

February 18, 2018 - 1st Sunday of Lent

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today's Gospel: Mark 1:12-15 After Jesus was baptized, the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

Vangelo di Oggi: Marco 1,12-15 *In quel tempo, lo Spirito sospinse Gesù nel deserto e nel deserto rimase quaranta giorni, tentato da Satana. Stava con le bestie selvatiche e gli angeli lo servivano. Dopo che Giovanni fu arrestato, Gesù andò nella Galilea, proclamando il vangelo di Dio, e diceva: «Il tempo è compiuto e il regno di Dio è vicino; convertitevi e credete nel Vangelo».*

Y B Catholic? Conference: Explaining the Faith Ever wanted to share your faith, but felt shy or unconfident? Do you have loved ones who've left the Church, but you aren't sure how to reach them? Maybe you know what the Church teaches, but not always why? This conference is designed to explain clearly and convincingly what the Church teaches and why, focusing on where we find these teachings in the Bible, sacred tradition, and writings of the early Church. Presented by BC Catholic columnist Graham Osborne. Feb 23-24 at St Mary's Parish, Vancouver. Cost: \$10 (tickets sold at the door only). Drinks provided, please bring your own snacks and lunch. rcav.org/event/y-b-catholic-conference

Communication Strategies for Happy Families Do you ever have the desire to get to know your family members better but are not quite sure how to do that? Then this talk is for you! Intended to help families learn the skills and techniques required to communicate effectively and respectfully, this talk is designed to help families understand and practise the art of communicating in a playful and interactive setting. Saturday, Mar 3, from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm at St Jude's Parish, Vancouver.

Inspiring Dominican Saints: St Albert the Great "Mysteria Lucis" Lay Dominicans Group invite you to come for lively discussions of Dominican Saints – Who were they? What can they teach us? How can we apply this in today's world? Every third Saturday from Jan - April and June, beginning Feb 17. Meet St Albert the Great (ca.1200 – 1280), theologian, philosopher, naturalist, bishop and teacher of Thomas Aquinas. At St Mary's Parish, Vancouver, in the old rectory basement. Meetings begin with Morning Prayer at 9:15 am followed by information and discussion about the saint from 10 am - 12:15 pm, then optional potluck lunch. <http://www.dominicanlaity.ca/DominicanLaity/Events.html>



"Repent, and believe in the gospel."

Among other things, Lent is a time for repentance. It is a time to turn away from the things that weigh us down. If the things that weigh us down are sinful, we repent. Repentance is a conscious turning away; it is a choice. Sometimes we need to only repent once; sometimes, especially if it is a problem area or a deeply embedded habit, we need to repent and turn away over and over and over again. It can be hard; it can be tedious but the end result is well worth the effort. Jesus himself was tempted and is more than willing to assist us when we ask for help.



Forty Hour Devotion We will be holding our annual observance of the Forty Hours Devotion from Tuesday, Feb 27 to Thursday, Mar 1. Take this opportunity to spend some quiet time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. Sign up sheets are available in the foyer. We'd like to sure that one or preferably two people will be in the church and with Jesus at all times.

SFA School AGM Our school's Annual General Meeting takes place Thursday, Feb 22 at 6:45 pm in the parish hall. All parents are required to attend and re-registration packages will be handed out.

World Day of Prayer Service All are invited to the World Day of Prayer Service at St Peter's Church, New Westminster, on Friday, Mar 2, at 1 pm. Refreshments to follow. This year's theme, "All God's Creation is Very Good," provides the opportunity to learn about, pray and celebrate environmental issues in solidarity with the women of Suriname in South America.

Fr Gino Away Fr Gino will be away this week, returning in time for the weekend Masses. There will not be any Masses Wednesday through Friday morning; we will have Communion services instead. There is no Italian Mass on Thursday at 11 am.



Stations of the Cross Come and pray the Stations of the Cross each Friday at 6:00 pm during Lent. The Stations are a powerful way to contemplate and enter into the mystery of Jesus' Passion and his love for us.

SFA Gala Invite your friends and family to join us for our sixth annual Gala event! This year's theme, Casino Royale, will be a lot of fun as we come together to celebrate the St Francis of Assisi community and raise money for the New School Building Project. Excitedly, our project is in its final approvals with the City of Vancouver and the Archdiocese of Vancouver. The Gala will be held on Friday, Apr 20 starting at 6 pm at the Croatian Centre 3250 Commercial Drive. Tickets are \$85 and are available through the school or parish offices. For more information, please call 604-253-7311 or email galacommittee@sfaschool.ca

Income Tax Receipts The 2017 income tax receipts are ready for pick up. They are arranged in alphabetical order on a table in the foyer. Please pick up your own receipt only. There is a separate box for Project Advance Receipts. All receipts not picked up this weekend will be mailed.



Notre Dame Alumni Trivia Night Join us on Friday, Feb 23, at Notre Dame High School, Vancouver. Fun, food and lots of prizes! Tickets are \$25 each. Registration is at 6 pm. Pasta dinner starts at 6:30 pm. ND's famous Trivia Game starts at 7:15 pm. For more information, contact Lana at ltesan@gmail.com.

Interior Freedom: Our Desire, Our Need For freedom Christ has set us free (Gal 5:1). Explore the freedom we need for ourselves, with others, and with God. A Lenten day of reflection with anticipated Mass celebrated by Archbishop Miller on Saturday, March 3, from 10:30 am to 4:30 pm at JPII Pastoral Centre. Registration fee of \$20 includes lunch. Open to all Catholics and sponsored by the Courage and EnCourage ministries of the Archdiocese of Vancouver. Registration link coming soon. For more information contact Deacon Hilmar at 778-887-5873. rcav.org/event/interior-freedom-desire-need



Lenten Mission Father Sam Medley of the Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity and director of the Retreat Center of Our Lady of Corpus Christi in Texas will provide a series of three talks as the mission preacher at St Patrick's Church, Vancouver on Feb 26, 27 and 28, from 7-9 pm. There will be Mass each night and an opportunity for confession prior to the Mass and talk. For more info, visit <http://rcav.org/event/2018-parish-mission>

Mass Intentions and Parish Activities

Sat Feb 17	5:00 pm	† Tollardo family † Ernesto & Carmela Lepore
Sun Feb 18 1st Sunday of Lent	9:00 am 10:30 am 12:00 pm 12:00 pm 5:00 pm	† Domenico Di Tomaso † Antonietta Barba † Bruno Chianes & family † Battista Bosa <i>Baptism - Welcome to Roman De Fazio</i> <i>SFO meeting</i> All Parishioners
Mon Feb 19	8:00 am	† Luigi & Angelina Capolongo † Silvio & Ida Bevacqua
Tue Feb 20	6:30 pm 6:45 pm 7:00 pm	<i>Rosary</i> <i>Gr 7 PREP (CGS)</i> Perpetual Novena - St Francis
Wed Feb 21	8:00 am 6:45 pm 8:00 pm	Communion Service <i>Gr 1 - 6 PREP (CGS)</i> <i>Choir Practice - Sat 5 pm</i>
Thu Feb 22 Chair of St Peter	8:00 am 11:00 am 5:15 pm 6:45 pm	Communion Service <i>SFA Over 50 Club</i> <i>Legion of Mary meeting</i> <i>SFA School Annual General Mtg</i>
Fri Feb 23	8:00 am 6:00 pm	Communion Service <i>Stations of the Cross</i>
Sat Feb 24	9:00 am 9:30 am 9:30 am 5:00 pm	† Giovanni Grasso † Carmela Morande <i>Confession</i> <i>Rosary</i> All Parishioners
Sun Feb 25 2nd Sunday of Lent	9:00 am 10:30 am 5:00 pm	† Adele Figone † Visintin family † Bruno Corra † Constancia Tan † Ada Soriano

Lenten Liturgy for Deceased Family and Friends During this Divine Liturgy, we offer our prayers and devotion for our deceased family members and friends. Join us in prayer with fellowship, light food, and short presentation following. Friday, Feb 23, at 7 pm at St Mary's Ukrainian Parish, Vancouver.

Baptisms Baptisms are scheduled at noon on Sundays. Parents, please call the Parish Office at 604-255-8855 to arrange a date for an appointment with Fr Eugenio.

Weddings Arrangements for weddings must be made at least six months in advance to allow enough time to complete the mandatory Archdiocesan Marriage Preparation classes and necessary paperwork. Please call the Office for more information.

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