



OLPH 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.

CONTACT

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 olphchurchvancouver



OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP PARISH

July 23, 2017

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Share the Gaze of Mary

By Bertilla Watanabe

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, so lovingly turned to for hope and consolation by millions of people, can help us transform the world if we could look at those around us through that tender gaze.

Fr. David Louch, former pastor of OLPH now based in the Provincial Office in Toronto, shared this message of hope and encouragement when he spoke to Redemptorist Associates on Monday. His talk was based on Superior General Mike Brehl's recent letter about the role of Mary as Missionary Disciple and how we as a parish can draw inspiration from this.

He said the icon of Our Lady of Perpetual Help is not just an aspect of Redemptorist spirituality and devotion but a dimension of the Redemptorist mission. Every Redemptorist Congregation is thus entrusted with the task of fulfilling the responsibilities of "the Missionary Icon."

"How do we carry out this task? By responding with a missionary thrust to the pressing pastoral needs of the most abandoned, especially the poor and by devoting itself to evangelization. This translates to a life dedicated to God and a life of missionary work," he said.

Praying with the icon of Our Mother of Perpetual Help can help us focus and draw inspiration for this mission. "In the icon, Mary gazes at us in tenderness, compassion, mercy and love. If we look at the world through Mary's eyes of compassion and mercy, what do we see? To share the gaze of Mary is to be called to transform the world – to be a minister of redemption," said Fr. David.

Pope Francis in his Apostolic Exhortation, *Evangelium Gaudium* (The Joy of the Gospel) speaks of Mary's "revolutionary nature of love and tenderness" to transform the world. "In her we see that humility and tenderness are not virtues of the weak but of the strong who need not treat others poorly in order to feel important themselves." (EG 288)

In the icon, we also see how Mary holds her Son lovingly. "As you gaze out on the world, consider who needs to be held lovingly? In your family, your home, your workplace, your corner of the vineyard, how do you hold the body of Christ lovingly? To what action are you called?"

"What does the falling sandal from the child Jesus or the uncovered foot symbolize for you? We could see it as a loss of dignity. Who are the voiceless in our society? And if you look at the gaze of Jesus towards the instruments of his death, you see fear. The gaze of Jesus draws us to contemplate where the body of Christ is afraid, alone or in peril. How are we called to accompany them and thus be a minister of redemption for them?"

We are all called to accompany Mary in her mission to become true witnesses of the Redeemer in our wounded world in many ways. How? We can share our material resources, be compassionate to all who suffer and understand their pain. We also need to be sensitive to those in need and embrace them in friendship. There is also a real need to create spaces for gathering pilgrims together be they refugees, the homeless, victims of natural disaster. Not least, we also need to be voices of hope for those struggling for justice.

Fr. David concluded by saying that Mary always points to her Son. She calls us to walk with her and her Son. When Pope Pius IX in 1865 entrusted the Redemptorists with the icon of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, urging them to "Make her known" he was telling them to make Him, her Son, known.



Lord you are good and forgiving. - Psalm 86

NEWS & NOTICES

Thank You: The June Food Bank proceeds went to the Kits Shower Program. We received this letter from their Coordinator, Penny Rogers.

On behalf of the Kits Showers Program for the Homeless, I would like to thank you for your very generous donation to our program. Your donation helps offset the cost involved in providing a very nutritious hot breakfast every Saturday morning throughout the year. Our guests are very thankful and always tell us we have the best breakfast in town.

Pro-life Mass & Vigil: Join us for a peaceful, prayerful vigil for unborn children and their parents on Saturday, Aug. 5. Mass is at 9 a.m. at St. Pius X Parish, North Vancouver followed by the Rosary at Lion's Gate Hospital. <http://rcav.org/pro-life-mass-and-prayer-vigil/>

Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity: How would you answer someone who asked the question: "Where does the Church stand on issues of sexual orientation and gender identity?" Learn how to dialogue with your co-workers, neighbours and family members about hot topics, without raising your voice. Catholic Voices will guide you through defending your faith. Peter Nation, coordinator for Catholic Voices Academy will facilitate a training session at the upcoming Summer Institute on Saturday, Aug. 26 at Holy Cross Secondary School. To register or for more course offerings, visit www.oc-summer.ca

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. After we have met the diocesan target of \$51,000, remaining funds will go toward the church's seismic upgrade. You can also make donations at www.rcav.org.

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.

Applications for 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/ of building up the Body of Christ. Men interested in this ordained ministry, along with their wives, are invited to attend.

PARISH DIRECTORY

Parish Council

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Renee Stafford
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Project Advance

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Mark Thompson 778-891-6275

Volunteers Coordinator

Lara Garcia Carton
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Weddings

Fr. Babu Mathew
604-224-4344

MAY & JUNE COLLECTIONS: THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

	MAY	JUNE
Regular Sunday Collection	\$31,068.69	\$29,423.21
Collection for the Needy	\$1,627.00	\$1,506.15
Pope's Pastoral Works	\$1,389.00	
Pro-Life Sunday		\$1,576.00
Catholic Missions		\$1,567.00
Work of Vocations	\$1,726.00	
Famine Relief		\$455.00
Food Bank	\$641.60	\$479.85
Parish Mission		\$545.00

Stewardship Reflection

"The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field... He who sows good seed is the Son of Man, the field is the world, the good seed the children of the kingdom."

- MATTHEW 13:24, 37-38

As children of God, we are all "good seeds," blessed by God with the potential to accomplish much good in the world. We fulfill God's plan when we share our talents and our financial gifts to help build God's kingdom on earth. Through our stewardship we sow "good seeds" on earth to ultimately help each other get to Heaven!

Stewardship Office, Archdiocese of St. Louis