



## OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP PARISH

February 3, 2019

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

### 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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## Looking Forward to Archbishop Miller's Visit

Dear Parishioners,

You've probably heard by now that next month we will be hosting Archbishop Michael Miller as part of his program to visit all parishes of the Archdiocese of Vancouver. In the Archbishop's letter to the Pastor he writes:

“Since the early days of the Church, it has been a privilege, as well as an expectation, for Bishops to pay regular visits to their parishes. In an Archdiocese such as ours, covering more than 100,000 sq. kms and with 437,000 Catholics in 77 parishes, this is a daunting but important task.”

He says, this pastoral visit is an “event of grace” which will give him the opportunity to invite parishioners to embrace the priorities and goals established for the Archdiocese of Vancouver, encourage the faithful's participation in the life of the parish and encourage us all to respond with greater fervor.

Brothers and sisters, many of the things our parish has been doing over the past few years have been closely aligned to the Priorities and Goals put forward by the Archdiocese of Vancouver. These priorities are: 1) *Make Every Sunday Matter* 2) *Get Closer to Jesus* 3) *Strengthen Marriages and Families* 4) *Develop Parish Leadership & Support*. We will elaborate on these in the coming weeks.

Many of our groups and Ministry Coordinators will be invited to attend meetings with the Archbishop. I urge you to make yourself available on the dates of March 14-17. A more detailed schedule will be available in the coming weeks.

Let us ask our Blessed Mother of Perpetual Help for the grace to continue working together to make our parish a vibrant heart and hub of God's loving presence. Last but not least, best wishes for a happy Lunar New Year to all who are celebrating this auspicious day.

Yours in Christ,  
**Fr. Babu Mathew, CSsR**

## Bl. Peter Donders. CSsR: Guided into Mission

Fr Donders was born in Tilburg, Holland, on October 27, 1809. His parents were Arnold Denis Donders and Petronella van den Brekel. Their home was poor, so Peter and his brother had little schooling as they worked to support the family. As a youngster, Peter was interested in becoming a priest, and with the generosity of a group of local clergy behind him, he was able to begin his studies. He was ordained in 1841, at 29 years of age.

Even before ordination, Blessed Peter Donders was being guided by the seminary leaders towards the missions in the Dutch colony of Surinam. He arrived in Paramaribo in 1842. He made regular visits through the plantations along the colony's rivers preaching and celebrating the sacraments. Many of the people were slaves. Peter's letters express his indignation at the harsh treatment of the African peoples forced to work on the plantations.

When he was sent to the leper station in 1856, he had been ordained 15 years but was not yet a Redemptorist. It was ten years later in 1866 that the Redemptorists first arrived to co-ordinate the mission in Surinam. Only then did Fr Donders and one of his fellow priests apply for admission to the congregation. After his profession as a Redemptorist on June 24, 1867, Peter Donders returned promptly to Batavia. Since he now had assistance in working among the lepers, he was able to reach out to the indigenous peoples of Surinam. He also began to learn the native languages and to instruct the local peoples in the Christian faith.

Peter also tended the lepers personally with their many needs, and at the same time, ensured that the authorities provided much-needed nursing facilities. By bringing the leper's needs to the attention of the colonial authorities, he was in many ways able to improve their conditions. He was tireless in these efforts. With increasingly weakening health, his labours slowed over the last years of his life. He died on January 14, 1887. His feast day was celebrated by Redemptorists two weeks ago. The significance of his life was well known in Surinam and spread also back to Holland, the land of his birth. He was beatified by Pope John Paul II in 1982.

*My mouth will tell, O Lord, of your deeds of salvation. - Psalm 71*

## NEWS & NOTICES

**Weekly Collection:** Sunday Mass Offering Feb 2 & 3: \$7,520.85. Offering for the Needy: \$20. Initial Offering: \$85. BC Catholic: \$60 Solemnity of Mary: \$50. Food Bank \$932.35. Thank you for your faith-filled generosity.

**2019 Sunday Offering Envelope Boxes:** The 2019 Sunday Offering boxes are available in the parish office. Please do not use envelopes from 2018 or previous years. You may also wish to consider giving your donation by Pre-Authorized Giving. You can use the PAG form in your Sunday Offering box or pick up a copy at the back pew of the church.

**Madonna Group:** The next meeting of the Madonna Group is this Wednesday Feb 6 at noon in the Madonna Room. The guest speaker is from Sancta Maria House, a Catholic recovery house for women suffering from addictions. Please contact Monica Cheung 604-739-8837 if you plan to attend.

**CWL Membership Drive:** OLPH Catholic Women's League is having its annual membership drive. They will be in the Church foyer before and after all masses on February 16/17 to renew memberships and sign up new members. Look for the blue handout at the back of the Church to find out more about the CWL.



**The Art of Keeping Kids Catholic:** Join us for an evening presentation and mini workshop to help equip us with the skills for engaging and keeping children in the faith. The speaker is Dolores Madaisky, with a M.A. Family Studies and B.A. in Psychology. She is a mother of five children who is passionate about working with parents to develop communication skills. She has run workshops for schools, parishes and the Archdiocese. Thursday February 28, 2019, 7pm - 9pm at St. Augustine's Parish Hall.

**Lenten Mission March 11-14:** Father Larre is our Lenten Retreat guest speaker this year. Fr Larre has many roles in his life. Besides being a priest he also worked in psychology and education focusing on helping children. The underlying theme for his work is how to be missionaries of love. He spreads this message in missions, retreats and special talks to parishes all over the world.

**Fatal Flaws (Screening):** This is a screening of the documentary Fatal Flaws: Legalizing Assisted Death. A thought-provoking journey through Europe and North America to ask one of the most fundamental philosophical questions of our time: should we be giving doctors the right in law to end the life of others by euthanasia or assisted suicide? Filmmaker Kevin Dunn uses powerful testimonies and expert opinion from both sides of the issue to uncover how these highly disputed laws affect society over time. This film is about the adoption of – and resistance to – a new cultural philosophy that may affect you at the most vulnerable time of your life. Join us Friday, Feb. 8, at 7 p.m. at John Paul II Pastoral Centre, Vancouver. <https://rcav.org/event/fatal-flaws-screening>

**Catholic Press Collection: Feb. 2-3, 2019:** There will be a second collection for Catholic Press this weekend. This is a great opportunity for parishioners to show their appreciation for receiving The B.C. Catholic. The collection helps defray your parish's costs for mailing the paper. For those who don't receive it, it's also a great chance to help out as all the money collected stays in the parish. Please give generously Feb. 2-3 so we can continue to deliver this vital, award-winning publication to parishioners in the Archdiocese of Vancouver.

**Living More Harmoniously:** Adjust your ways of functioning so as to lead your life well. Discover how you function best, identify your dysfunctions, and learn how to make adjustments for a more harmonious life. Dates: Feb 23-24 and Mar 2-3. To register or for more info. contact Leah Bittante at 604-613-0023 or visit <https://rcav.org/event/living-more-harmoniously-2>

### REDEMPTORIST PILGRIMAGE: MAY 2-14

As part of our 150<sup>th</sup> Jubilee Icon of Love celebrations, the Redemptorists all over the world have organized several pilgrimages to visit the actual icon of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, places where St. Alphonsus and St. Gerard Majella lived. If you are interested in joining this pilgrimage, please contact Brian or Deon at [royaleorchid@shaw.ca](mailto:royaleorchid@shaw.ca) or call Brian 778-999-4599/778-866-8118.

### Stewardship Reflection

*"Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, it is not pompous." (1 Corinthians 13:4)*

Do you get jealous? Do you focus more on the things that other people have than on the gifts that God has given to you? Are you pompous? Do you acquire more possessions to impress others? At times we are all guilty of these things. Pray for more humility. Pray to become less "self-centered" and become more "God-centered".

Stewardship Office, Archdiocese of St. Louis

## PARISH DIRECTORY

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