

STAR OF THE SEA PARISH

Welcome

Second Sunday of LENT—February 25, 2024

*Christ did not merely die
for us; he now intercedes on
our behalf as well... (Romans 8: 34)*

**The only reason why Paul
mentioned intercession was to
show the warmth and vigor of
God's love for us, for the Father
is also represented as beseeching
us to be reconciled to him.**

- St. John Chrysostom

MISSION STATEMENT:

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

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Website: 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 1AM

Confessions

Wednesday 6:30PM
Saturday 10AM



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stammertrudi7@gmail.com

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tomc@starofthesea.ca

Dear Parishioners,

We were so blessed last Saturday at our Centenary Dinner Celebration. I have heard from so many of you who enjoyed the dinner and concert. Photographs taken that evening will be available for your viewing pleasure soon. Thank you once again for all those who attended, and especially all those who worked so hard to put the event together and those who stayed to clean up.

Last Sunday, our RCIA attended the Rite of Election Mass with Archbishop Miller at Holy Rosary Cathedral. During the Rite of Election the church formally announces the names of those who will soon celebrate the sacraments of initiation. Those who are named will celebrate baptism, confirmation, and first

communion at the Easter Vigil; they entered the rite as "Catechumens" and left as "Elect". "Election" refers to the idea of "the chosen people". In Israel's early history, God chose a people and established a covenant with them. Today, God continues to choose people through the covenant of Baptism.

My dear parishioners, we are all reminded that as a Christian community, it is our responsibility to pray for the elect and the candidates, to give a good example of faithful witness to Christ and Christ's gospel and along with the elect to prepare ourselves for the Easter solemnities.

This week and next week, our parish children preparing to receive their First Eucharist in May will have their First Reconciliation. On the rolling bulletin board at Good Shepherd Church are posted their names and photographs. I ask you to also keep these children and their parents in your prayers. It is a challenge in today's world to faithfully raise a Catholic family; to take the vows made at Baptism seriously— showing and teaching about personal God's love, taking children to Mass, teaching them the faith through words and deeds, and praying with and for them.

Along with your prayers for our young families, you can encourage and support them by being welcoming and patient during Mass—even if it inconveniences you! Children (and their parents) can learn from your graciousness and generosity. You might recall what it was like trying to bring your own energetic and noisy children to church hopefully someone else was patient and kind to you too.

Fr. Augustine



Come pray the Stations of the Cross following 6:30 MASS on ALL FRIDAYS during Lent at Good Shepherd Church:

Mar 1 - led by Women's Retreat group

Mar 8 - led by CWL

Mar 15 - led by LEGION OF MARY

Mar 22 - led by TRUE LIFE PRAYERGROUP

This Sunday's Mass Readings:

Reading 1: [Genesis 22:1–2, 9–13, 15–18](#)

Psalm: [Psalm 116:10, 15–19](#)

Reading 2: [Romans 8:31–34](#)

Gospel: [Mark 9:2–10](#)

Article by Fr. Steve Grunow “Lent and the Challenge of the Gospel” www.wordonfire.org

The Book of Genesis is a book of beginnings, a book of origins. From it we learn the beginning of creation, of humanity, and of the Israelites.

The Israelites originate as a people from the great Old Testament patriarch Abraham and his wife Sarah. Abraham is called forth by God from the life he knew and sets out on a journey that God promises will take him to lands that will become the homeland for his descendants who, God promises, will be a great nation “as numerous as a stars in the heavens.”

In today's Scripture this promise is literally cut in a sacrifice and becomes a covenant between God and Abraham. A covenant is best understood for our purposes as a relationship, a relationship that goes much deeper than merely a legal contract. The sacrifice indicates the depth of the relationship between God and Abraham; it is a matter of life and death.

In the aftermath of this sacrifice, Abraham has a frightening mystical experience, where God makes his presence known to him, a presence Abraham encounters as a “deep terrifying darkness.”

It is in that terrifying darkness that Abraham comes to terms with the unknowability of God, for the God of the Old Testament is vividly mysterious, an indication that he cannot be confined like the gods of the pagans to a place or manipulated through spells and incantations. The God of the Bible does not need the sacrifices that are offered and it is not our sacrifices or

worship that sustain him, as they did the gods of Abraham's ancestors. Instead, the God of the Bible is the subverter of magic or controlled for our own purposes. His sacrifices are accepted as signs and symbols of the relationship he has with his people, and he needs none of them to be who he is. But we need these sacrifices to remind us who we are, and that there is no true love or relationship without sacrifice. The deep mystery of this God, the one true God, overtakes Abraham with terror.

But this is not the only reason for Abraham's terror.

Abraham experiences for himself the vulnerability of genuine faith. We Christians too often pay lip service to faith, making it merely an emotional comfort, or using faith as a declaration of our tribal identity. But while comfort might come to us as a result of faith, and faith can and should

order our way of life, it is not in the superficiality of our emotions or our identity that makes for authentic faith.

Faith is most raw and real when, like the experience of Abraham, we come to terms with the reality of God rather than the idols of him that we so often create out of our desires and fears. Further, faith is authentic and true when, like Abraham's faith, it is professed as an act of trust in promises that remain outside of our ability to manipulate or control and that have indefinite and unexpected outcomes.

Faith is not magic; it is not a way of currying favor with God so that we can

get what we want. Faith is an expression of our relationship with God, an act of trust, that what he has promised will be fulfilled.

We Christians profess our faith in Christ and the promises he makes to us concern not just our lives in this world, but beyond this world—beyond our death. We become, through this act of faith, his chosen people, a new kind of Israelite. And it is through us, incorporated as spiritual descendants of ancient Abraham, that God's promises to Abraham are fulfilled.



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This act of faith originates in the terrifying darkness of the Cross and it is cut in the sacrifice of his Body and his Blood. We experience this in the Mass, for the Mass is not just our community gathered to pray or a cultural pageant; rather, the Mass is the Church, the new Israelites gathered together in an encounter with the one, true, and living God, who makes himself known to us in the mystery of the Blessed Sacrament and gives his sacrifice to us as a new covenant, a new relationship that God presents to us with the gravity and severity of a matter of life and death—his life and death, our life and death. It is through this life and death that God's promises to us in Christ are fulfilled.

And in this life and death there is mystery and there is terror, and there is also the presence of the living and true God.

In today's Gospel, the disciples of the Lord Jesus witness an extraordinary revelation. Christ reveals his glory, which is the glory of God. Remember, Christians, the great mystery of Christ is not the revelation of a spiritual teaching or political reform, but the mysterious revelation that God has accepted for himself a human nature and lived a real, human life. This is who the Lord Jesus is—not a social reformer or religious guru. Christ is God in our flesh; God in a human body; God become man. Jesus Christ is God who meets us face to face.

Christians are meant to be witnesses to the truth of God in Christ. This truth is not a concept or an idea, but it is testimony to his person, testimony to who Jesus Christ really and truly is. Christians are meant to be the ones who God has assigned the mission of inviting the world to know who he really and truly is and sharing with others the gifts God gives to us in Christ. The greatest of these gifts is a relationship, a covenant with Christ that he gives to us in the Church.

If we Christians are to be true to who God intends for us to be, then we must set about knowing Jesus, and knowing him not just as a significant historical figure, but as a living, divine person, as the one, true God. There is no other Jesus than this. We might be more comfortable with a Jesus of our own making, or a Jesus much less than who he reveals himself to be. But the truth of Christ's revelation is not meant to make us comfortable, but to make us holy; to transform us; to make us who God intends for us to be.

Women's Retreat

*Created, Redeemed and
Called by Love*



But now, thus says the LORD, who created you, Jacob, and formed you, Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name: you are mine.

Isaiah 43:1

Fri, March 1

6:30 Mass
ending at 8:30pm

Sat, March 2

9AM Mass
ending at 4:00pm

at Good Shepherd Church

No Cost, but registration is required.

Scan QR Code for
Registration Link
or Email the
Parish Office
parish@starofthesea.ca
to have the registration link
emailed to you



Retreat Speakers:



Sister John Mary Sullivan

Franciscan Sister of the
Eucharist



Sister Maria Serra Garcia

Franciscan Sister of the
Eucharist

I have called you by name: you are mine.

Congratulations to those recently Baptised:

Jasper Morgan Yung

Please pray for

Theresa Desrochers,
Margaret Benoit, Maria Lee,
Givon Santos, Rose Cruz,
Byrne Turner, Claude Vézina,
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,
Danilo Sonido, Otto Witteveen,
Charles Lefaive, Anna Schott,
Peter Kingsland, Fern McCann,
Nancy Murchison, Karine Tardif,
Stephanie Wideski, Angus Heaps,
Bob Keith, 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

TRUE LIFE IN GOD

Prayer Group

is inviting you to
pray the Holy Rosary
with meditations.

visit: www.tlig.org Meetings in
Good Shepherd Church, Fireside
Room on: **Tuesdays** 10am-
11:30am: Feb. 27, March 5, 12,
19 and **Fridays** 10am-11:30am
March 22

Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

are those parishioners who have the privilege
of serving, distributing and administering
the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ alongside
the priest celebrant at Mass.



As a Eucharistic Minister, you are called to have and maintain a strong
faith, a sense of awe, and an inclusiveness of others—this is the
foundation for this ministry. Eucharistic Ministers may also be asked
to bring Holy Communion to people within the parish community who
are sick and/or homebound.

You are invited to consider this privileged ministry at a
workshop: **Saturday, Mar 9th, 10AM-Noon**
Good Shepherd Church Meeting Room.

For more information or to register email: emhc@starofthesea.ca

Come have a look at the
**religious olive
wood carvings** on
display at
Good Shepherd Church
next weekend: **March 2 & 3**



These articles are hand crafted by
the Christians of the Holy Land
who are seeking your support
today to assist them in staying
rooted in the land of Christ. It is
also a way of preserving a local
cultural heritage which is in
danger of being lost as a more
Christians feel pressured to leave
their homeland for economic and
political reasons.

Please note that that **ONLY CASH,**
E-TRANSFER, OR CHEQUES ARE
accepted as payment at this time.

St. Thérèse Widows Group

Next Meeting is
on **Monday,**
February 26th in the Fireside
Room at Good Shepherd Church
after 9AM Mass. Everyone
welcome!
For more info. contact
coordinators:
Marlene Johnston 604 538 5899
Mimi Bower 778 246 0029



INTERDENOMINATIONAL LENTEN LUNCH

THURSDAYS 12pm - 1pm
By Donation



Feb 29 Mt. Olive Lutheran
2350 148 Street, Surrey

Mar 7 St. Mark's Anglican
12953 20 Ave, Surrey

Mar 14 Star of the Sea Catholic
15262 Pacific Ave, WRock

Mar 21 St. John's Presbyterian
1480 George St, WRock

Everyone is welcome—Lunch is
by donation, with proceeds going
to charities.



Saturday March 2

8AM—1PM

at Star of the Sea Hall

15262 Pacific Ave, White Rock

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

fleamarket@starofthesea.ca

Men's Retreat

Saturday, March 16

10:00AM—4:00PM

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

LIAR?
LUNATIC?
LORD!

**WHO IS
JESUS CHRIST
FOR ME AS A MAN
IN THE 21ST CENTURY**

Retreat Speaker:

Fr. Mark Gazin, CSB

No Cost.

Registration is required.

Scan QR Code
for registration
link:



<https://beholdvancouver.org/events/men-s-retreat-at-star-of-the-sea>

ADORATION CHAPEL

OPEN Every Day 9AM - 9PM

*"My Heart is filled with sorrow to the point of death...
Could you not watch one hour with Me? Mt 26:38-40*



Eucharistic Lenten Challenge: consider attending daily Mass and spending some time in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament... St. John Vianney says that Prayer stretches the heart.

Will you consider attending one of the following hours during Lent needing a weekly adorer:

Sunday, 12:00pm-1:00pm

Monday, 12:00pm-1:00pm

Monday, 5:00pm-6:00pm

Tuesday, 4:00pm-5:00pm

Wednesday, 5:00pm-6:00pm

Thursday, 2:00pm-3:00pm

Friday, 11:00am-12:00pm

Friday, 3:00pm-4:00pm

Saturday, 2:00pm-3:00pm

Saturday, 3:00pm-4:00pm

Saturday, 4:00pm-5:00pm

To schedule a Holy Hour of prayer or to Substitute please call: Donna Sali 604 542 3070

40 DAYS FOR LIFE
THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF ABORTION

Choose LIFE

Evening Zoom Rosary: • nightly rosary at 8PM on
Meeting ID: 876 0450 7223
Passcode: 243024

Mid-way Rally: Sunday, March 3, 2024 at 2:00pm
at Willow St./32 Ave: Colleen
Roy, journalist for the BC
Catholic will be coming to
encourage us. Everyone is
welcome! Bring your Rosary.

Closing Rally: Sunday, March 24, 2024 at 2:00pm
at Willow St./32 Ave: Fr. Mark
McGuckin, pastor of St. Francis de
Sales Parish will be coming to
encourage us. Everyone is
welcome! Bring your Rosary.

Contact 40DFL Coordinator:
Vancouver40days@gmail.com

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