

A saying attributed to Fr. Pedro Arrupe, SJ, begins:
"Nothing is more practical than finding God, that is,
than falling in love in a quite absolute, final way."
It's what Arrupe said next that strikes me.

*What you are in love with, what seizes your imagination,
will affect everything. It will decide what will get you out of
bed in the morning, what you will do with your evenings,
how you will spend your weekends, what you read, who
you know, what breaks your heart, and what amazes you
with joy and gratitude. Fall in love, stay in love and it will
decide everything.*

I don't know a better description of what Ignatius of Loyola intended when he put the Spiritual Exercises together. He wants us to fall in love. He's interested in those deep currents of feeling that shape what we want, which in turn influences what we do. Psychologists talk about the three parts of the mind: the cognitive (reason and other mental processes), the conative (the will), and the affective (feelings and emotions). Ignatius zeroed in on the "affect." Understanding is important, and the will is vital, but what gets you out of bed in the morning is what you love. This is what Ignatius wanted the Spiritual Exercises to influence.

- Excerpted from *God Finds Us* by Jim Manney (Loyola Press, Chicago)

Daily Prayer This Week

Jesus invites us to remain in his love. That is a powerful freedom. If we can reflect this week on ways we can remain in his love, and not let anything take away our peace, we will grow in great freedom.

Jesus tells us that his one commandment to us is to love one another as he has loved us. The most important word in that command is "as." He wants us to imitate the very "way" he loves us - completely, un-conditionally, in a self-sacrificing way. It can be the focus of our entire week to ask for the grace to love the people in our lives the ways Jesus loves us. But, that begins, if it is to be deep and transformative, needs to begin by reflection on how much Jesus loves us.

All week we can let the Spirit be the helper and the gatherer that our Lord promises will accompany us in our journey. It helps us prepare for the feast of Pentecost, to be asking, "Come, Holy Spirit."

Source: onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/Prayer



ST. MONICA PARISH

12011 Woodhead Road, Richmond, BC V6V 1G2

Tel. 604.278.0844 Fax. 604.279.0334

Website: stmonicaparish.ca Email: parish.smon@rcav.org

May 6, 2018

6th Sunday of Easter

~~~~~

The Lord's commands are not restricting or limiting, but rather are the way to our fulfillment in this life and the next. We can love and be loved by our Creator by following his commandments.



### LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Peter speaks of fearing the Lord and doing his work, and the Holy Spirit comes upon the believers. The gentiles, who received the Holy Spirit, are also to be baptized. In John's First letter, he writes of loving another because God is love. Jesus in the Gospel explains we are commanded to love as he has loved – by laying down our lives for each other.

~~~~~

Today's Readings:

1st: Acts 10.25-26, 34-35, 44-48

Psalm: 98

2nd: 1 John 4.7-10

Gospel: John 15.9-17

PASTOR: **Rev. Robert Wong, SJ**

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday

9:30 am – 1 pm / 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm

MASS SCHEDULES

WEEKDAYS: 9:00 am

SATURDAYS: 9:30 am & 5:00 pm

SUNDAYS: 9:00 am & 11:00 am

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

SATURDAYS: 4:30 pm – 4:55 pm

CONFESSIONS: 10 MINUTES BEFORE DAILY
MASS OR BY REQUEST AT OTHER TIMES

NOVENA TO

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

WEDNESDAYS: 7:00 pm

MASS FOLLOWED BY NOVENA
& BENEDICTION

BAPTISM COURSE

EVERY 2ND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH AT 6 pm

BAPTISMS

4th SATURDAY AFTER 9:30 am MASS

HOUSE BLESSINGS

PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE

PARISH UPDATES

MARIAN MONTH – May is the traditional month when we focus on the Virgin Mary, Our Blessed Mother. You are welcome to join us in praying the rosary before the daily Mass.



Legion of Mary Gathering – On Saturday, May 12th, our parish will be hosting the Legion of Mary groups from the different parishes in Richmond. They will begin with praying the Rosary at 8:00am and participating at the 9:30am Mass and follow by the Crowning of Mary. All are welcome!



PROJECT ADVANCE 2018 – “Support the Faith - Continue the Legacy” is the theme for this year’s Appeal. Our share is \$25,000.00, an increase of \$5,000. We would keep our total goal the same as previous year, \$75,000.00.

Our Project Advance volunteers are available in the foyer to assist with your gift donation. You may make your pledge online at www.projectadvance.ca May Our Lord bless you abundantly!



Tree of Gratitude – A few new inscriptions of Leaf plaques have been added to the beautiful sculpture on the wall. Thanks to our generous parishioners and friends. May the Lord bless you with his love and grace!

God never sends anyone trials too heavy to bear, and he is with those in distress. Since this is certain, you need fear nothing, but rely on his mercy.—St. Teresa of Avila

Project Advance Stewardship Prayer

*O God, the Father of every gift,
all that we are and have comes from your hand.*

*In Jesus Christ, your Son,
you have given us the greatest of all gifts.*

*Fill our hearts with his love,
so that we may be parish communities
of faithful, caring people.*

*Grant us the grace to be good stewards
who, in the name and spirit of Jesus,
Share our gifts of time, talent and treasure
for the building up of your Kingdom
in our Archdiocese and throughout the world.*

*May we see Project Advance as our way
to live gratefully and give generously
for your honour and glory.*

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Magnificat Breakfast

You are invited to the Magnificat breakfast on **May 12 from 9:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** In the words of the Magnificat, Mary proclaimed to Elizabeth her gratitude for the wonderful action of God in her life. Please join us at our first breakfast for Catholic women of Vancouver where we will share together in the same spirit of gratitude and praise of God. After breakfast, there will be a time of prayer for the needs of all present and an opportunity to hear one woman’s experience of the transforming love of Christ in her own life. Please plan to come and bring a friend to rejoice in the presence of the Lord. Register at magnificatvancouver@telus.net include your name, phone number, email address and names of guests. Cost \$25.00. Contact Gloria at 604-946-9241.

ARCHDIOCESAN UPDATES

Celebrate your Milestone Anniversary with us! This Mother’s Day, Archbishop J. Michael Miller, CSB, will be honouring couples celebrating their: 5th, 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th, 50th, 55th & 60th+ years of marriage. **Mass will be on Sunday, May 13, at St. Matthew Parish, Surrey. Please be advised that due to circumstances beyond our control we have had to change the Mass time to 2:30 p.m.** Reception to follow in the parish gym with exhibitors present in Jubilee Hall. All are welcome to witness and celebrate the milestone anniversaries of others!



Byzantine Pro-Life Service for the Unborn

The Eastern Catholic Church in Richmond is hosting a pro-life service for the unborn **Friday, May 11, at 7 p.m.** All are welcome! rcav.org/event/byzantine-pro-life-service-unborn



March For Life Victoria

Join the thousands raising their voice for “human” rights for all “human beings” on **Thursday, May 10.** All are welcome to start the day in prayer. Marchers should be at Centennial Square by 1:45. The march will leave at 1:45, and head down Government Street to the B.C. Legislature. Marchers will arrive at the Legislature front lawn at approximately 2:15 p.m. for the Rally for Life, which will have inspirational speakers and lively music until 3:15 p.m. The day ends with the Victoria Pro-Life Gala Dinner. Visit rcav.org/event/march-life-victoria for the complete schedule of events, contacts, and transportation options from Vancouver to Victoria.

Those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit.—Romans 8.5

Stewardship Reflection

6th Sunday of Easter

Jesus’ commandment is that His disciples love one another, even to the point of laying down their lives, if necessary. What gifts of myself — my skills and talents, my time and resources — will best demonstrate my love for God’s people?

Mass Intentions

May 6-12, 2018

- Mon, May 7— Sandra Sequeira (Thanksgiving)
- Tue, May 8— Keon Santos (Thanksgiving)
- Wed, May 9 — 9am, Carmen Ong (RIP)
7pm,
- Thu, May 10— Jason D’Silva (RIP)
- Fri, May 11— Marcelle & family (RIP)
- Sat, May 12— 9:30am, Johnny Lewis (RIP)
5pm, Jose Quitzon (RIP)

Our new website, stmonicaparish.ca is now live. Also, visit and like us on Facebook: ‘Smon Monica’.