

ST. ANTHONY'S PARISH - Archdiocese of Vancouver

ASCENSION SUNDAY May 8th 2016

Pastor: Fr. Gary Franken
Office Hours: Mon - Fri: 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

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I just finished a book entitled "Teaching a Stone to Talk" by Annie Dillard. This book tells a disquieting story about a British expedition to the Arctic Ocean. The participants loaded their ships with all the equipment one might find in a posh London club. There was engraved silverware, cut crystal, etc. But unaccountably took only enough coal for twelve days. Their ships became locked in the unforgiving Arctic ice. After many weeks, they attempted to walk to safety. All perished. Two officers died near their sled. Their would-be rescuers found they had been dragging sixty-five pounds of table silverware.

It would be very easy to criticize this foolish group of men. However, we need to remember that we are doing the same thing. Many of us are weighed down by many negative forces in our lives - bad habits, unhealthy distractions, absence of spiritual structure in our lives, etc. These self-imposed weights prevent or at least postpone our own personal ascensions.

"Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus who has been taken up into heaven will return the same way." Jesus has ascended into heaven and He wants us to be His witnesses. Like the apostles, we can witness to Jesus' forgiveness - a second chance for all of us. Although Jesus has disappeared from our sight, He did not leave us. And He tells us, *"You will be my witnesses"*.

There are many people who look to us to see whether Christianity is genuine. They wish to see whether it has touched our own lives and whether it has caused us to ascend above the common place. So many people are seeking meaning for their lives. Christians are called to provide this meaning. We are called to live the presence of the Lord upon earth. The Lord has ascended into heaven, yet He is still here, right here among His people. We are His witnesses. As one sage puts it, *"Christianity is not just Christ in you but the ascended Christ living His life through you."*

The Ascension was not an ending; it was a beginning. It was the beginning of our experience of God's presence to us in His risen Christ's newly formed body, His Mystical Body. At the same time the *Ascension* is God's promise to us that He will never leave us. God the Son's mission to us had been successfully accomplished. Now He will always be with us; He is as



near to us now as our Holy Communion. He is nearer to us now than if He was physically present as an individual somewhere in the world.
Fr. Joseph

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:00 PM;

Sunday: 9:00 and 11:00 AM.

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday to Friday: 8:00 AM;

Saturdays & *Public Holidays*, 9:00 AM.

CONFESSIONS

Mon - Fri: before 8 AM Mass;

Sat: 9:30 AM & 4:15 - 4:45 PM.

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

SUN	May 8 th Ascension Sunday	9 am 11 am	FOR PARISHIONERS
Mon	May 9	8 am	†Virginia Forsyth
Tue	May 10	8 am	Sp. Int. Leonardo Cho
Wed	May 11	8 am	†Remo Gambioli
Thu	May 12	8 am	†Gabriella Micallef
Fri	May 13	8 am	†Max Joffe †Bill Hefferman
Sat	May 14 St Matthias	9 am 5 pm	†Virginia Forsyth †Basim Azzam
SUN	May 15 th Pentecost Sunday	9 am 11 am	FOR PARISHIONERS
			†Livio Tedesco

ST. ANTHONY'S SCHOOL

(604) 922-0011

principal@saswv.ca

S. T. A. HIGH SCHOOL

(604) 987-4431

bdougan@aquinas.org

Catholic Cemeteries: are a link
between the living & the departed.



DATE	May 14 th : 5 PM	May 15 th : 9 AM	May 15 th : 11 AM
HOSPITALITY	LORETTA v UNEN PAT BATTENSBY	WENDY GRAY	LARRY TRACH LORNA DALINGHAUS
LECTOR	ROBERT BUTLER	RAVEN TSANG	LARRY TRACH
EMHC	STEPHANIE LOCKING	DON VICIC	ALEJANDRO BEREZOWSKY
SOCIAL HOSTS	*	A & C ADAM	VOLUNTEER PLEASE?

St. Anthony's Parish Religious Education Program (PREP): Every Wednesday for students in Grades 1 - 7 not attending Catholic Schools. For other Sacramental Information, phone the Parish Office or email: parish.sawv@rcav.org.



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!
Carnations On Sale
After Masses!
Fundraising event sponsored
by the K of C for Pro-Life.

CAR WASH @ ST ANTHONY'S!

St Anthony's Grade 6 & older PREP students invite you to bring your vehicle to the church parking lot for washing.

Saturday, 14th May, 10 AM - 3 PM.

Proceeds go to help *refugee families* sponsored by the parish.

You cannot miss the *"Cleanse'n in the Spirit"* activity.

Just look for a Franciscan nun clad in brown habit.

Sr. Angela Marie, fse will be leading the team!



EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS . . .

A violent earthquake measuring 7.8 on the Richter scale, struck Ecuador on Saturday, April 16th.

Help greatly encouraged.

Here at St Anthony's, please pick-up a **Yellow Envelope** for your donation. *Receipts will be issued.*

Donating **CASH**, make sure your name is on the envelope.

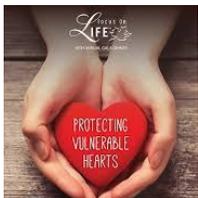
By **CHEQUE**, please write-it-out to St Anthony's Parish.

YB CATHOLIC!?!?

Thank you to All who supported the two-day conference through your attendance and generosity. Feedback has been extremely positive for both our presenter, Graham Osborne, and for the wonderful lunches we enjoyed.

A big thank you also to the ladies who shopped on the Fridays and prepared lunches and cleaned-up on the Saturdays.

If you wish to give any feedback on this event or suggestions for future events drop them off in the office. *Tony Gray*



FOCUS ON LIFE GALA DINNER

Monday, May 16th, @

The Italian Cultural Centre

Hosted by *Life, Marriage and Family, Signal Hill* and the *Christian Advocacy Society*.

Keynote speaker, **Ryan Bomberger**, an *Emmy award-winning creative professional*

& co-founder of **Radiance Foundation**, an organization based on the belief that every human life has beautiful possibility.

Fr. Gary invites you to be at our Table representing St Anthony's.

Cost: \$75. Phone parish office for your ticket.

National Week for Life & Family

May 8th - 15th

THEME:

"My Family: A School of Mercy"

Visit: goo.gl/yGQvNs for resources.



"MY FAMILY: A SCHOOL OF MERCY"

National Week for Life and the Family
 (May 8-15, 2016)

We invite you to celebrate the Family!
 Here are resources for families and parishes,
 along with user guides.

STA HIGH SCHOOL

Annual *Heritage Fair*, Tuesday, May 10th, 3 to 5 pm to promote an awareness and understanding of Canadian history and heritage among students and adults in the province.

Come view the projects created by our students!

CANADIANS FOR CONSCIENCE

On April 14, 2016, the federal government introduced legislation (Bill C-14) to amend the Criminal Code, making euthanasia/assisted suicide legal in Canada.

Archbishop Miller states that *"Bill C-14 is problematic on many levels: ambiguous as to who qualifies for assisted suicide, lacking in conscience protection for institutions, and devoid of concrete financial support for palliative care alternatives to euthanasia and assisted suicide."* Canadians shouldn't have to compromise their conscience.

Legislation is expected to be in place by June 2016, so we need to act fast! Please visit www.CanadiansforConscience.ca.

Those who wish to personally voice your objection to this Bill, **write to: Hon. Jane Philpott, Cabinet Minister for Health, Parliament Hill, Ottawa.** NO POSTAGE required.

YEAR OF MERCY REFLECTION . . .

"The invocation of God's mercy needs to rise up from the depth of hearts filled with suffering, apprehension and uncertainty, and at the same time yearning for an infallible source of hope..."

With the eyes of our soul we long to look into the eyes of the merciful Jesus..."

St. John Paul the Great

TASTE & SEE: FAITH DIALOGUE & DINNER

Saturday, May 28th, 6:30 pm @ Croatian Cultural Centre

Speakers: **Fr. Thomas Rosica**, and **Archbishop Miller**.

An evening of fun, faith-filled dinner and conversation.

Proceeds to support the work and mission of *Salt + Light*.

Ticket: \$100. (\$50 tax receipt). saltandlighttv.org/tasteandsee.

RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT

When we remember and grieve our loss, we set our souls free so we can move beyond the pain. Come on a Rachel's Vineyard™ Retreat with us. Give yourself permission to remember, grieve and then find freedom and life in God as you become a new creation full of hope. **Next Retreat: June 2016. (604) 525-0999.**

SEARCHING IN THE SPIRIT

July 4-8 @ Camp Jubilee for ALL 12 & 13 year olds!

Searching in the Spirit, is an annual post-confirmation training. It provides youth with formation in discipleship, and challenges participants to live out their faith values in everyday, real-life situations. Most of all, it inspires the newly confirmed to continue on in their faith journey.

This fun-filled week includes sessions, prayers, Mass, games, arts and crafts, and outdoor activities such as *Kayaking* and *Archery*. To register, visit rcav.org/youth-training/.

Early registration deadline is June 6th.

YOUTH LEADER

August 22-26 @ Summit Park, Abbotsford for 14's or older.

Make plans to join us for *Youth Leader*, our dynamic Christian Leadership training event at *Summit Park* in Abbotsford.

This is a *"can't-miss"* leadership training event!

Youth Leader is an ideal training ground for leaders in parishes with youth ministries. As well, it's very suitable for high school student councils and other leadership groups.

To register, visit rcav.org/youth-training/.

Early registration deadline is July 25th.