

Mass Times: Saturday: 7:00pm, Sunday: 9:00 am and 11:00 am— Tuesday to Friday at 9:00am

Reconciliation: Saturdays 6:15pm, Sundays 8:15 am or by Appointment.

Pastor: Father Aruldhass Lucas, SAC.

Mailing address: 1088 Gillett Street, V2M 2V3—Office hours: Monday to Friday 9:00am to 4:00pm

Website: stmaryspg.ca—E-mail: stmarys.parish@shawcable.com

We acknowledge that St. Mary's Parish rests on the unceded traditional territory of the Lheidli T'enneh



THE ROMAN
CATHOLIC DIOCESE
OF PRINCE GEORGE



Bishop: Most Rev.
Stephen Jensen

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN THE ORDINARY TIME

JESUS REPLIED: "LOVE THE
LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART
AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL AND WITH ALL
YOUR MIND. THIS IS THE FIRST AND
GREATEST COMMANDMENT. AND THE
SECOND IS LIKE IT: 'LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR
AS YOURSELF.'" MATTHEW
22:37-39

NEIGHBOR AND SELF: GOD'S WAY OF SAYING THANK YOU?

Bill was the head of an engraving firm in New York City. He and his wife, Billie, wanted very much to have a family. Several years after their marriage, when it seemed as though God intended them to be childless, they adopted a baby boy. After a while they decided that they should adopt a girl, too. Among those available for adoption, there was one sweet child who had a cardiac disorder. Because of the ailment, the physician who examined the little girl advised against taking her. To the doctor's amazement, Bill disagreed. "No," he said, "we'll adopt her anyhow. A daughter of ours might have been born with the same condition." After sixteen years of marriage, Bill and Billie welcomed a third child into their family circle. This baby was their own flesh and blood.... God's way of saying thank you. — "The second commandment is like the first: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" (Mt 22:39). Gospel of the day. (Father Robert F. McNamara)

READINGS AND LITURGY

Exodus 22.21-27; Ps 18.1-6, 46-50;

1 Thessalonians 1.5-10; Gospel: Matthew 22.34-40.

In the first reading, God commands his people not to oppress the weak. In the second reading, Paul commends the Thessalonians for placing their faith in God and becoming a model for others. In the Gospel, Jesus says the greatest commandment is to love the Lord your God and the second is to love your neighbor as yourself.

—Faith Catholic

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for the intentions of: Brigitta Betz, Elmer Braun, Eldon Gauthier, Maria Levar, Beverly Stuart, Rizal Advincula, Grace Noblette, Minnie, Blair, and Korena Peters and family, Garry Kaulbach's daughter, Birdie Froment, Mia Savic and family, Pam Meyer, and Joanne Rebogaliata.

Welcome to Our Church!

*To all who mourn or need
comfort,
To all who are weary and need
rest,
To all who seek friendship,
To all who desire to grow in
Relationship with God,
To all who yearn to pray,
To all who need a Saviour,
And who ever will worship,
This Church of St. Mary's
opens wide its doors,
And in the name of
Christ our Lord, says:*

WELCOME!

ARE YOU GOD?

In New York City, on a cold day in December, a little boy, about 10-years-old, was standing before a shoe store on the roadway, barefooted, peering through the window, and shivering with cold. A lady approached the young boy and said, 'my, but you're in such deep thought staring in that window!' 'I was asking God to give me a pair of shoes,' was the boy's reply. The lady took him by the hand, went into the store, and asked the clerk to get half a dozen pairs of socks for the boy. She then asked if he could give her a basin of water and a towel. He quickly brought them to her. She took the little fellow to the back part of the store and, removing her gloves, knelt down, washed his little feet, and dried them with the towel. By this time, the clerk had returned with the socks. Placing a pair upon the boy's feet, she purchased him a pair of shoes. She tied up the remaining pairs of socks and gave them to him. She patted him on the head and said, 'No doubt, you will be more comfortable now.' As she turned to go, the astonished kid caught her by the hand and looking up into her face, with tears in his eyes, asked her. 'Are you God?' No, said the woman. I am only his child. The boy smiled and said: I knew it all the time. You are some relation of his.



MASS

INTENTIONS

Sat	Oct 28	7:00 pm	RIP Jose Manuel Resendes
Sun	Oct 29	9:00 am	Intentions for all our Parishioners
		11:00 am	Int for Rose Binnie.
Tue	Oct 31	9:00 am	RIP Heinz Stallbaumer
Wed	Nov 1	9:00 am	All Saint's Day RIP Fr. Wes Szatanski, OMI
Thu	Nov 2	9:00 am	All Soul's Day RIP Marcos and Olympia Marinas
Fri	Nov 3	7:00 pm	RIP Joaquim Ramos Pereira
Sat	Nov 4	7:00 pm	RIP Whillena Rita Hoarau
Sun	Nov 5	9:00 am	Intentions for all our Parishioners
		11:00 am	RIP Carolina and Rodolfo Pacaide

FIRST FRIDAY MASS AND ADORATION

We will have our First Friday Mass and Adoration on November 3rd at 7:00 PM. Please note there will be no morning Mass on this day.



ST. MARY'S SCHOOL

2023 WINTER FUNDRAISER

The winter Fundraiser has started. If you are interested in getting beautiful Christmas floral arrangements, please visit the website to place an order online: <https://stmarysprincegeorge.growingsmilesfundraisng.com>. Orders and payment due on November 14th and Pick up date on November 30 from 2:00 to 6:00 PM at the School. If you have any question, contact Kimberley at 250-981-6307 or stmaryspg.secretarypsg@gmail.com.

ST. MARY'S CARLO ACUTIS YOUTH GROUP

We will be meeting on **Tuesday, October 31st** for the St. Vincent de Paul All Hallow's Eve Food Drive. We will gather at St. Mary's in the school parking lot (Gillett St.) at 6pm and then we will go out in groups around the neighborhood to collect non-perishable food items for St. Vincent de Paul. We will meet back at St. Mary's in the school gym for hot chocolate & treats. Please come dressed in your best costumes!

It would be awesome to see some creative Saint Costumes. Please spread the word and invite your friends!

Parents, please let Claudia know if you are able to volunteer with driving for this event. Please contact Claudia at clowdy1@hotmail.com for more information.

ALL SOUL'S DAY

The graves at the prince George Cemetery will be blessed this year on All Soul's Day, November 2nd at 3.00PM. You are invited to be present at the time of the blessing of the graves of your family members and friends.



Please see the back of the bulletin for an insightful article on All Saint's and All Soul's Day.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN OCTOBER

Knights-Turkey Supper Fundraiser, this **Sunday, October 29th at 5:00 PM.**

Blessing of Graves, on **Thursday, November 2nd at 3:00 PM**

First Friday Mass and Adoration, **November 3rd at 7:00 PM.** No morning Mass on this day.

St. Mary's Craft Fair, on **Saturday, November 4th and Sunday, November 5th from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM.**

Annual Remembrance Mass, **Wednesday, November 8th at 7:00 PM.**

Mass for Seniors at Simon Fraser Lodge, **Saturday, November 14th, at 10:30 AM**

St. Mary's Movie Night, on **Friday, November 17th at 6:30 PM**

Necrology Mass, Wednesday, November 22nd at 7:00 PM

Next Pancake Breakfast, on **Sunday, November 26th at 10:00 AM**

Parish Potluck Christmas Celebration with Gifts for Baby Jesus on **Sunday, December 3rd at 5:00 PM.**



Saturday November 4th &

Sunday November 5th 2023

10:00 am to 4:00 pm

At: St Mary's Auditorium, 1088 Gillett St.



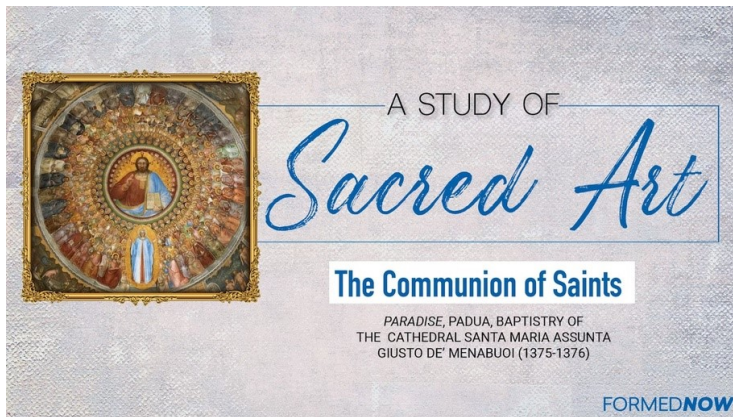
St Mary's



Craft Fair

Come join us, browse through our many crafters, and enjoy a wide selection of products

Lunch Tables, Soups, Pies, Sandwiches, Hamburgers, and Hot Dogs.



ST. MARY'S FREE FORMED SUBSCRIPTION

Sign up for your free FORMED subscription courtesy of St. Mary's Parish & School: <https://formed.org/signup>
Enter St. Mary's Parish Postal Code: V2M 2V3.

Formed recommendation this week: The Communion of Saints | Sacred Art. In celebration of All Saints' Day, Dr. Ben Akers and Taylor Kemp sit down to discuss Giusto de' Menabuoi's "Paradise" and how the saints give us hope by showing us that holiness is possible. .
<https://watch.formed.org/videos/sacred-art-the-communion-of-saints>

ANNUAL PARISH TURKEY DINNER

The Knights of Columbus are hosting the Annual Parish Turkey Dinner this **Sunday, October 29th** at St. Mary's Hall. Doors open at 5:00 PM and dinner will be served at 5:30 PM. You can still buy your tickets with your favorite Knight until they are all sold out!. Cost for tickets: Adults, \$15.00, Kids from 6—10, \$7.00. There will also be a Card Game Night following Supper for those who would like to stay and play!



ALLED TOGETHER AND HEALING AND RECONCILIATION APPEAL UPDATE

I am grateful to everyone who has participated to date in our appeals. We are now just over 63% of the way to our diocesan goal in pledges and almost 53% already received. We also have reached more than \$18,000 in our Healing and Reconciliation Appeal with all funds received.

St. Mary's (PG) has hit **66.88%** of their combined goal, and Annunciation Parish is right behind with 66.37% of their combined goal. Sacred Heart Cathedral is at 59.31% and St. Patrick's is at 57.85%. We have several parishes already in the 40-50% range.

I want to remind everyone that the appeal is supposed to help everyone in the diocese. Our combined goals set this year reflect this by combining the diocesan goal with a parish goal. All funds raised above the diocesan goal are returned in full to each parish for their projects.

A lot of our smaller parishes and missions rely on this support from across the diocese in order to help keep everything running. At this point, we can only fund half (53%) of the amounts allocated to them. If you haven't yet contributed to the appeal, I would ask that you consider supporting the work of these parishes and missions.

Again, I ask that everyone continue to keep the many needs of the entire diocese in your prayers, especially at Mass. Your continued support, both financially and spiritually, is both greatly needed and appreciated.

-James Fowlie, Business Manager.




62nd ANNUAL CHARITY APPEAL

[Click here](#) For Council 5246

WIN \$100,000 in prizes including a 2023 Toyota RAV4 Hybrid Grand Prize

PRIZES

1st Prize 2023 Toyota RAV4 Hybrid
2nd Prize \$30,000 **4th Prize** \$5,000
3rd Prize \$10,000 **5th to 14th** \$1,000 each! --> **Early Bird Draws**

TICKETS
1 for \$5
10 for \$25
50 for \$50

Limited Tickets!
BUY TODAY for Council 5246
Total Prizes \$100,000

Sales Oct 1, 2023 to Dec 16, 2023, 8pm
Early Bird Draws
Oct 9 (2x\$1000), Oct 23 (2x\$1000), Nov 6 (2x\$1000)
Nov 20 (2x\$1000), Dec 2 (2x\$1000)
Main Draw Saturday December 16, 2023, 8:01pm

An annual charity appeal of the Knights of Columbus (BC) Charity Foundation
WORKING TOGETHER TO MAKE OUR COMMUNITIES BETTER
Thank you for your Support!

For general inquiries call **604-216-7272** BC Gaming Event License #: **144568**
Chances are 1 in 410,000 (total tickets for sale) to win a grand prize. Actual odds depend on number of tickets sold. 19+ to play.
Problem Gambling Help Line 1-888-795-6111 www.bccresponsiblegambling.ca Know your limit. Play within it.
Winners are responsible for cost associated with delivery/claiming of prizes.

I am with you

FALL LECTURE SERIES

Dr. Thomas Bouchard on supporting families through perinatal palliative care



Night Two
November 7, 8pm (ET)

"I AM WITH YOU" FALL LECTURE SERIES

The deVeber Institute for Bioethics and Social Research presents "I am with you" a two-night lecture series on supporting women and families through pregnancy and after. Registration is free and easy. Sign up today at www.deveber.org.

Night Two November 7th 8 PM (ET)/5 PM (PT): Dr. Thomas Bouchard on supporting families through perinatal palliative care.

Please contact us at bioethics@deveber.org if you have any questions or would like assistance with registration.

WE ARE ALL GOING TO DIE: THOUGHTS ON ALL SOULS DAY

BY COLIN MACIVER | NOV 2, 2019 | FORMATION, HOLY DAYS & HOLIDAYS

At the gates of November ...

The darkness advances and overtakes the sun earlier each day. The nights are long and in the darkness the wind howls to cause crisp leaves to collide with the ground and one another. The sound is stirring. The exodus of freshly fallen leaves causes the forest silhouette to reveal something of a skeleton. Here, at the gate of November, nature weaves a tapestry of Sister Death and the world beyond her.

Each year, attentive to nature and supernature, we remember. We remember that we will all die as we hear, "*Sic transit gloria mundi*," (thus passes the glory of the world) in the scraping of the leaves. All things pass away, and so will we—as have generation after generation. Such a macabre realization, rather than inducing fear and fright, can stir in us the urgency of hope. Hope for ourselves and hope for the dead.

We raise a question and mount a response.

What lies beyond the veil?

A Map of Things Visible and Invisible

I have found myself drawing something of a diagram for my students over the past few weeks. It is my attempt at a map of existence—of things seen and unseen. A big part of this is helping students to consider the existence of the human person after death. The map depicts heaven, hell, and purgatory. The simple exercise of drawing this out and opening a bigger conversation is to, in union with the sermon of nature and the Church's liturgical feasts, help students to consider that our destiny is greater than Friday afternoon when the school or workday ends. This world, in its fallen and broken state, will pass away and our destiny is something greater.

Our Catholic Faith causes us to both consider this reality and act accordingly. While this is true throughout the liturgical year, it is a particular emphasis during November. We begin with All Saints Day, move immediately to All Souls Day and will build toward the feast of Christ the King, which is a thoroughly eschatological celebration, lifting our gaze to Christ's reign and return. The Sunday Gospels over the next few weeks will emphasize the end of things as we know them and orient us toward the reign of Christ, the Kingdom of God. Already though, in these first days of November, All Saints Day and All Souls Day draw us into the mystery.

Heaven

On All Saints Day—drawing on Scripture and the Tradition guaranteed by Peter's keys—the Church sets our gaze on the great multitude who have washed their robes white in the blood of the Lamb. These are the saints of God who behold His face forever in heaven. (Revelation 7:9). On November 1 we celebrate the reality of the Church Triumphant, the ones who have entered into the fullness of God's glory. We consider the many who are named—the canonized saints—and most particularly on All Saints Day, the many who are unnamed. Their uncountable number stokes a fire of hope that we too, through God's grace and their intercession, will one day find the fullness of our humanity in the great wedding feast of the Lamb—heaven. We do not worship saints, we worship God with the saints. We look to their example and we ask for their intercession and help. On November 1 we set our sites on heaven as our goal, and this should cause us to wonder at more than the spookiness of nature's little death. All Saints Day is an opportunity to grow in our heavenly imagination.

For many, the vision of heaven is stunted. We imagined as children, but perhaps hardly think of it as adults. We know heaven is to see God face to face (1 John 3:2). I suspect though, that for many, this sounds boring. All Saints Day is a good opportunity to consider what this might fully mean: not a staring match with an old bearded man in the clouds, but an eternal and immediate intimacy with the source of goodness, beauty, and truth. Everything good, beautiful, or true that we encounter in this life is but a shadow of the full glory into which we are destined to enter. All Saints Day is a wonderful invitation to ponder and wonder and hope over the real goal of human life.

Double Hockey Sticks

Then there is hell. It is worth bringing up in this discussion because Jesus does. While there appropriately is no liturgical feast for hell—the secular world has turned the anticipation of All Saints and All Souls into something of an anti-liturgy. Signs of hell are set up as lawn decorations for the span of a whole month. (We have all just witnessed this.) Without fascination and certainly without entertaining or participating in the glorification of evil, we should wisely be mindful of the lake of fire that is heaven's opposite. Hell is real (see CCC 1035). Jesus is never shy about warning us of the place where the worm does not die and the fire burns unquenchably (Mark 9:48).

Hell should not be a focus, but a healthy fear and awareness of hell is unequivocally and undeniably preached by Jesus himself—and consistently throughout all four Gospels. God has destined us for himself, but if we demand to be like God apart from God—to have it our way—if we prefer our attachments and idols to God, then hell is a real danger. Eternal frustration is a real possibility and the sights and sounds that surrounded us in the month of October can shake us into a healthy fear of hell.

Purgatory

There is a third possibility. It is not one of the last things (heaven, hell, death, and judgment), but rather an intermediate thing. We call this state purgatory and it is the reason for the commemoration of All Souls that we celebrate on November 2. Purgatory is not simply an in-between state that could result in heaven or hell. Neither is it an arbitrary waiting room outside of heaven. Rather, it is a purifying fire (see Zechariah 13:9). Purgatory describes the process of preparing a soul for heaven. It is painful and difficult, but it is a place of hope. The pain of purgatory is productive pain, like surgery or even the pain of a training or competing athlete. Through this productive suffering the souls in purgatory suffer and need our prayers. All Souls Day should renew an ongoing commitment to pray for those who suffer the purifying fire.

Specifics about purgatory are difficult, but analogy is helpful. In C.S. Lewis' *The Great Divorce*, we meet many souls who are in the painful process of reorienting their interior script, of letting go of something that prevents them from continuing their pilgrimage toward the throne of God. Theologically we talk about temporal punishment, time and space consequences of sin that are not remitted directly through absolution. Lewis' way of describing this seems helpful. When we turn away from sin, there is still a fuller healing and reorientation that must take place. God's mercy is complete and so must be our repentance and detachment from sin. Prayer and sacrifice for souls, both on earth and in purgatory, are part of a mysterious and powerful economy that helps to join souls to Christ and free them from sin and its consequences.

Aware of this, we remember our loved ones and pray. We resist the urge to instantly canonize our beloved dead and pray with sober hope, knowing that our prayers for the dead are never wasted. It is never to the shame of a deceased loved one that we pray for them. It is simply an act of love and honor.



Memento Mori

Thinking about all of this should change the way we pray, but also the way we prioritize our time and the way we live overall. Remembering death and mapping out the grander scale of reality can be revolutionary. I asked one group of students how many of them had thought about death, heaven, hell, or judgment at all in the past week. Not a single hand was raised. A culture aware of death, with a proper perspective rooted in hope, is a culture of life.

As the nights get longer and nature enters into winter's deathly sleep—remember that you will die. Remember, hope, and pray.

<https://media.ascensionpress.com/2019/11/02/we-are-all-going-to-die-thought-on-all-souls-day/>