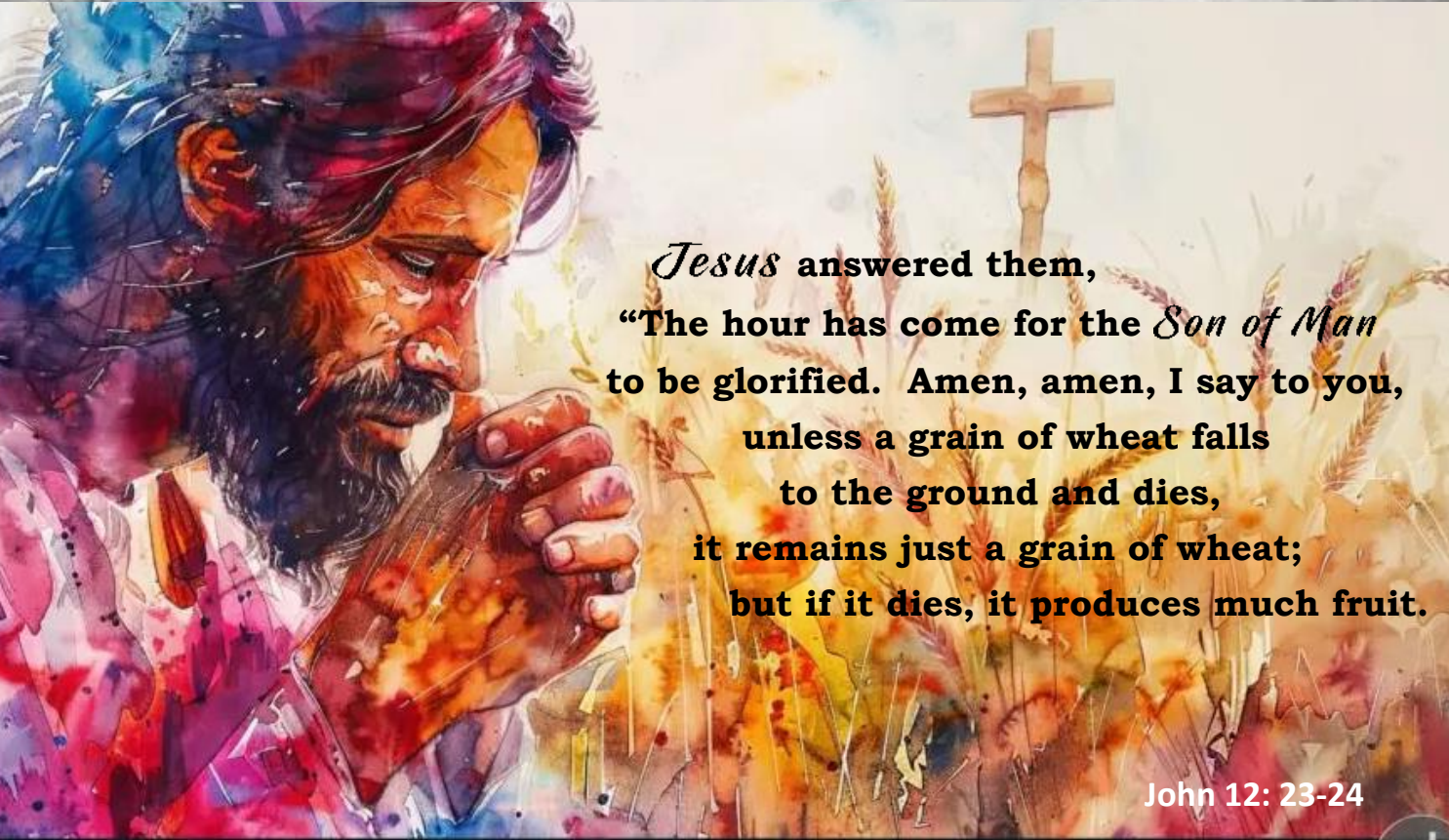


# STAR OF THE SEA PARISH

## Welcome

Fifth Sunday of **LENT** —March 17, 2024



*Jesus* answered them,  
“The hour has come for the *Son of Man*  
to be glorified. Amen, amen, I say to you,  
unless a grain of wheat falls  
to the ground and dies,  
it remains just a grain of wheat;  
but if it dies, it produces much fruit.

John 12: 23-24

### MISSION STATEMENT:

***To follow Jesus Christ and to invite others to do the same.***

#### **PARISH OFFICE:**

2250 – 150th Street  
Surrey, BC V4A 9J3

Phone: 604-531-5739

#### **FOR AFTER HOURS EMERGENCIES:**

604-831-1162 or 604-541-8036

Email: [parish@starofthesea.ca](mailto:parish@starofthesea.ca)

Website: [starofthesea.ca](http://starofthesea.ca)

**OPEN:** Monday – Friday  
8:30am – 4:30pm  
(closed Noon-1pm)



#### **STAR OF THE SEA CHURCH**

1153 Fir Street  
White Rock, BC V4B 4A8

#### **Weekend Mass**

Saturday 4PM  
Sunday 10:30AM

#### **GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH**

2250 - 150th Street, Surrey, BC V4A 9J3

#### **Weekday Mass**

Monday—Saturday 9AM  
**6:30PM Mass EVERY FRIDAY**  
during Lent followed by  
**STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

#### **Weekend Mass**

Saturday 5PM  
Sunday 9AM 11AM 7PM

 **LIVESTREAM** Mass 11AM

#### **Confessions**

Wednesday 6:30PM  
Saturday 10AM



## PARISH STAFF:

### PASTOR:

Fr. Augustine Obiwumma  
[aobiwumma@rcav.org](mailto:aobiwumma@rcav.org)

### ASSOCIATE PASTOR:

Fr. Francis Mallya,  
ALCP/OSS  
[fmallya@rcav.org](mailto:fmallya@rcav.org)

### OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR:

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### ACCOUNTING:

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### EVANGELIZATION & CATECHESIS:

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### MUSIC MINISTRY:

Trudi Stammer  
[stammertrudi7@gmail.com](mailto:stammertrudi7@gmail.com)

### FACILITIES MANAGER:

Tom Cremer  
[tomc@starofthesea.ca](mailto:tomc@starofthesea.ca)



*Our Lady,  
Star of the Sea,  
Pray for us!*

Dear Parishioners,

Fifth Sunday of **LENT** — March 17, 2024

This week, I want to bring your attention to our Parish Lenten Penitential services coming up next week and the added opportunities for Confessions before Easter (see inside bulletin and also on the parish website).

I remind all the faithful of the 3rd and 2nd precepts of the Church: ***that you shall receive the sacrament of the Eucharist at least during the Easter season***, and to receive the Lord's body and blood in Communion, one must be in a state of grace. This is an absolute requirement that can never be dispensed. To receive the Eucharist without sanctifying grace in your soul profanes the Eucharist in the most grievous manner (1 Cor 11:27–28). That's where the 2nd precept comes in: ***that you shall confess your sins at least once a year***.

My dear friends, do not read this legalistically. What these precepts of the Church are meant for is to help you grow in the love of God and neighbour, to give you a concrete experience of our God who can never be outdone in His Mercy, which He wants to lavish upon you so that you can be 'made clean', you can be born anew and be free to receive His Love as His beloved..

So please, *do not be afraid*, and come, especially if it's been a long time. There will be 6 priests available to hear Confessions on Thursday, March 21st, 7pm in Good Shepherd Church. And if Thursday doesn't work for you, there are other days available in our neighbouring parishes → see next page for list of other parishes.

Please also note that the next 2 Wednesdays—MARCH 20 and MARCH 27—there are NO REGULAR 6:30PM Confessions.

Thank to all the women who attended our Lenten Women's Retreat two weeks ago and to all the men who attended this weekend. Please be assured of my prayers for you.

*Fr. Augustine*

The Precepts of the Church are meant to guarantee the faithful **"the very necessary minimum in the spirit of prayer and moral effort, in the growth in love of God and neighbor"** (2041). You can find the 5 precepts in the *Catechism* paragraphs 2042-2043

Please **register** by filling out a (blue) Registration Form available in the foyer of both churches, and drop off your completed form in the Sunday Collection basket.



**SCAM EMAILS ARE MAKING THEIR ROUNDS AGAIN!!**  
If you receive an email purporting to be from "Father Augustine" asking you to help him with something **"in confidence"** or **"off the record"**, **DO NOT REPLY** and **DELETE IMMEDIATELY**.  
If in doubt as to the authenticity of these requests, please contact the parish office 604-531-5739.





**“Confession is an act of honesty and courage – an act of entrusting ourselves, beyond sin, to the mercy of a loving and forgiving God.”**

~ St. Pope John Paul II



### **LENTEN PENITENTIAL SERVICES**

Mon, Mar 18, 7PM — OLGC

Tues, Mar 19, 7:30PM — St. Matthew

Tues, Mar 19, 7PM—Precious Blood

Wed, Mar 20, 7PM—IC Delta

**Thurs, Mar 21, 7PM—Good Shepherd**

Thurs, Mar 21, 7PM—St. Bernadette

### **ADDITIONAL CONFESSION TIMES BEFORE EASTER:**

Fri. March 22, 10am @ Good Shepherd

Sat. March 23, 10am “

Good Friday, March 29, 10am “

## **HOLY WEEK & EASTER MASSES**



**MONDAY, MAR 25:** Good Shepherd Church 9AM

**TUESDAY, MAR 26:** Good Shepherd Church 9AM

**WEDNESDAY, MAR 26:** Good Shepherd Church 9AM  
(No regular 6:30PM Confessions; priests at Chrism Mass)

### **HOLY THURSDAY, MAR 28**

**Stations of the Cross:** Star of the Sea Church 9:55AM  
(with SJPII Academy School)

**Mass of the Lord's Supper:** Good Shepherd 7:00PM  
Adoration until Midnight

### **GOOD FRIDAY, MAR 29**

**Stations of the Cross :** Good Shepherd 9:00AM and 6:30PM  
Star of the Sea Church 11:00AM

Confessions at Good Shepherd Church: 10AM

### ***The Passion of the Christ Movie***

at Good Shepherd: Showtimes: 12Noon and 4PM

### ***Solemn Liturgy of Good Friday***

Good Shepherd 3:00PM

Star of the Sea Church 3:00PM

### **HOLY SATURDAY, MAR 30**

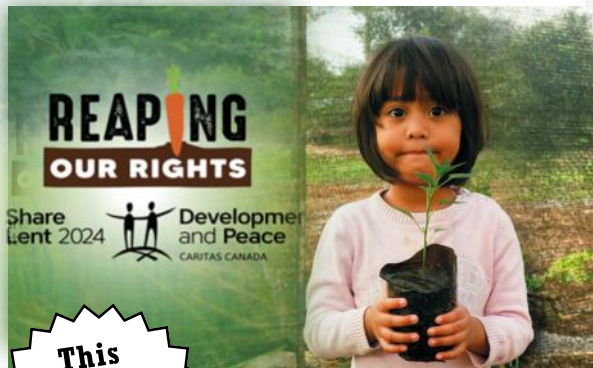
(No regular 10AM Confessions on Holy Saturday)

**Blessing of Easter Food** Good Shepherd Church 12:00PM

**Easter Vigil** Good Shepherd Church 8:00PM

### **EASTER SUNDAY, MAR 31**

Good Shepherd Church 9:00AM, 11:00AM & 7:00PM  
Star of the Sea Church



**This  
weekend's  
2nd  
Collection**

Today, March 17th is  
**Share Lent Sunday**  
(Solidarity Sunday).

Archbishop Miller: *“Throughout the world, and particularly in the Global South, countless millions of our brothers and sisters struggle to meet the most basic needs of life. Whether due to extreme poverty, war, oppressive regimes, predatory corporations, or a host of other ills, these children of our heavenly Father lack food, clean water and effective health care. Throughout our annual Share Lent Campaign, Solidarity Sunday provides an opportunity for us to share some of the abundance we enjoy as Canadians with those around the world who have so little. In keeping with the Lenten practice of almsgiving, I urge you to respond to this year's Share Lent Appeal as generously as you are able.”*

### ***How to give:***

- 1) Second Collection Envelope
- 2) Online at <https://support.rcav.org/parishes/second-collection/>

# Sunday Mass Readings:

Reading 1: [Jeremiah 31:31–34](#)

Psalm: [Psalm 51:3–4, 12–13, 14–15](#)

Reading 2: [Hebrews 5:7–9](#)

Gospel: [John 12:20–33](#)

[Benedict XVI Homily](#) at "Santo Volto di Gesù" in Rome 2009

Very appropriately, the liturgy brings us to meditate on this text of John's Gospel today, on this Fifth Sunday of Lent, while the days of the Lord's Passion draw near in which we will immerse ourselves spiritually as from next Sunday which is called, precisely, Palm Sunday and the Sunday of the Lord's Passion. It is as if the Church were encouraging us to share Jesus' state of mind, desiring to prepare us to relive the mystery of his Crucifixion, death and Resurrection not as foreign spectators but on the contrary as protagonists, involved together with him in his mystery of the Cross and the Resurrection. Indeed, where Christ is his disciples called

to follow him, to be in solidarity with him at the moment of the combat must also be in order to share in his victory.

What our association with his mission consists of is explained by the Lord himself. In speaking of his forthcoming glorious death, he uses a simple and at the same time evocative image: *"unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit"* (Jn 12: 24).

He compares himself to a *"grain of wheat which has split open, to bring much fruit to others"*, according to an effective statement of St Athanasius; **it is only through death, through the Cross that Christ bears much fruit**

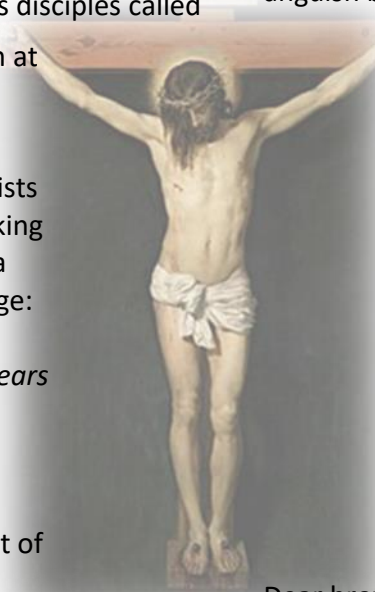
**for all the centuries. Indeed, it was not enough for the Son of God to become incarnate. To bring the divine plan of universal salvation to completion he had to be killed and buried: only in this way was human reality to be accepted, and, through his death and Resurrection, the triumph of Life, the triumph of Love to be made manifest; it was to be proven that love is stronger than death.**

Yet the man Jesus who was a true man with the same sentiments as ours felt the burden of the trial and bitter sorrow at the tragic end that awaited him. Precisely since he was God-Man he felt terror even more acutely as he faced the abyss of human sin and all that is unclean in humanity which he had to carry with him and consume in the fire of his love. He had to carry all this with him and transform it in his love. *"Now is my soul troubled"*, he confessed. *"And what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour?"* (Jn 12: 27). The temptation to ask: "Save me, do not permit the Cross, give

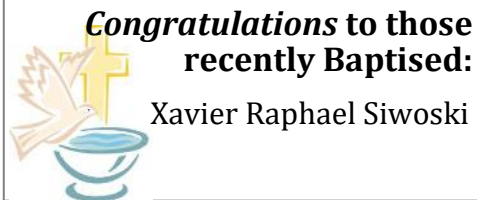
me life!" surfaces. In the distress of his invocation we may grasp in anticipation the anguished prayer of Gethsemane, when, experiencing the drama of loneliness and fear, he implored the Father to take from him the cup of the Passion. At the same time, however, his filial adherence to the divine plan did not fail, because it is precisely this that enables him to know that his hour has come and with trust he prays: *"Father, glorify your name"* (Jn 12: 28). By this he means **"I accept the Cross" in which the name of God is glorified, that is, the greatness of his love.** Here too Jesus anticipates the words of the Mount of Olives, the process that must be fundamentally brought about in all our prayers: **to transform, to allow grace to transform our selfish will and open it to comply with the divine will.** The same sentiments surface in the passage of the Letter to the Hebrews proclaimed in the Second Reading today. Prostrated by extreme anguish because of the death that was hanging over

him, Jesus offers up prayers and supplications to God *"with loud cries and tears"* (Heb 5: 7). He invokes help from the One who can set him free but always remaining abandoned in the Father's hands. And precisely because of his filial trust in God, the author notes, he was heard, in the sense that he was raised, he received new and definitive life. **The Letter to the Hebrews makes us understand that these insistent prayers, of Jesus with tears and cries, were the true act of the High Priest with which he offered himself and humanity to the Father, thereby transforming the world.**

Dear brothers and sisters, this is the demanding way of the Cross that Jesus points out to all his disciples. On several occasions he said, *"If anyone wants to serve me, let him follow me"*. **There is no alternative for the Christian who wishes to fulfil his vocation. It is the "law" of the Cross, described with the image of the grain of wheat that dies in order that new life may germinate; it is the "logic" of the Cross, recalled also in today's Gospel: "He who loves his life loses it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life".** "To hate" one's life is a strong and paradoxical Semitic expression that clearly emphasizes the radical totality which must distinguish those who follow Christ and, out of love for him, put themselves at the service of their brethren. They lose their life and thus find it. There is no other way to experience the joy and the true fruitfulness of Love: the way of giving oneself, of self-giving, of losing oneself in order to find oneself.







## Congratulations to those recently Baptised:

Xavier Raphael Siwoski

## Please pray for

Marin Robertson,  
Ivan Felipe Aragon,  
Jean Guy Tardif, Trudy Bishop,  
Theresa Desrochers,  
Margaret Benoit, Maria Lee,  
Givon Santos, Rose Cruz,  
Byrne Turner, Bernie Karoway,  
Murray Carpenter,  
Patrick Hamilton, Marilyn Wolfe,  
Jason Eddleman,  
Delia Antunovich, Julia Nadon,  
Ken Prout, Mercedes Sandoval,  
Judy Nault, Maria Kasprzyk,  
Jola Melone, Brian Hickey,  
Jack Plain, Otto Witteveen,  
Charles Lefaive, Anna Schott,  
Peter Kingsland, Fern McCann,  
Nancy Murchison, Karine Tardif,  
Angus Heaps, Bob Keith,  
Stephanie Wideski,  
Edward Drabik, Rob McLellan,  
Glenn Brooks, Carmina Raponi,  
Susie Bencherif, Marci Nunez,  
Adria Tate, Wolf Mashohn,  
Amelia Solomon,  
Guilherme & Isaura da Ponte,  
Lydia McGrann, Theresa Kim,  
Manal Ibrahim, Dirk Post,  
Marian Nadelko,  
Maureen McLaren

## ADORATION CHAPEL

**OPEN** Every Day  
**9AM - 9PM**



The Bridegroom is Coming!  
Our nation needs the healing love of the Eucharistic Jesus. How are we called to respond? One way is to spend time in front of the Blessed Sacrament praying for Our Lord to restore and transform us with His Presence.

Hours in need of a weekly visitor:

**Sunday, 12:00pm-1:00pm**

**Sunday, 5:00pm-6:00pm**

**Sunday, 7:00pm-8:00pm**

**Monday, 9:00am-10:00am**

**Monday, 12:00pm-1:00pm**

**Monday, 5:00pm-6:00pm**

**Tuesday, 4:00pm-5:00pm**

**Thursday, 12:00pm-1:00pm**

**Thursday, 2:00pm-3:00pm**

**Thursday, 4:00pm-5:00pm**

**Friday, 3:00pm-4:00pm**

**Saturday, 2:00pm-3:00pm**

**Saturday, 3:00pm-4:00pm**

**Saturday, 4:00pm-5:00pm**

**Saturday, 5:00pm-6:00pm**

**Saturday, 7:00pm-8:00pm**

Hours in need of a Substitute:

Sun., Mar. 17, 24, 31

– 5:00-6:00pm

Mon., Apr. 1 – 9:00-10:00am

Mon., Mar. 25 – 2:00-3:00pm

Fri., Mar. 29 – 3:00-4:00pm

Sat., Mar. 23 – 3:00-4:00pm

For more information or to schedule a Holy Hour of adoration, please call:  
Donna Sali 604 542 3070



## PARENTS/CAREGIVERS COFFEE MEET-UP

**Mondays**  
after school drop-off  
**9:30am-10:30am**  
in the Welcoming Area  
at Good Shepherd Church

## 2024 First Holy Communion and Confirmation Dates



First Holy Communion  
is on **Sunday, May 5**  
**2:00pm**  
Good Shepherd Church



Confirmation is on  
**Friday, May 31**  
**6:30pm**  
Good Shepherd Church

## Next Baptism Preparation

**Class** for parents wanting  
Baptism for their child(ren) is on

**Saturday, May 18**

**10AM—Noon**

**Good Shepherd Church  
Meeting Room**

This class is mandatory for  
parents and highly  
recommended for the  
Godparents.

Please contact the parish office  
to register 604-531-5739  
[parish@starofthesea.ca](mailto:parish@starofthesea.ca)

## Morning Mens Group

**FRIDAYS 7AM**

Good Shepherd Church

Fireside Room

Next meeting: Friday, March 22

Join other men of the parish on  
Friday mornings for coffee,  
fellowship, Biblical discussions.

Inquiries, please contact  
Bill [BillDBUK@icloud.com](mailto:BillDBUK@icloud.com)



**Fridays 6:45-8:00PM**

**Star of the Sea School**

**Gym** for dads and kids  
(5yrs +)

Contact Joseph Myers  
[Joseph.myers.j@gmail.com](mailto:Joseph.myers.j@gmail.com)  
604-866-7887 for more info

## Charismatic Prayer Group



**WEDNESDAYS 7:15PM**  
at Star of the Sea School, 15024  
- 24th Ave (enter from the 24th  
Avenue entrance)

For more information, contact:  
Jae Ewing 604-536-7860  
[jae.ewing@shaw.ca](mailto:jae.ewing@shaw.ca)  
Flavianne Devuyt  
604-535-0508  
[flaviannedev@gmail.com](mailto:flaviannedev@gmail.com)



**SUNDAY, APRIL 21**  
12:30PM at **STAR OF THE SEA**  
**SCHOOL GYM**

Get ready to shout "BINGO", win  
some great prizes and enjoy a fun  
afternoon with your Parish and  
School Community. Food, drinks and  
snacks available for purchase.

More info and tickets available soon.

## CWL "COFFEE CONNECT"

Join us for coffee this  
**Wednesday, March 20** in the  
Fireside Room after the 9AM  
Mass at Good Shepherd Church.

## TRUE LIFE IN GOD

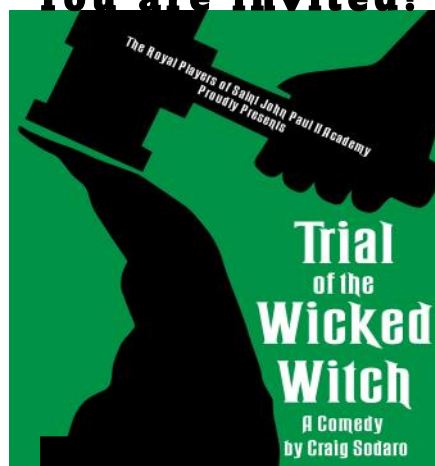
**Prayer Group** is  
inviting you to pray  
the Holy Rosary with  
meditations.

[www.tlig.org](http://www.tlig.org)

Meetings in Good Shepherd  
Church, Fireside Room on:  
**Tuesdays** 10am-11:30am  
March 19, April 2 & 9  
**Fridays** 10am-11:30am  
March 22, April 12



## You are invited!



The students of **Saint John Paul II Academy Drama Club** proudly  
present their first drama  
production on **April 11th & 12th** in the school gym—15262  
Pacific Ave, White Rock. Get  
ready to be entertained and join  
the characters of *Once Upon A  
Time* as we determine the guilt  
or innocence of the Wicked  
Witch based on her various  
crimes against Fairy Tale  
characters. Performances:  
**Thursday, April 11th at 7PM**  
**Friday, April 12th at 1PM & 7PM**  
Admission is by donation  
email: [info@sjp2academy.com](mailto:info@sjp2academy.com)



## CWL BURSARIES AVAILABLE

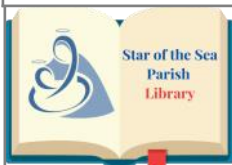


**National Bursary:** For those  
interested in pursuing  
studies in areas of spiritual  
growth, adult faith formation,  
youth ministry, ministry to  
patients in palliative care,  
ministry to shut-ins,  
parliamentary procedure and  
literacy tutoring. Please  
visit <https://www.cwl.ca/forms/> Go to Member forms to  
find the application form and  
further detailed criteria and  
information. Deadline is May 15,  
2024

**Provincial Bursary:** Have you  
been a member of CWL for at least  
2 years and wish to advance your  
skills and education? Do you have  
a keen interest in parish life and  
have willingness to serve the  
Church? A \$1,000 Bursary is open  
to you. Please visit <https://bcyukoncwl.com/resources/molly-boucher-bursary/> for the  
application form. Deadline is  
March 31, 2024.

**Diocesan Bursary:** Two  
bursaries of \$1000 each will be  
granted to students who will be in  
first year full time post-secondary  
education, whose mother/ legal  
guardian/ grandmother is a CWL  
member in the Diocese of  
Vancouver one year prior to the  
date of application.  
Please visit <https://vancouvercwl.ca/vancouver-diocesan-bursary-application-form-2/> for the application  
form. Deadline is April 5, 2024

Contact Catherine Lewis, Service  
Chair 780-714-0765



## Overdue Books & DVDs

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waitlists for items that are long  
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properly.

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