



The Parish Bulletin

FOR ALL NEWS AT ST.MARY'S PARISH VANCOUVER

5251 JOYCE ST VANCOUVER, BC V5R 4G8 | 604-435-9611 | PARISH.SMARV@CAV.ORG | STMARYSVANCOUVER.CA

PASTOR'S CORNER

WHAT KIND OF SOIL AM I?

In this Sunday's Gospel (Matthew 13:1-23), Jesus tells us the familiar Parable of the Sower. At first glance, we may think the story is about the seed. In reality, the seed is always the same—it is the living and life-giving Word of God. The real question Jesus asks each of us is: **What kind of soil is my heart?**

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that "Sacred Scripture is the speech of God as it is put down in writing under the breath of the Holy Spirit" (CCC 81). God's Word is never merely information; it is an invitation to transformation. As the prophet Isaiah assures us, God's Word "shall not return to me empty" (Isaiah 55:11). Whenever we listen with faith, God is already at work within us.

Yet Jesus honestly acknowledges that the Word encounters different kinds of hearts. Sometimes our hearts become hardened by resentment or indifference. At other times, we receive God's Word with enthusiasm but fail to persevere when difficulties arise. Often, the worries of life, the pursuit of success, or the constant distractions of our world quietly choke our spiritual growth.

St. Jerome famously said, "Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ." If we rarely open the Bible or reflect on the Gospel, we should not be surprised if

our relationship with Christ becomes weak. A disciple grows by listening.

The good news is that soil can change. A hardened field can be cultivated. Rocks can be removed. Thorns can be uprooted. Through prayer, the Eucharist, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and daily acts of charity, the Holy Spirit gradually prepares our hearts to receive God's Word more deeply.

St. Teresa of Calcutta once reminded us, "God has not called me to be successful; He has called me to be faithful." Faithfulness means allowing God's Word to shape our decisions, our families, our workplaces, and our relationships each day.

As we gather around the Lord's table this Sunday, let us not simply hear the Gospel. Let us welcome it. May every Mass soften our hearts, deepen our roots, and remove the thorns that prevent us from bearing fruit. Then, in God's time, our lives will yield a harvest—thirty, sixty, and even a hundredfold—for His glory and for the good of the world.

I wish you all a blessed week!

Fr. Joseph



ST.MARY'S PARISH VANCOUVER

IN CHRIST WITH MARY TOGETHER IN HOPE

15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JULY 12, 2026

SUNDAY MASS READINGS YEAR A

1st READING

ISAIAH 55: 10-11

℟ - RESPONSORIAL PSALM 65: 10, 11, 12-13, 14

2nd READING

ROMANS 8: 18-23

✠ GOSPEL

MATTHEW 13: 1-23

SUNDAY MASSES

(AND SATURDAY)

SAT 5:00 pm (anticipated mass)

SUN 8:00 am, 9:30 am, 11:15 am

1:00 pm | 3:00 pm (Tagalog)

5:00 pm | 7:00 pm

DAILY MASSES

MON - FRI 8:00 am SAT 8:30 am WED - FRI 7:00 pm

CONFESSION

SUNDAY before/after mass WEEKDAY after mass

DEVOTIONS

MON - FRI | 7:00 am

Rosary & Lauds

WED | 6:00 pm

Novena: Our Lady of Perpetual Help

THU | 6:00 pm

Rosary & Prayer for Vocations

FRIDAYS

03:00 pm Divine Mercy

06:00 pm Novena: Two Hearts of Jesus & Mary

07:00 pm Mass followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

09:00 pm Benediction

SAT | 07:45 am

Rosary & Lauds

Follow us!

@stmarysvancouver



PILGRIMAGE Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes

AUG 14

9 DAYS NOVENA IN PREP TO THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF MOTHER MARY

AUG 30 - SEP 8

MARIAN PILGRIMAGE EUROPE 2026

OCT 5-19

ST.MARY'S PROJECT CANA MASS WEDDING

NOV 14

✠ JUAN JIMENEZ ✠ BEATRICE VILLA ✠

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, may perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace, Amen

Office hours

Mon, Wed - Fri 9am - 5pm

Tues 9am - 1pm

Closed Weekends

Parish Office

Located in the "Rectory" which is the red brick house next to the church on Joyce Street.



Parish office phone 604-435-9611 + EXT

⚠ DO NOT ENGAGE with unverified e-mails impersonating our priests & staff. Contact the parish office if unsure/report. Refer to the directory below.

Pastor 201	Fr. Joseph D'Souza, OP	jdsouza@rcav.org
Assistant Pastor 202	Fr. Gabriel de Chadarevian, OP	gabrielmariedominiq@gmail.com
Assistant Pastor 203	Fr. Dieudonné Bigirimana, OP	dbigirimana@rcav.org
Assistant Pastor 212	Fr. Mark Hoo, OP	Mhoo@rcav.org
Pastoral Assistant 204	Lorna Acosta	parish.smarv@rcav.org
	Marriage, Funeral, and Pastoral inquiries	
Reception 0	Priya Menezes	reception.smarv@rcav.org
	Baptism, Mass intentions, Anointing of the sick	
Director: Faith Formation and Mission 205	Edwin Cruz	prep.smarv@rcav.org
	PREP (Parish Religious Education Program). Catechism for children attending public school.	
	RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) for adults in need of Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation, and Catholic Faith.	rcia.smarv@rcav.org
Finance and Property 207	Michael Gabas	smpacc@telus.net
Youth & Young Adult Ministry Coord 209	Joyce Villaverde	youth.smarv@rcav.org
Digital Ministry -	David C.	dcapdesign@gmail.com
Vanspec -	Christina Reyes Ocampo	vanspec.smarv@rcav.org
	1-on-1 special needs catechism	
St.Mary's Elementary -	Principal - Ms. Brenda Krivuzoff	office.smarv@cisva.bc.ca
	stmmary.bc.ca	604-437-1312 Fax: 604-437-1193

PARISH EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

To see all events visit:
stmarysvancouver.ca/events

For general updates, news, and programs visit:
stmarysvancouver.ca/announcements

 **Pilgrimage to the Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes**
Sat, Aug 15, 2026 | *Fraser River Heritage Park*
7494 Mary Street, Mission, BC

Join us for a day of prayer and fellowship at the Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes. The schedule includes Confessions, Celebration of the Eucharist with Archbishop Richard W. Smith, Procession, Rosary & Benediction, and a Picnic & Fellowship. Bring your chairs and picnic baskets

Bus Reservations: \$50 cash

please visit the parish office to reserve your spot.

604-435-9611 | reception.smarv@rcav.org
MissionGrotto.com | info@aquinasinstitute.ca | 604-425-0392

 **Mass Wedding | Saturday - Nov.14, 2026**
Receive the Sacrament of Marriage!
St. Mary's Project Cana



Couples yet to receive the Sacrament of Marriage are invited to deepen their journey in Christ by celebrating in the Mass Wedding; a wonderful opportunity to open your heart to God's grace and receive the full blessing of the Church.

To register contact Edwin: rcia.smarv@rcav.org

REGISTRATION STILL OPEN

 **Hope on the Horizon | Aug 2026**
Street Outreach Missionary Program
Catholic Street Missionaries & Archdiocese of Vancouver

HOPE ON THE HORIZON
STREET MISSIONARY OUTREACH

Are you looking for a way to grow in faith and serve the marginalized on the streets? Join Hope on the Horizon live-in summer program for young adults (19-35). It's a powerful experience of prayer, learning, community life, and outreach to the homeless.


1-WEEK | AUG 8-15, 2026 OR 2.5-WEEK | AUG 8-23, 2026

 **Apply today! Learn more at:**
catholicstreetmissionaries.org/horizon

 **From My Heart to Yours - Craft Card Making Night**
Friday, July 17 @ 6:30pm
@Church Basement | Hosted by: SM Youth Ministry

Calling all youth, Grades 7-12 for a heartfelt night crafting faith-uplifting cards for our homeless community. The cards will be given to Catholic Street Missionaries, an organization that does homeless outreach in Downtown East-Van. Art Supplies will be provided.

youth.smarv@rcav.org | IG: @stmarysyouthvan

 **Venezuela Earthquakes - Donations for relief**
Donations matched until July 14
Development and Peace — Caritas Canada


Every dollar donated until July 14 will be matched by the Government of Canada, doubling the impact of your gift.

Give online at devp.org/en/make-a-don

 **Non-perishable Food Drive | Jul 1 - Aug 31**
Knights of Columbus | St Mary's Council #13072

Collecting non-perishable packed food items in marked boxes located in the Church foyer.

Your contributions will be donated to the Door is Open

 **Life in the Spirit Seminar - Save the Date**
Sept 22 - Oct 20, 2026
Mission Ablaze Prayer Group

Join us for multi-week sessions and experience the power of the Holy Spirit. Life in the Spirit Seminar is coming soon.

 **PREP 2026 - Catholic After-school Education**
Registration is now open, book today!
Parish Religious Education Program

The Parish Religious Education Program (P.R.E.P) offers religious instruction for children who attend grades 1-7 in public schools. *There will be no online registration at this time.* Please register directly with the PREP Coordinator at the Parish Office.

Book an appointment, please call:
604 435 9611 ext. 205 or email prep.smarv@rcav.org

 **9 Day Novena In Preparation To The Feast Of The Nativity Of Mother Mary | Aug 30 - Sep 8**
@St. Mary's Church

Join us for a nine-day novena in preparation for the Feast of the Nativity of Mother Mary. Each evening, we will gather for Mass and prayer, honouring Our Lady and preparing our hearts for her feast day. All are welcome to attend this Marian devotion. See foyer for schedule.

 **Emmanuel Prayer Group is back!**
Starting Sunday, July 12, 2026 *@Rectory Dining Room*

Join us for worship, prayer, and fellowship in an intercultural community. For more info contact Evode & Marie: emukama01@gmail.com or call at 604-767-7453

 **Marian Pilgrimage 2026: A 15-Day Journey to the Sacred Heart of Europe | Oct 5 - 19, 2026**
Hosted by St. Mary's Parish - Vancouver

Journey with Fr. Joseph D'Souza and our parish on an unforgettable pilgrimage to major Marian shrines, like Medjugorje, Lourdes, Barcelona, Zaragoza, and Fatima. For any inquiries, contact Royal Orchid Tours:

Brian Andrade: 778-999-4599 **Deon Almeida: 778-866-8118**
info@royaleorchidtravels.com | royaleorchidtravels.com

The tour price of CAD \$6900 includes all flights, transportation, taxes, all meals, and itinerary sightseeing.

 **World Youth Day 2027**
Join us on pilgrimage to Korea next year!
Young Adult Ministry & Royal Orchid Tours and Holidays



Join the Young Adult Ministry invites you in pilgrimage to WYD2027 in Seoul Korea. Open to adults 18+. For more info, contact Joyce: youth.smarv@rcav.org

 **Parish Play Casting Call - Looking for Dancers**
LET IT BE DONE: The Fiat Echoes Still - Dec.5, 2026
A St. Mary's Parish Produced Musical Play

We are currently looking for dancers for our parish play this winter. **Contact Rafael: joeraf08@yahoo.com** or text **604-440-9899**.



MINISTRY DIRECTORY

Find your way to serve. St. Mary's is home to many groups and ministries. Get started at: stmarysvancouver.ca/ministries

- Mission Ablaze** - missionablazesmv@gmail.com
- PPPG (Padre Pio Prayer Group)** pppgvancouver@gmail.com
- Youth Ministry & Young Adult Ministry** | Joyce
(604) 435-9611 ext. 209 | youth.smarv@rcav.org
- DNA (Discipleship aNd Accountability Men's Prayer Group)**
fathergabriel1@outlook.com | (604)-435-9611, ext. 202
- Pier Giorgio Frassati Bible Study** | Fr. David | 778-928-5675
- Migrant Ministry** | Resochita Arma | resochita.arma@issbc.org
- Christian Meditation** | Cora | calcuitas@gmail.com
Maeve | mms3018@gmail.com
- St. Mary's Mass Choir Ministries** | stmarysvancouver.ca/choir
- Children's Liturgy** | saintmarylwc@gmail.com
- St. Mary's Street Ministry** | Mildred Moy
mmoy_ca@yahoo.com | (778) 885-9611
- Project Cana (Mass Wedding)** | Edwin Cruz | rcia.smarv@rcav.org
- Digital Ministry** | David.C | stmarysvancouver.ca/digimin
- Hands of Veronica** | Nayda | naydaleonardo@yahoo.ca

Contact the Parish Office at 604-435-9611 for the following:

- Knights of Columbus
- Catholic Women's League
- St. Mary's Pro Life Ministry
- Seniors Gatherings
- St. Mary's Flower Ministry
- Seasons of Hope Bereavement Ministry
- St. Mary's Praesidium (A Legion of Mary Youth Program)

PARISH RESOURCES



PARISH LIBRARY

Looking for books, CDs, and DVDs? View online catalogue at stmarysvancouver.ca/ministries/library
To borrow, email our librarian **Bill Murphy** at:

wmmurphy@hotmail.com

formed™

THE CATHOLIC FAITH.
ON DEMAND.

1. Formed.org/signup and Search by postal code: **V5R 4G8**
2. Select **"St. Marys Vancouver 5251 Joyce Street"**
3. Register with your name and email address
4. Check your emails for a link to begin using FORMED!

PARISH CALENDAR

VISIT: stmarysvancouver.ca/all-events



Jul 14 - Tue 7:00pm | Prayer Group Meetings

Mission Ablaze

☪ Every Tues @Church Basement | To join online contact: missionablazesmv@gmail.com



Jul 14- Tue @7pm | Online Christian Meditation

To join meditations email: calcuitas@gmail.com

ON BREAK | In-person Christian Meditation

In-person meditation resuming in August!



Jul 16 - Thu 2:00pm | CWL Line Dancing

Catholic Women's League

☪ Every Thur | Suggested donation - \$2 | @Church basement



Jul 20 - Mon 6:00pm | St. Mary's Pro-Life Ministry

☪ Every 3rd Mon/each month @ St. Mary's Church



Jul 17 - Fri @6:30pm | Craft Card Making Night

Youth Ministry

@Church Basement



Jul 25- Sat 9:30am | DNA Men's Group

Discipleship aNd Accountability Men's Prayer Group

☪ 2nd & 4th Sat/each month @Rectory Basement



Jul 25 - Sat Time TBA | Wheels of Faith Seawall Bike Ride

Young Adult Ministry

More info to come...



July 26 - Sun | 8:00am | Emmanuel Prayer Group

☪ 2nd & 4th Sun/each month @St. Mary's Church



Aug 15 - Sat @10:00am | Pilgrimage to Lourdes Grotto:

@Fraser River Heritage Park, Mission



Sep 22 - Tue @7:00pm | Life in the Spirit Seminar

Mission Ablaze Prayer Group

@St. Mary's Parish



Padre Pio Prayer Group ON SUMMER BREAK till OCTOBER

Resuming later this year in October



Nov 14 - Sat | Mass Wedding (Project Cana)

@St. Mary's Church | More info on pg.2 and website



Seniors Socials Resuming Fall

Have a great summer

Stewardship Reflection

July 12, 2026 - 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"The seed sown among thorns is the one who hears the word but then the cares of the world and the lure of riches choke the word and it bears no fruit." - Matthew 13:22

Does the lure of riches and material goods choke God out of your life? Are you so caught up in earthly activities that you have no time for God? Gratitude and generosity are virtues that we should strive to do on a daily basis. Every decision we make either takes us one step closer to God or one step further away. What we receive at Mass every Sunday should be shared with others all the other days of the week as well.

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Burnaby, BC V5H 2A9
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HearingLife.ca

JOYCE STATION DENTAL

Welcome to Joyce Station Dental

We are happy to announce that Joyce Station Dental located at 5258 Joyce Street is undergoing a renovation to enlarge our location to help with the community dental needs.

We are presently enjoying helping our community now with your dental needs and look forward to providing more available times in the near future.
Stop by and say "Hi".

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