



PARISH OFFICE:

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

Phone: 604-531-5739

Email: parish@starofthesea.ca

Website: 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

***please note that starting on Ash

Wednesday-Feb 14, **weekday Mass at**
Good Shepherd Church will be at **8AM*****

First Friday 6:30PM

Weekend Mass

Saturday 5PM

Sunday 9AM 11AM 7PM



LIVESTREAM Mass 11AM

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

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time—January 21, 2024

“Come after me...

*and I will make you
fishers of men.”*

Mark 1: 17

MISSION STATEMENT:

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

PARISH STAFF:

PASTOR:

Fr. Augustine Obiwumma
(ext. 223)
aobiwumma@rcav.org

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Trudi Stammer (ext. 222)
stammertrudi7@gmail.com

FACILITIES MANAGER:

Tom Cremer (ext. 274)
tomc@starofthesea.ca



Dear Parishioners,

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time —January 21, 2024

Today, Jesus calls us to constant change and conversion. This call to conversion is most unsettling. This is because we tend to be more comfortable with being a settler than a pioneer; a hitching-post rather than a sign-post. Instead of Hope, we hunger after sweet certainty. Yet to follow Jesus we must be ever ready. The Son of Man does not have a place to lay his head. So it is with the Christian. The danger is that we may become too comfortable with our goods and worldly possessions. We may fail to look beyond the good things to the One who alone is good. Hence, there must be a constant conversion.

The nature of God's call is such that each moment is not planned or programmed. God does not put boundaries on his love or on his call to service. Basically, when we respond to God's call we are accepting a covenant relationship. We don't enter into a contract with God. There is no series of do's and don'ts. Our relationship is such that generosity and a willing spirit require more of us than can be put to words or paper. There are no private moments and hidden reserves that we keep for ourselves. All that we have comes from God, and is to be used for his glory and the service of those in need. In today's Gospel, Mark repeatedly emphasizes that prior to their call, the four fishermen were what some might call "nobodies". There were no special qualities, no unusual aptitudes, talents or prominence to explain why they were chosen by Jesus. Indeed, they were hardly outstanding recruits for the inauguration of God's Kingdom. Yet that is equally true of us. Every Christian is chosen by Jesus personally and is given an irreplaceable role in the advance of the Kingdom, along with all the resources needed to carry it out.

The most striking thing about the call of these fishermen is their prompt and radical obedience. When they heard the call they immediately abandoned their nets and followed him. There is no hesitation, no discussions, no questions. There is a complete abandonment of both occupation and father. To part so suddenly with their father would have been shocking in the social context of the day, where family obligations were paramount. It illustrates the absoluteness of Jesus' claim, taking precedence over even the closest human bonds. It also shows the cost of discipleship and its even greater rewards. Following Jesus means a break with the past and a willingness to let go of all other attachments. Not everyone is called to literally abandon their profession and family, but all are called to put everything in second place to Christ. Saying 'yes' to that call is the greatest gift we can give to ourselves. May God grant us the same grace he gave to the fishermen to say "yes" to His invitation to follow him.

* * * * *

As announced last week, our *Centenary elebration Dinner & Concert* featuring *Fr. Rob Galea* is on **Saturday, February 17th**. See inside bulletin for more details. Tickets are now available after Mass or through the Parish Office. The price of your ticket will help the parish recover some of the costs associated with our special guest star and a delicious buffet dinner.

We are in need many more **volunteers to help in the kitchen and clean-up**—please contact the parish office to indicate your willingness to serve and to help make this event a great success.

Fr. Augustine





Honour our Past and Go Forward on Mission

STAR OF THE SEA PARISH
Centenary Celebration
Dinner & Concert

Featuring *Fr. Rob Galea*
with **Psalm 98 Music Ministry**
and the **Star of the Sea School**
and **Parish Choirs**



17 FEBRUARY 2024 | 6:30 PM

at Star of the Sea Parish Hall, 15262 Pacific Ave, White Rock

Doors open 6PM | Dinner served 6:30PM | Performances start 6:45PM

Tickets:

\$35.00 General Admission

\$20.00 Concession (for school-aged children,
volunteers & choir members)

Contact the Parish Office for more information: 604-531-5739
parish@starofthesea.ca

This Sunday's Mass Readings:

Reading 1: [Jonah 3:1-5,10](#)

Psalms: [Psalm 25:4-9](#)

Reading 2: [1 Corinthians 7:29-31](#)

Gospel: [Mark 1:14-20](#)

HOMILY OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS St. Peter's Basilica
Sunday, 24 January 2021 <https://www.vatican.va>

Jesus begins his preaching with these words: *"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand"* (Mk 1:15). **God is near**, that is the first message. His kingdom has come down to earth. God is not up in heaven detached from the human condition. No, he is in our midst. The time of his distance ended when, in Jesus, he became man. Ever since then, God has been very close to us; he will never retire from our human condition or tire of it. This closeness is the very

first message of the Gospel. God is near! If this was the opening theme and the refrain of all Jesus' preaching, it must necessarily be the one constant of the Christian life and message. Before all else, we must believe and proclaim that God has drawn near to us, that we have been forgiven and shown mercy. Prior to every word of ours about God, there is his word to us, his Word who continues to tell us: ***"Do not be afraid, I am with you. I am at your side and I will always be there"***.

The word of God enables us to touch this closeness, since, as the Book of Deuteronomy

tells us, it is not far from us, it is near to our hearts (cf. 30:14). It is the antidote to our fear of having to face life alone. Indeed, by his word the Lord consoles us, for in speaking to us, he reminds us that he has taken us to heart, that we are precious in his eyes, and that he holds us in the palm of his hand. **God's word infuses this peace, but it does not leave us in peace. It is a word of consolation but also a call to conversion. "Repent", says Jesus**, immediately after proclaiming God's closeness. For, thanks to his closeness, we can no longer distance ourselves from God and from others. **The time when we could live thinking only of ourselves is now over because as Christians who experience God's closeness cannot ignore their neighbours or treat them with indifference. Those who hear God's word are constantly reminded that life is not about shielding ourselves from others, but about encountering them in the name of God who is near. The word sown in the soil of our hearts, leads us in turn to sow hope through closeness to others. Even as God has done with us.**

Let us now consider to whom Jesus speaks. His first words are to Galilean fishermen, simple folk who lived by harsh manual labour, by day and night. They were no experts in Scripture or people of great knowledge and culture. They lived in a region

made up of various peoples, ethnic groups and cults: one that could not have been further from the religious purity of Jerusalem, the heart of the country. Yet that is where Jesus began, not from the centre but from the periphery, and he did so in order to tell us too that no one is far from God's heart. Everyone can receive his word and encounter him in person.

Yet the word of God also has particular power, that is, it can touch each person directly. The disciples would never forget the words they heard that day on the shore of the lake, by their boats, in the company of their family members and fellow workers: words that marked their lives forever. Jesus said to them: *"Follow me, I will make you become fishers of men"* (v. 17). He did not appeal to them using lofty words and ideas, but spoke to their lives. He told fishermen that they were to be fishers of men. If he had told them: *"Follow me, I will*

make you Apostles, you will be sent into the world to preach the Gospel in the power of the Spirit; you will be killed, but you will become saints", we can be sure that Peter and Andrew would have answered: *"Thanks, but we'll stick to our nets and our boats!"* But Jesus spoke to them in terms of their own livelihood: *"You are fishermen, and you will become fishers of men"*. Struck by those words, they come to realize that lowering their nets for fish was too little, whereas putting out into the deep in response to the word of Jesus was the secret of true joy. The

Lord does the same with us: he looks for us where we are, he loves us as we are, and he patiently walks by our side. **As he did with those fishermen, he waits for us on the shore of our life. With his word, he wants to change us, to invite us to live fuller lives and to put out into the deep together with him.**

So dear brothers and sisters, let us not ignore God's word. It is a love letter, written to us by the One who knows us best. In reading it, we again hear his voice, see his face and receive his Spirit. That word brings us close to God. Let us not keep it at arm's length...Let us set the Gospel in a place where we can remember to open it daily, so that amid all those words that ring in our ears, there may also be a few verses of the word of God that can touch our hearts. To be able to do this, let us ask the Lord for the strength to turn off the television and open the Bible, to turn off our cell phone and open the Gospel. During this liturgical year, we are reading Saint Mark, the simplest and the shortest of the Gospels. Why not read it at home too, even a brief passage each day. It will affirm us of God's closeness and fill us with courage as we make our way through life.





Congratulations to those recently Baptised:

Theo Jomar See Soriano
Leonello Vito Cordick
Olivio Matteo Cordick

Please pray for

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, Danilo Sonido,
Anne Law, Otto Witteveen,
Charles Lefaive, Anna Schott,
Peter Kingsland,
Nancy Murchison,
Stephanie Wideski,
Fern McCann, Karine Tardif,
Angus Heaps, Bob Keith,
Edward Drabik, Rob McLellan,
Glenn Brooks, Carmina Raponi,
Susie Bencherif, Marci Nunez,
Adria Tate, Helen McLellan,
Wolf Mashohn, Amelia Solomon,
Guilherme & Isaura da Ponte,
Lydia McGrann, Theresa Kim,
Manal Ibrahim, Rolf May,
Dirk Post, Marian Nadelko,
Maureen McLaren

Please pray for the Repose of the Souls of:

Henry Enns
Paul Tusnady



Join the Star of the Sea School Family



New Applicant Evening

is on

Wednesday, January 24, 2024

at **6:30pm** in Star of the Sea
Elementary School Gym.

Applications for the 2024-25
school year will be available
starting that evening.

Application deadline is
February 2nd.

ADORATION CHAPEL OPEN Every Day 9AM-9PM

Hours in need of a
weekly adorer:

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Sunday 2:00pm-3:00pm
Sunday, 5:00pm-6:00pm
Monday, 9:00am-10:00am
Monday, 5:00pm-6:00pm
Wednesday, 4:00pm-5:00pm
Thursday, 2:00pm-3:00pm
Thursday, 4:00pm-5:00pm
Friday, 11:00am-12:00pm
Friday, 1:00pm-2:00pm
Friday, 5:00pm-6:00pm
Saturday, 2:00pm-3:00pm
Saturday, 3:00pm-4:00pm
Saturday, 4:00pm-5:00pm



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



Saturday Feb 3, 8AM—1PM
at Star of the Sea Hall
15262 Pacific Ave, White Rock

For more information, contact:
Bill 778-682-2519

fleamarket@starofthesea.ca

The Knights of Columbus
Shopping Cards from **Safeway,**
Save-On, Thrifty Foods in \$50 &
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available for sale **NEXT WEEKEND,**
Jan. 27 & 28 at Good Shepherd
Church after the 5PM, 9AM, 11AM
Masses and 10:30am Mass at Star
of the Sea. Cash or cheques
accepted.



St. Thérèse

Widows Group

next meeting is on
Monday January 22
in the Fireside Room at
Good Shepherd Church
after the 9am Mass.

All are Welcome

For more info. contact
Marlene Johnston -604 538 5899
Mimi Bower-604 535 6288



Charismatic Prayer Group



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

The Charismatic Prayer Group
gathers as a family for the
primary purpose of giving Jesus
the Praise and Glory He
deserves. Together, we learn to
listen to the promptings of the
Holy Spirit and to use our
Charismatic Gifts for the good of
the Body.

For more information, contact:
Jae Ewing 604-536-7860
jae.ewing@shaw.ca
Flavianne Devuyst
604-535-0508
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lists of new books & DVDs,
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6:30-8:30pm

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