

# FAMINE RELIEF FUND

In February 2017, the new UN Secretary-General, António Guterres, declared 20 million people to be at risk of death in the next six months in South Sudan, Somalia, Yemen, and Nigeria.

This particular humanitarian crisis stems from a conjunction of events that include armed conflicts coupled with severe droughts brought about by climate change. Many have fled their homes and land to escape the violence of armed conflict and are continually displaced. These issues make transportation and access to food extremely difficult. Development and Peace – Caritas Canada is present in the region and working closely with our local partners to respond to this humanitarian crisis threatening the lives of millions of people, by working with the most vulnerable populations.

The Canadian government is matching donations made by Canadian individuals to an eligible registered Canadian charity, supporting famine relief efforts from March 17, 2017 to June 30th, 2017. TIME IS SHORT. PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY before June 30th, 2017.

Double your impact - each matched dollar is placed in the Government of Canada Famine Relief Fund.

**By phone**  
1 888 664-3387

**Text to give**  
Using your cell phone, send a text message with the word PEACE to 45678 to donate \$10 to Development and Peace

**By mail**  
1425 René-Lévesque Blvd. W, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Montreal, QC, H3G 1T7



**ARCHDIOCESE OF VANCOUVER**  
Archbishop's Office

St. Anthony of Padua  
June 13, 2017

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

*I am writing to you with an urgent appeal for help in addressing a pressing humanitarian crisis: more than 20 million people are on the brink of starvation due to famine in South Sudan and a severe food crises in Yemen, northeast Nigeria and Somalia. This crisis results from ongoing armed conflicts and severe droughts, with hundreds of thousands of people being displaced from their homes and land.*

*The Catholic Church in Canada is joining with other faith leaders to launch a national ecumenical and interfaith appeal, Pray-Give-Speak out, to raise awareness of the need for peace, and to support and protect the vulnerable.*

*Please Pray for peace and an end to violence, and for government leaders and humanitarian workers in the region.*

*On Sunday, June 25, there will be a special collection at all Masses in the Archdiocese of Vancouver. Proceeds of the collection will be divided among the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace, Aid to the Church in Need-Canada, and Jesuits International Canada. Please Give generously. Contributions made before June 30 will be matched by the Government of Canada with its recently announced "Famine Relief Fund." And Speak out about the crisis in these four countries, especially to your member of Parliament.*

*More information and resources are found on our website at [rcav.org/prayer-and-humanitarian-appeals](http://rcav.org/prayer-and-humanitarian-appeals).*

*With gratitude for your generosity toward those suffering and with my prayers for you and your family, I remain Sincerely yours in Christ,*

**J. Michael Miller, CSB**  
Archbishop of Vancouver

## PARISH DIRECTORY

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**Weddings**  
Fr. Babu Mathew  
604-224-4344



**REDEMPTORISTS**  
2465 CROWN STREET  
VANCOUVER  
B.C. V6R3V9  
ESTABLISHED 1923

**MASSES & SERVICES**  
Saturday: 5pm  
(Anticipated Mass)  
Sunday: 9am, 11am & 5pm  
Monday – Wednesday 8am  
Thursday Mass/Novena:  
8am & 7pm  
Friday, Saturday, Holidays: 9am  
(Fridays in July & August: 8am)  
Reconciliation  
Saturday: 4-4:45pm  
Adoration  
Saturday 9:30-10am  
Library Hours  
Sunday: 10-10:45am, 4:30-5pm

**OFFICE HOURS**  
Monday-Friday: 9am-4pm

**STAFF**  
**Pastor**  
Babu Mathew, C.Ss.R.  
**Associate Pastor**  
Joseph Horo, C.Ss.R.  
**Office Manager**  
Virginia Fong  
**Pastoral Coordinator**  
Bertilla Watanabe  
**Bookkeeper**  
Corinna Siy  
**Youth Ministry Coordinator**  
Theresa Barao

**OLPH School Principal**  
Lora Clarke  
**IN RESIDENCE.**  
William Comerford, C.Ss.R.

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Jr. Kindergarten: 604-221-0002

[olphchurchvancouver](https://www.facebook.com/olphchurchvancouver)



# OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP PARISH

June 25, 2017

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Feast

## The Marian Challenge on our Feast Day

Dear Friends & Parishioners,

Happy Feast Day! Our Mission talks and contemplation have brought us to this joyful day of prayer and celebration. The feast of Our Lady of Perpetual Help is a good time to remember to place our full confidence in the loving role of Our Blessed Mother in our lives. I see this trust in a group of faithful visitors who come a considerable distance to attend our Thursday novenas every week. If we could all place this trust and confidence in her intercession, we would accomplish surprising things.

However, it's not just about us and our needs. Over the last few weeks you've seen our Superior General Mike Brehl's message about the Mission of Mary in the world and how we as Redemptorist communities can support it. It is a reminder to accompany Mary in her mission in a wounded world. How we do this is a matter for our reflection to be put to action together as a parish. We have people in our congregation who have many gifts they can share for the growth and development of our parish in this work. Parents of our school community also have an important role to play. Fr Brehl's words to help us direct our reflection are: Accompany, Gather, Pray, Struggle.

Peace and blessings from all our Redemptorists on this feast day. O Mother of Perpetual Help, you whose very name inspires confidence, pray for us.

Yours in Christ,  
Fr. Babu Mathew, C.Ss.R



## A New Home for Our Blessed Mother

Another outdoor shrine for Our Blessed Mother? Yes, just in case you didn't already know that we have a special affection for Our Mother of Perpetual Help! This time, we did not go seeking the sculpture of Our Blessed Mother... she sought us. The new bronze sculpture of Our Lady was originally purchased and installed at the Gardens of Gethsemani. For a variety of reasons, the Gardens felt it was not suited to their needs. They contacted us last month and asked us if we would accept it as a gift. Fr Babu pondered the matter for a while and decided, yes, she would be quite happy here on the grounds of our parish.

The timing couldn't be more fortuitous. It arrived with just enough time for repair and installation for our feast day. Parts of the statue had oxidized and needed restoration. This task of bringing some of its shine back went to new parishioner and Knights of Columbus member, Gustavo Guerrero, from Columbia who is an artist and art restorer. Along with a blessing, a special Marian Consecration of Canada to our Blessed Mother to mark 150 years of confederation will also be prayed this weekend, Sunday June 25 after the 4pm Mass.

Lord in your steadfast love, answer me. - Psalm 69

## NEWS & NOTICES

**Project Advance:** Our Project Advance Appeal for this year has been launched. Please check your mail for a pledge form. There are also brochures at the church which you can use to make your donations. Our target for this year's appeal is \$102,000 to be used for the church's seismic upgrade. You can also make donations at [www.rcav.org](http://www.rcav.org).

**PREP Pre-Registration:** The Parish Religious Education Program (PREP) is for elementary school aged children who are not attending Catholic school. Pre-registration for the 2017/2018 school year is now being accepted. Please contact Elizabeth Towers at 604-440-8809 or email [prep@olphbc.ca](mailto:prep@olphbc.ca) for information.

**PREP Teachers & Teaching Assistants Needed:** Would you like to share your talents by helping out as a teacher or teaching assistant? PREP is for children Grades 1-7 who do not go to Catholic school but need to be educated in the Faith. For more information, please contact Elizabeth Towers at 604-440-8809 or email [prep@olphbc.ca](mailto:prep@olphbc.ca).

**Applications to Permanent Diaconate:** Deacons are official teachers and preachers of the Gospel, and they may preside at baptisms, marriages, funerals, and other forms of community prayers. They also share in the pastoral responsibilities of outreach, such as visiting the sick, the homebound, those imprisoned and in need. They cannot celebrate Mass, hear confessions, or anoint the sick. "By its very nature, the ministry of permanent deacons will help all of us -priests, consecrated women and men, and lay faithful - to live our baptismal call. An introductory seminar will be held soon. Sessions run Sat Sept 23, Oct 28 and Nov 19. Register at [www.stmarkscollege.ca/programs/](http://www.stmarkscollege.ca/programs/) of building up the Body of Christ. Men interested in this ordained ministry, along with their wives, are invited to attend.

**Marian Consecration at Holy Rosary Cathedral:** Canada's bishops will mark the 150th anniversary of Confederation by re-consecrating the nation to Mary on Canada Day. In dioceses across Canada, bishops will consecrate their individual diocese or eparchy. Join Archbishop Miller for a special Mass on Sunday, July 2, at 11 a.m. as we celebrate and pray the national Prayer of Consecration to Mary at Holy Rosary Cathedral. For more info., visit: <http://rcav.org/marian-consecration/>

**EnCourage:** EnCourage is a support group dedicated to the spiritual needs of parents, siblings, children, and relatives and friends of persons who experience same-sex attraction. Join us for our next meeting on Sunday, June 25, from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at St. Helen's Church, Burnaby. If you would like to join EnCourage, please contact Deacon Bruce Fraser at [encourage@rcav.org](mailto:encourage@rcav.org). To learn more about EnCourage, visit <https://couragerc.org/encourage/about/>

**350 Years of Sisters of the Child Jesus and Associates:** Come celebrate the Anniversary of the Sisters of the Child Jesus on Friday, Aug. 11. Join us for Mass with Archbishop Miller at 5 p.m., followed by a mix and mingle reception with the Child Jesus family at St. Mary's Parish, Vancouver.

**CISVA is hiring:** Catholic Independent Schools Vancouver Archdiocese (CISVA) is currently looking for teachers for September. If you're interested or know someone who is, please check out the CISVA employment page for more information: <https://cisva.bc.ca/info/employment/>

**National Liturgical Conference:** Monday, Nov. 6, from 7-9pm and Tuesday, Nov. 7 from 8:30am to 4:30pm at the Vancouver Airport Marriott Hotel. Special rate of \$159 ends on Oct. 6, 2017. Guest speaker is Father Michael McGourty, a liturgist from the Archdiocese of Toronto. Registration for both days, without lunch, is \$73 and \$105, if lunch is included. Registration for the Closing Banquet on Tuesday evening is \$35. For more info, please contact 613-241-9461 ext. 154 or visit <http://nlo.cccb.ca/index.php/announcements>.

### PRAYER

**Please pray for the repose of the soul of Dorothy (Dot) Miller.**

Her funeral will be held at Sacred Heart Church in Ladner at 11am on Monday June 26. Prayers are at the Delta Funeral Home on Sunday evening from 7-9 p.m.

## Stewardship Reflection

*"Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father."  
-- MATTHEW 10:32*

Do you share your Catholic faith with others? Do you defend your Catholic faith or do you remain silent when the situation arises? Do you pray in public before meals? Pray for the strength and courage to be a joyful witness of our Catholic faith when the opportunity presents itself.

Stewardship Office, Archdiocese of St. Louis

## CALENDAR

### JUNE

#### OLPH Feast Day Mass

Sun June 25: Mass at 4pm with Archbishop Michael Miller and Archbishop Gerard Pettipas (No Mass at 11am and 5pm) Join us for a reception on the front lawn of the Rectory after Mass. Please bring a dessert to share!

### JULY

#### Youth Bake Sale July 8 and 9



The OLPH Youth Ministry is organizing a Bake Sale on (July 8 & 9) to raise funds for their Road Trip to the Prairies. You can support them by buying their baked goods or by giving a donation toward this effort. Donation cards and envelopes will be available at the Bake Sale table as well as at the Parish office.

#### Dare-2-Dance Summer Camp

The Dare-2-Dance is a dance arts pedagogy that engages children through the arts, and motivates them toward excellence. Dare-2-Dance empowers children to develop/enhance memory strategies and to learn fundamentals of dancing. Location: OLPH Parish Hall Age: 7-12 Yrs. Cost: \$250 per week. Snacks are included. For info contact Kathy Mok. Email: [communications.olph@rcav.org](mailto:communications.olph@rcav.org). Web: <http://Danzkool.ca> Camp Dates: Week 1: July 11 (Tue, Wed & Thurs) 10am – 1pm Week 2: July 18 (Tue, Wed & Thurs) 10am – 1pm Our Camp Instructor : Tim Mah, BC Champion and Canadian Championships Finalist in 10-Dance and Latin American categories; Level 3 NCCP (Coaching) certification

## Mission of Mary Today: The Challenge

*This is the final section of a letter from our Redemptorist Superior General Fr. Mark Brehl. In it he tells us that Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation, Evangelii Gaudium, presents us with a new missionary mandate – to accompany Mary in her Mission today. This mandate, he says, must find resonance in the heart of every Redemptorist missionary and every one of our communities. Here Fr Brehl invites Redemptorist parishes everywhere to take up the challenges of this mission.*

#### Concrete Challenge for Redemptorist Families Today

When we began our jubilee celebrations in honour of Our Mother of Perpetual Help, I asked each Redemptorist unit to consider a special social project in favour of the abandoned and the poor to mark this important celebration. Some of the Provinces and Vice-Provinces did take concrete action to support a shelter for women and children, another with funds to assist refugees, others in different ways. Of course, such projects are not limited to the Jubilee Year, and any unit might decide to make such a commitment under the patronage of Perpetual Help at any time.

However, in this jubilee year of the Pilgrimage of the Missionary Icon, I ask every Shrine, Sanctuary, Parish, and Mission Team and Redemptorist Community to undertake a prayerful reflection on our mission with Our Mother of Perpetual Help today. We have made her known, and we continue to make her known. Pope Francis has called us to reflect on her role as a missionary-disciple today, and to accompany her in her mission to our wounded world. How might we do this? I ask the whole Redemptorist Family to engage in reflection together on this call in local and Provincial communities. Perhaps you might use these four words to help you in your reflections: Accompany, Gather, Pray, Struggle.

- How do we accompany the poor and the abandoned, the wounded and the suffering, with compassion, tenderness and maternal love? In what concrete ways can we be in solidarity with migrants and refugees, with the victims of human trafficking, with young people and street children, with addicts and homeless? How can we accompany young families and the elderly members of our communities? How can we accompany those struggling to make sense of today's world, those in despair, those who have lost hope?
- Where might we create spaces to gather God's people, safe places where real encounter can take place? What facilities might we use in our shrines or parishes, communities and schools, where people can meet one another, perhaps take part in formation programs or discussions, or moments of socializing and sharing? How can our Churches become more welcoming, especially for the stranger? Are the confessionals inviting and are there spaces for the sacrament of reconciliation?
- All of our Churches and Shrines, communities and facilities, offer possibilities for prayer and reflection. In many places, we are strengthening and renewing the practice of the Perpetual Novena. Do the prayers we use truly reflect the concrete experience and situations among our people? Do they move us from personal intentions to praying for others, and addressing the needs of the society in which we are praying? Do we invite others to prayerful discernment with the Word of God, the 'signs of the times' and their own lives?

#### OLPH Junior Kindergarten Offers Summer Camp

OLPH Junior Kindergarten is offering a fun-packed, half-day summer camp for children aged 3-6 years with field trips, beach expeditions, clay-making and yoga.

Jr.K Director Maria Cortese said, "We feel it is important for children to stay connected with their school over the summer. The program also allows siblings to be enrolled which is very helpful for parents during the summer. For children transitioning into Kindergarten in the Fall it's a great opportunity to start building a connection with the school they will be attending. Many families do not have the entire summer off, so this is a great way to keep the children happy and occupied."

**Camp Dates: Week 1 July 3-7 | Week 2 July 10-14 | Week 3 July 17-21.**

For further information please email [jrkindergarten@olphbc.ca](mailto:jrkindergarten@olphbc.ca). Registration forms are available from the Jr.K classroom. Cost: \$175 per week.

## OLPH: MISSION AND FEAST DAY



- Do our Novena Prayers integrate and reflect the renewed teaching on Evangelization, on the Family, on the care of our Common Home, and on Mercy? Do our prayers encourage and empower lay leadership?
- Does our devotion to Our Mother of Perpetual Help draw us into a deeper commitment in the struggle for justice? Like Mary, do we hold justice and tenderness together, so that the revolutionary power of mercy, compassion and love can transform our world for all? How do we express our passion for justice in concrete statements and actions? How do we do this in our actual situation and circumstances? What formation for action for justice can we offer through the mission of Our Mother of Perpetual Help today?

**An Appeal:** I invite you to send me the fruit of your reflections and dialogue, and the concrete action plan arising from this, if possible by October 31, 2017. This will help not only to acknowledge how the Spirit is moving among us, but also might serve as an inspiration to other Units as we live out our Devotion-Mission mandate in the worldwide Redemptorist Congregation and family.

#### Conclusion and Prayer

As we continue together to celebrate this Jubilee Pilgrimage of the Missionary Icon of Our Mother of Perpetual Help throughout the world, may it be a time of grace and renewal for the whole Redemptorist Family.

During this Jubilee, we have joyfully celebrated our mandate to 'make her known to the whole world'. Wherever we have gone, she has accompanied us. Often, she has gone before us and opened the door for our presence and mission – in Haiti, in Korea, in Ghana to give just a few examples. Mary accompanies us in our mission. Can we accompany her in her Mission and become ever more authentic and prophetic Witnesses of the Redeemer in solidarity for mission to a wounded world?

