

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

244 Lawrence Street, New Westminster, BC. V3M 5L1 https://holyspiritnewwest.ca email: parish.hs@rcav.org

> PHONE: 604-521-0334 PASTOR - REV. JOAQUIM DIAS





Fifth Sunday of Lent, Year B, 17th March 2024

'I will write my Law on their hearts'

As Lent draws to a close, each Spring day is gradually suffused with increasing light. All around us, nature is waking up from the long darkness of winter. This Sunday's readings encourage us to stir from our own darkness and turn towards growth and transformation out of pain and suffering.

The prophet Jeremiah makes a great proclamation: 'See, the days are coming ... when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel'. God's eternal covenant of love and forgiveness is written deep within our hearts (First Reading).

It is because of this same promise, that Christ became human to share with us in our suffering, forever praying for us and with us **(Second Reading)**. In Christ, all suffering and death are transfigured into growth and new life through his resurrection.

This Sunday's Psalm would have been familiar to Jesus as he prayed for us during his time on earth, earnestly encouraging us to turn from our sinful ways towards God's love and compassion.

In the **Gospel**, Jesus speaks of the personal suffering and death that he will soon be facing. He knows that he could ask his Father to save him from this fate, but instead he willingly makes a choice that leads to our salvation. Jesus invites us to follow his way of living. It is not an easy path to travel, but Christ is always with us, helping and sustaining us.

Let us pray for each other that through God's infinite grace, we will remain true to the law of love that is written deep within us.

stbeunosoutreach.wordpress.com



In his intention for February 2024, Pope Francis prays: FOR THE MARTYRS OF OUR DAY, WITNESSES TO CHRIST - MARCH 2024

We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.

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 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



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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. Stations of the Cross.

Stations of the Cross will be held **every Friday in Lent at 6:30pm**, followed immediately by the Holy Mass at 7:00pm.

2. Parish Lenten Penitential Service

The Parish Lenten Penitential Service will be held on **Tuesday**, **19th March**, **at 7:00pm**. There will be Rosary at 6:00pm and Holy Mass at 6:30pm beforehand.

All Grade 7 students are expected to participate and have a confession with Father Jack that evening.

3. Catechetical Ministry

As we approach the upcoming Spring break for our PREP classes, please be informed of some important dates and events:

Spring Break: March 18th to March 31st

Classes Resume: Wednesday classes resume on April 3rd Sunday classes resume on April 7th

4. Knights of Columbus Pancake/Tapsilog Breakfast.

The monthly Knights of Columbus pancake/tapsilog breakfast will be held on Sunday, 24th March, 2024, in the Parish Centre after the 9:00am and 11:00am Masses. A take away option is offered for your convenience.

5. Any ministries, committees or groups that would like to have their meetings or events announced in the bulletin, please let Father Jack know the time and date at least two weeks ahead of time, to allow for two publications of them.

Holy Week 2024 Schedule

- Lenten Penitential Confession March 19 at 7 pm
- Palm Sunday
- Holy Thursday
- Good Friday
- Holy Saturday
- Easter Sunday

- - March 24 Mass at 9 am & 11 am
 - March 28 Mass at 7 pm
 - March 29 Service at 3 pm
 - March 30 Vigil at 9 pm
 - March 31 Mass at 9 am & 11am





Growth through Sacrifice

We grow as persons by giving to others—by loving others—which always requires a free decision to give up something for someone else. Look into history. Abraham Lincoln made many personal sacrifices and faced much criticism because he was determined to make us one nation. In our own experience, isn't it that self-sacrificing mom or dad we most admire? Their decision to sacrifice for their family or others has made them into truly great people who inspire us every day to become more giving and loving people.

We grow as persons each time we make even a small self-sacrifice in giving to another, in loving another. And then we begin to experience a most surprising by-product inner peace.

from the book Three Minutes with God: Reflections to Inspire, Encourage, and Motivate by : Monsignor Frank Bognanno https://www.franciscanmedia.org/

> 15 PROMISES OF MARY to those who faithfully recite the HOLY ROSARY I. Reception of signal graces. 2. Protection and the greatest graces 3. Powerful armor against hell, vice, sin and heresies 4. Sanctification of souls 5. The soul shall not perish 6. Obtain eternal life 7. Shall not die without the sacraments 8. Light of God and the plentitude of his graces 9. Deliverance from purgatory 10. High degree of glory in heaven II. Obtain all asked by the recitation of the rosary 12. Aid for all necessities to those who propagate the rosary 13. Intercession of the entire celestial court in life and in death 14. Adoption to the family of Mary and Jesus 15. Devotion is a great sign of predestination

Saints for March

Saints Perpetua and Felicity's Story

"When my father in his affection for me was trying to turn me from my purpose by arguments and thus weaken my faith, I said to him, 'Do you see this vessel—water pot or



whatever it may be? Can it be called by any other name than what it is?' 'No,' he replied. 'So also I cannot call myself by any other name than what I am-a Christian.''

So writes Perpetua: young, beautiful, well-educated, a noblewoman of Carthage in North Africa, mother of an infant son and chronicler of the persecution of the Christians by Emperor Septimius Severus.

Perpetua's mother was a Christian and her father a pagan. He continually pleaded with her to deny her faith. She refused and was imprisoned at 22.

In her diary, Perpetua describes her period of captivity: "What a day of horror! Terrible heat, owing to the crowds! Rough treatment by the soldiers! To crown all, I was tormented with anxiety for my baby.... Such anxieties I suffered for many days, but I obtained leave for my baby to remain in the prison with me, and being relieved of my trouble and anxiety for him, I at once recovered my health, and my prison became a palace to me and I would rather have been there than anywhere else."

Despite threats of persecution and death, Perpetua, Felicity–a slavewoman and expectant mother–and three companions, Revocatus, Secundulus and Saturninus, refused to renounce their Christian faith.

For their unwillingness, all were sent to the public games in the amphitheater. There Perpetua and Felicity were beheaded, and the others killed by beasts.

Felicity gave birth to a daughter a few days before the games commenced.

Perpetua's record of her trial and imprisonment ends the day before the games. "Of what was done in the games themselves, let him write who will." The diary was finished by an eyewitness.

https://www.franciscanmedia.org/



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, Spiritfilled 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 missionoriented.

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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