfs.com)  
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are the right choices for  
you and your family.

Helping • Caring • Planning

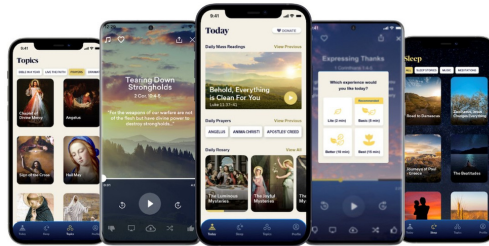
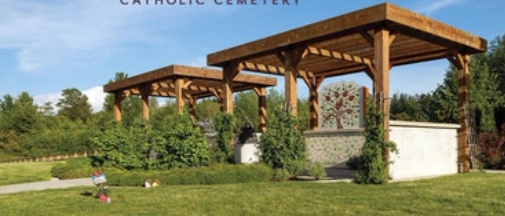
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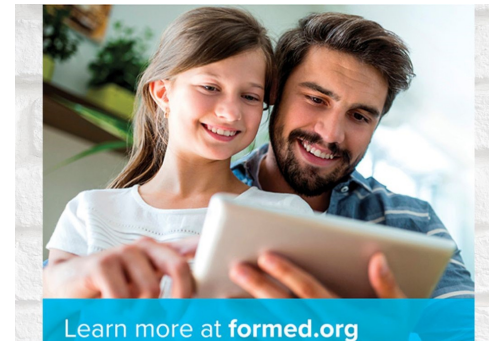
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Knights of Columbus  
[Kofc11359@gmail.com](mailto:Kofc11359@gmail.com)

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**Elizabeth Morales Pagtakhan BA**  
Real Estate Consultant/ Mortgage Specialist  
[elizabeth@elizabethmp.com](mailto:elizabeth@elizabethmp.com)  
[www.grandcentralrealty.com](http://www.grandcentralrealty.com)



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PHONE: 604-521-0334 Fax: 604-521-9518

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