



**STAR OF THE SEA**  
*Honour our Past and  
Go Forward on Mission*

**PARISH OFFICE:**

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

Phone: 604-531-5739

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

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

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

**FOR AFTER HOURS EMERGENCIES:**

604-831-1162 or 604-541-8036



**GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH**

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

**Weekday Mass**

Monday—Saturday 9AM

First Friday 6:30PM

**Weekend Mass**

Saturday 5PM

Sunday 9AM 11AM 7PM



**Confessions**

Wednesday 6:30PM

Saturday 10AM

**STAR OF THE SEA CHURCH**

1153 Fir Street, White Rock, BC V4B 4A8

**Weekend Mass**

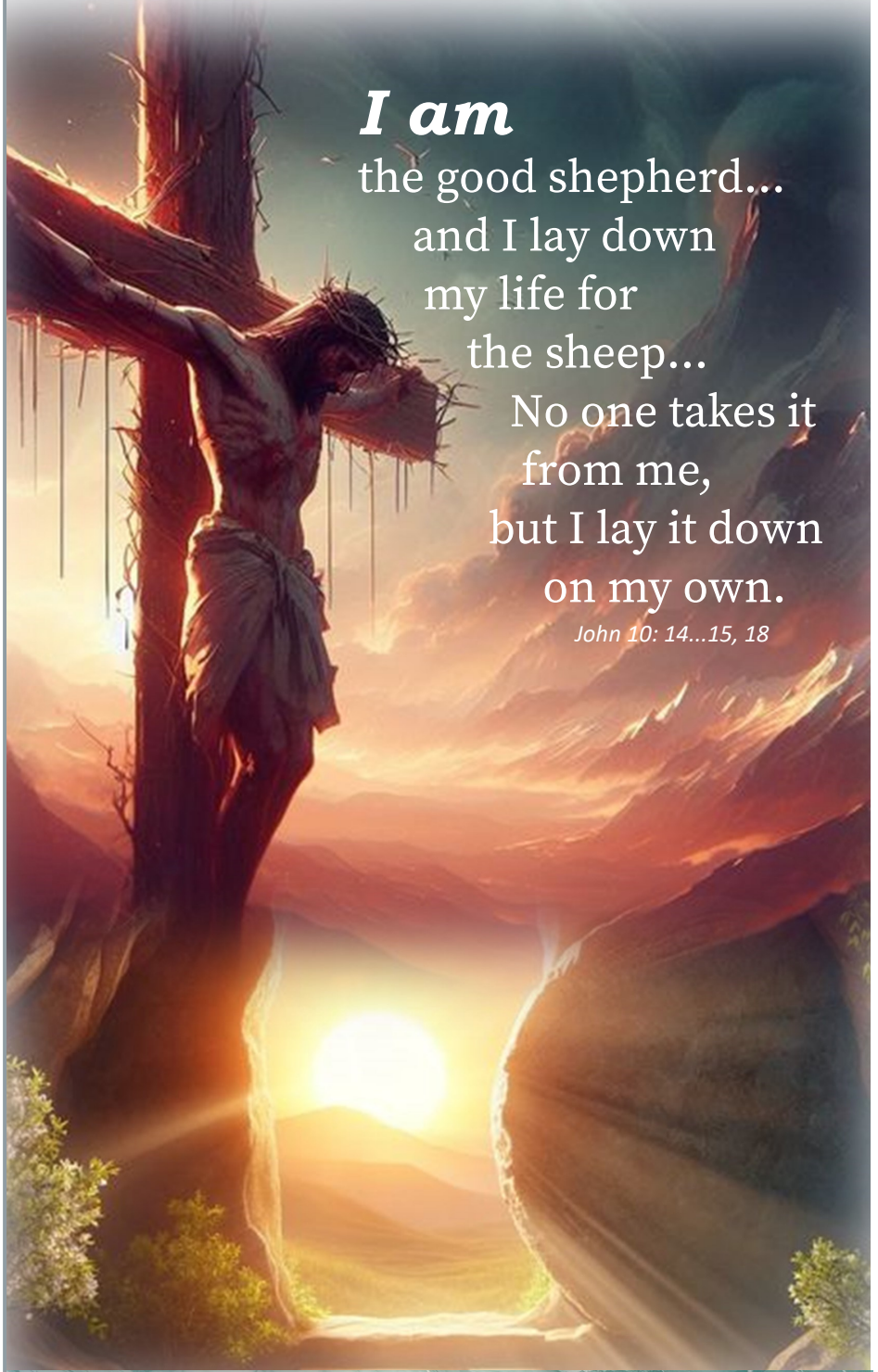
Saturday 4PM

Sunday 10:30AM

STAR OF THE SEA PARISH

*Welcome*

*Fourth Sunday of Easter — April 21, 2024*



***I am***  
the good shepherd...  
and I lay down  
my life for  
the sheep...  
No one takes it  
from me,  
but I lay it down  
on my own.

*John 10: 14...15, 18*

MISSION STATEMENT:

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

**PARISH STAFF:**

**PASTOR:**

Fr. Augustine Obiwumma  
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**FACILITIES MANAGER:**

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

My dear Parishioners,

At times, we can be naive when it comes to doing good for others. We can easily believe that all we need to do is act in a moral and caring manner and everything will be well. How surprised we are when our good works are rejected; our motives questioned; and instead of gratitude we are taken for granted or ignored. Good works do not always evoke good responses.

Why does this happen? Jesus was not immuned from having his message and ministry questioned. Jesus preached the good news of salvation and acceptance to outcasts, despised and sinners. This was bad news for the self-righteous elite. Jesus came to liberate and not enslave, to lift burdens rather than add them to hearts already wearied by life. His enemies often associated the healing ministry of Jesus with the work of the devil.

Those who preferred their position of influence to the glory of God sought to discredit Jesus. The greatest act of healing, Jesus lying down of his life on the cross, is a real stumbling block and folly to those who refuse to believe. The Good Shepherd who dies for the sheep so that they may have life was accused of being mad. Jesus does the good and faithful thing even when it costs him his reputation, social and religious standing, and even his life.

Dear friends, each day we are called to do good for others. We must understand that doing good in the name of Jesus will sometimes engender opposition or rejection. The same forces that tried to reject and destroy Jesus is still at work in the world today. This means we can expect to be misunderstood and even rejected. Let us remember that Jesus experienced the very same thing. However, this did not prevent him from being faithful. Let us continue to do good in the power of that glorious name which saves – Jesus Christ.

I would like to remind and invite everyone to:

- ◆ Our Centenary Mass is next Sunday, April 28th—11am Mass with Archbishop Miller followed by a celebration lunch. To help us plan for lunch, everyone who wants to attend will need to purchase a \$5 ticket—tickets are available in the Parish Office and at the Masses in Good Shepherd Church this weekend.

*Fr. Augustine*



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



# Sunday Mass Readings:

Reading 1: Acts 4:8-12

Psalm: Psalm 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29

Reading 2: 1 John 3:1-2

Gospel: John 10:11-18

From *Sacred Space* site run by the Irish Jesuits  
[livingspace.sacredspace.ie/eb041/](http://livingspace.sacredspace.ie/eb041/)

In today's passage Jesus emphasizes the self-sacrificing element in his own life:

***The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.***

First, he contrasts the good shepherd who owns the sheep to someone who is simply hired to look after them:

*The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away...because a hired hand does not care for the sheep.*

The hired man thinks primarily of his own welfare and, Jesus, on the other hand, will not be like a hired person because:

*...I lay down my life for the sheep.*

Perhaps he contrasts himself with those mercenary religious leaders among his own people – and to be found in every religious group – who do just what is expected of them but have no real commitment or sense of responsibility to those in their charge.

## **He knows his sheep**

Second, Jesus says:

*I am the good shepherd. I know my own...*

There is a mutual bond of love and intimacy. That love is compared to the deep mutual relationship that exists between Jesus and his Father:

*...my own know me, just as the Father knows me, and I know the Father.*

Again the hired man or the self-interested leader will not have such a relationship with his charges. The Second Reading speaks in similar terms when the author says:

*See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God, and that is what we are.*

## **One shepherd and one flock**

Third, the good shepherd deeply desires that many other sheep should come to identify themselves with him:

*I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.*

And that is the ultimate goal, that the whole world will be united together with its God and Lord. This is the meaning of the Kingdom which is at the heart of the Gospel message.

And that is the ultimate goal, that the whole world will be united together with its God and Lord. This is the meaning of the Kingdom which is at the heart of the Gospel message.

**This is a goal which preoccupies us still today. There are still so many millions of people who have not yet heard the message of a loving God, a God who sent his only Son to die for them.** They seek meaning and happiness in their lives by pursuing all kinds of other goals which inevitably turn to ashes: material abundance, status in the eyes of others, power over others, mistaking pleasure and hedonism for happiness.

In so doing, they reject Jesus the Good Shepherd:

*The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.*

This is something we must learn to accept as a fact, even if it is hard to understand and even harder to take.

**No matter how closely we follow in the footsteps of our Shepherd, in fact, the more closely we follow him, the more likely it is that we will be rejected and even attacked.** More tragic still, however, there are so many people who claim Christ as Lord, many of them very good and sincere people, who are often divided, even bitterly divided among themselves. Here, more than anywhere is there a need for all to follow one Shepherd and form one flock. Otherwise how can we give witness to the love of Christ if that love is lacking among the servants of Jesus?

**As well, there are those who, though incorporated through baptism into the Body of Christ, consistently behave in a way which totally distorts people's understanding of Christ and his call to discipleship, fulfilment and happiness.** Probably, most of us have at one time or another failed in our call to give witness to the truth and love that is to be found in Christ.

## **Vocation**

Lastly, all of this is intimately linked with a second theme of this Sunday. It is also "Vocations

Sunday". On this day we are especially asked first of all to pray that the Church may be provided with the leaders needed to do its work of spreading the Gospel.

But, while we may earnestly pray that our Church be supplied with the leaders it needs, there can be a tendency among us to pray that 'others' may answer that call. We do not see ourselves as included. **We tend to limit it to a calling to be a priest or a member of a religious community. But, in fact, every single one of us has a vocation.** For most of us, probably, it is what we are now doing, be it as spouses, parents, teachers, doctors, civil servants, running a business, salespersons, and myriad other identities.

Nevertheless, each one of us should be asking ourselves today:

- Is this what God wants me to be doing with my life?
- How is what I am doing giving witness to my Christian faith?
- What contribution am I offering to making this world a better place for people to live in?
- To what extent am I a spreader of truth, of love, of justice, of freedom, of tolerance and acceptance?
- How, within my situation, is God calling me to greater service of my Church and my community?
- Am I giving something through my life or am I just using society (and even the Church) to get what I want?

## **God is calling every single one of us to work for the Gospel.**

For a small number it may be as a priest or religious – and that call can come at any time in one's life. But there are hundreds of other ways of serving the Church and helping to build up the Christian community.

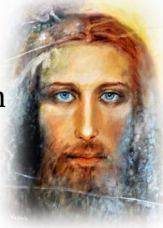
**Where is God calling me to make my own unique contribution based on the particular talents God has given me? If every single one of us were to answer that question sincerely and to act upon it, it is likely that that our Church would have all the leadership it needs.**



### 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 April 23, 30, May 7

### Baptism for Children

To help parents prepare for children's entrance into the sacramental life of the Church,

**ALL parents and godparents** are required complete

**Baptism Preparation** prior to scheduling a Baptism— next class on **Saturday, May 18,**

**10AM** at Good Shepherd Church Meeting Room.

Please contact the parish office to register 604-531-5739

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



### *Please pray for*

Roger Amiot, John Becher, Loren Houldson, Christine Algard, 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, Julia Nadon, Delia Antunovich, Ken Prout, Mercedes Sandoval, Judy Nault, Maria Kasprzyk, Jola Melone, Brian Hickey, Jack Plain, 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, Guilherme & Isaura da Ponte, Amelia Solomon, Lydia McGrann, Theresa Kim, Manal Ibrahim, Dirk Post, Marian Nadelko, Maureen McLaren

### *Please pray for the Repose of the Soul* of:

Odette Fiset  
Frank Moravec  
Battista Colasacco



Everyone is welcome to join the CWL for the Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel celebration on Thursday, April 25th after the 9am Mass in the

Fireside Room. CWL will provide coffee, tea, and cake.



***“Iron sharpens iron; and one man sharpens another.”*** *Prov*

27.17 RSV-CE



**Caffein & CONVERSATION**  
A Men's Small Group

Meeting on the first and second Monday of the month **starting on May 6th and 13th** in the Star of the Sea School Lobby from 7:00 - 8:30 PM.

The group is to be a process that, by the power of the Holy Spirit, transforms members' lives and then equips them to be transformative agents in the lives of others. The group is limited to 12 members. Keeping within that number allows the group to build trust and intimacy based on humble, honest and vulnerable conversations.

The purpose of the group is, God willing, to eventually reproduce another men's group that is also making and growing disciples of Christ - having a mission orientation - that will spawn other groups making and growing more disciples of Christ.

For more information about the format and content resources for the sessions and to register for the group, please contact Mario Ylanan, the Group Facilitator, at [mario.ylanan@gmail.com](mailto:mario.ylanan@gmail.com)



**MARCH FOR LIFE  
VICTORIA**

**THURSDAY MAY 9, 2024**

We are very excited for the upcoming March4Life this year. It will be a full day, beginning with 9:15am Mass with Archbishop Miller at Sacred Heart Parish (3900 Arthur Drive, Delta). From there, we will catch the 11AM Ferry to Victoria, where we will participate in the march and return on the 5PM ferry. We have an exciting lineup of speakers at this years even— visit : [www.M4LVictoria.ca](http://www.M4LVictoria.ca) Bus transportation is being arranged from some parishes - please contact Jim Canil [jrcanil@telus.net](mailto:jrcanil@telus.net) Deadline for bus transportation is April 25th.

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**Theology of the Body**

Last chance before the course begins! Do you want to explore more on Theology of the Body, led by professors from Catholic Pacific College? CPC joins with Our Lady of the Assumption Parish to bring you 4 evening classes on St. John Paul II's "Theology of the Body," Tuesdays from April 23 to May 14 at 7pm at Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Hall. Only \$100 for all four sessions. Register at [catholicpacific.ca/tob](http://catholicpacific.ca/tob)



STAR OF THE SEA  
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has a few spots open  
for GRADES 1 and 2  
for the upcoming  
2024-2025 school year.

Any parishioners interested in applying, please contact the school [school@sosschool.ca](mailto:school@sosschool.ca) or visit our school website [staroftheseaschool.ca](http://staroftheseaschool.ca)

**GOLF TOURNAMENT  
Friday, June 7**

THE HILLS AT PORTAL GOLF CLUB

You are invited to join the Star of the Sea Golf Tournament & Dinner. Junior golfers are welcome to join in the fun with an early morning tee-time to participate in their own mini tournament beginning at 8:30am.

Prizes and lunch included.

Not a golfer? Join us for dinner only! Doors open at 6pm and dinner served at 7:30pm. DJ and silent action to follow.

Scan QR Code for more info:



or email:  
[sosgolftournament@gmail.com](mailto:sosgolftournament@gmail.com)

Thank you to our sponsors:

*Stella Maris Gala*  
**2024 Committee  
Request**

Since its inception, the Stella Maris Gala was an event held annually in the Fall. Due to the Covid-19 school shutdown and subsequent restrictions in the months thereafter, the Gala was moved temporarily to the Spring. With the blessing and guidance of Fr. Augustine, the Gala has been moved back to the Fall. Our next Gala will take place in the Fall of 2024.

The success of this event is all in thanks to our wonderful Gala Committee and their team of volunteers. Without the amazing volunteers who shared their time, talents and expertise through the years, our Parish and school would not be the places of worship and learning they are today.

For Gala 2024, we are looking for new committee members for the following positions:

- ◆ Décor
- ◆ Acquisitions Team Lead
- ◆ Acquisitions Team Members

The planning for this event will begin as soon as the committee can be assembled.

If you are interested in joining this wonderful team, and contributing to the legacy of our Parish and school, please email the school office:  
[school@sosschool.ca](mailto:school@sosschool.ca)

**NEED A HOUSE CLEANER?**  
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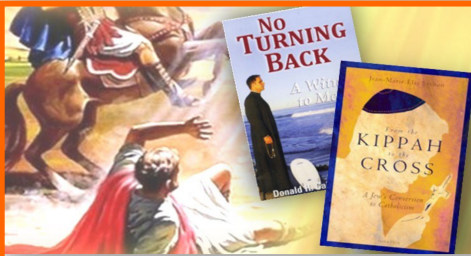
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## April 2024 Library Feature

# Conversion Stories

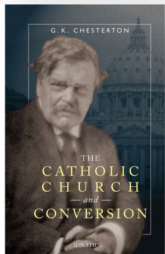


This Easter, we welcome 32 new Catholics to Star of the Sea, out of almost 500 in the Archdiocese of Vancouver! While we get to know our new parishioners, we can also be inspired by reading stories about other converts. We have far more than we can list here, so come in and browse the library displays during April for more options.

*When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognized him.*

Luke 24:30-31

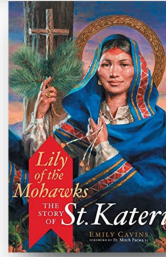
Many converts are familiar names to us. You may have seen many books and videos featuring Scott Hahn. **Rome Sweet Home: Our Journey to Catholicism** (921.2 Hah 1993 and **FORMED** e-book) tells the story of how he turned to the Catholic Church when he was a Presbyterian minister, as did his wife Kimberly after her own "dark night of the soul" following his conversion. You can read about GK Chesterton's conversion in his biography, **G. K. Chesterton** (921.2 Che 2006) and in **The Catholic**



**Church and Conversion (230 Che 2006)** in which explains how the Church's appeal to reason and truth won him over. In **Sigrid Undset: Reader of**

**Hearts** (921.2 Und Nic 2022) Fr. Aidan Nichols looks at how this author allowed her art to be transfigured by the fire of God's mercy.

Stories about converts who became Saints include **Lily of the Mohawks: The Story of St. Kateri** (921.1 Kat 2013) and **In Her Footsteps:**

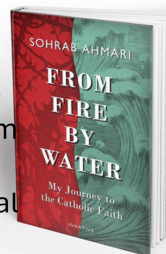


**The Story of Kateri Tekakwitha** (DVD 921 Kat 2012); **Bakhita: From Slave to Saint** (921.1 Bak 2013); and **Edith Stein: The Untold Story of the Philosopher and Mystic Who Lost Her Life in the Death Camps of Auschwitz** (921.1 Ste 1971) and **FORMED** movie **Edith Stein: The Seventh Chamber.**



**Newman: Towards the Second Spring** (921.1 New 1991) tells the impact of John Henry Newman's conversion to Catholicism on English society. **No Turning Back: A Witness to Mercy** (921.2 Cal 2010 and **FORMED** audio) recounts Fr. Donald Calloway's conversion after reading a book about Our Lady.

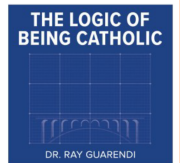
**From Fire by Water: My Journey to the Catholic Faith** (921.2 Ahm 2019) tells Sohrab Ahmari's passage from Marxism and atheism to a moral and spiritual awakening prompted by the Mass. **From**



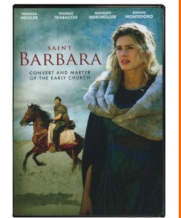
**Islam to Christ: One Woman's Path Through the Riddles of God** (921.2 Lit 2017) Derya rejected her family's Islamic faith and became an atheist until, she tried to convince a Christian missionary that there is no God, but was

converted to Christ instead. **From the Kippah to the Cross: A Jew's Conversion to Catholicism** (921.2 Set 2013) is a conversion story about the struggle between loyalty to identity, and fidelity to the deepest desires of the heart.

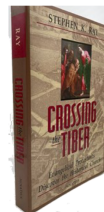
**FORMED** is full of conversion stories! Here's a few to consider, or type "convert" or "conversion" in the find box for more digital options. In the audio presentation, **The Logic of Being Catholic**, Dr. Ray Guarendi tells how logic led him home to the Catholic Church.



**Saint Barbara: Convert and Martyr of the Early Church** is a movie about a twenty-year old pagan (and



eventual convert) who tries to save persecuted Christians. **Crossing the Tiber: Evangelical Protestants Discover the Historical Church** is an e-book about a Baptist who overcame his hostility to the Catholic Church through the writings of the Church Fathers.



**Contact us at [library@starofthesea.ca](mailto:library@starofthesea.ca) to join our newsletter list. Six times a year you will receive lists of new books & DVDs, spotlight topics, recommendations, links of interest and more!**

The library is open from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm Monday to Friday and after Mass on Saturday and Sunday. All items can be borrowed for one month.

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