



OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP PARISH

MASSSES & 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)
 Children's Mass: 9am 1st
 Sunday of the month Oct-June
 Children's Liturgy: 11am
 All Sundays except the 1st
 Sunday from Sept- June
 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.

In Residence

William Comerford, C.Ss.R.

Office Manager

Virginia Fong

Pastoral Coordinator

Bertilla Watanabe

Bookkeeper

Corinna Siy

Youth Ministry Coordinator

Theresa Barao

OLPH School Principal

Lora Clarke

Jr. Kindergarten Director

Maria Cortese

CONTACT

Email: parish.olph@rcav.org

Website: www.olphchurch.ca

Parish Office: 604-224-4344

OLPH School: 604-228-8811

Jr. Kindergarten:

jrkindergarten@olpbc.ca

 Olphchurchvancouver

**OLPH Church, 2465 Crown
 Street, Vancouver BC V6R3V9**

August 25, 2019

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time



Gospel Reflection: Will Only a Few Be Saved?

By John Thornhill, SM

In today's Gospel, we ponder these words: "Lord, will only a few be saved?"

The response of Jesus to this question has often been interpreted in a pessimistic sense – the very opposite of the message of hope that Jesus brought to the world. Fortunately, today's biblical scholarship shows this interpretation to be mistaken.

The question "Will only a few be saved?" put to Jesus was much discussed by the rabbis. Their exclusive view had no place for the Gentiles, and their emphasis upon a strict observance of the prescriptions of the Law that was almost impossible for the common people, led them to conclude that the number of the saved would be rather small.

Jesus had no intention of entering into this discussion. In fact his whole purpose was to lead them beyond the exclusiveness they took for granted. He called them to identify with the generous ways of God. Israel's calling was, in fact, for the sake of the other peoples of the world. They were to be a 'light to the nations', leading them to come to know the life-giving ways of the one true God.

The response of Jesus is along these lines. The image of 'two ways' that can be taken in life is a common one. The 'narrow door' of his parable does not imply that salvation is available to only a few; it refers to the conversion called for if his hearers are to accept his teaching, and thus become the people God wants them to be. (Matthew has this same thought, comparing a 'narrow gate' into the city with the 'wide and spacious' one that most make use of, 7:13.)

Similarly, the point of the parable of the 'locked door' is not exclusion, but the need to hurry in – the opportunity brought by Jesus is coming to an end. Only conversion from the constricted ways the nation has come to take for granted will give entrance to 'the master's house' - knowing Jesus, even sitting at table with him, without heeding his call to become the people God intended them to be will leave them out in the cold.

All this is confirmed by what follows. A people who have not been faithful heirs to what they have received from 'Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets will find themselves 'outside'. But God's purposes will not be frustrated; the peoples of the world will 'take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God'.

Clearly, the Church's choice of the first reading for today's liturgy is meant to confirm this optimistic interpretation. This passage, the final lines of the bible's collection of the Isaian writings, envisages all the peoples of the known world coming to Jerusalem to worship the true God. Jesus was calling Israel back to a sharing in the generous ways of God that was their true faith tradition. But, as he makes his way to Jerusalem, time is running out.

www.theemmausseries.com

**PROJECT
 ADVANCE**

**Live gratefully,
 give generously.**

You can make a donation to Project Advance by filling out the pledge form you received in the mail or using the detachable envelope on the leaflet. You can also go to www.rcav.org. Just indicate that your parish is OLPH.



Go into all the world and proclaim the good news. – Psalm 117

NEWS & NOTICES

Weekly Collection: Sunday Mass Offering August 17 & 18: \$5,261.10. Offering for the Needy: \$75. Thank you for your faith-filled generosity.

Fr. Bill Comerford's Farewell: A farewell gathering will be held today (Sunday Aug 25) after the 11am Mass. All are welcome.

Madonna Group: Our next gathering is on Wednesday Sept 4 at noon in the parish hall. Please contact Gloria at 604-224-6180 for more information.

Becoming Catholic: If you are interested in finding out more about the Catholic faith, you are welcome to register for the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA). The journey of getting to know Jesus and finding out more about the Catholic church begins on Sunday Sept 22. We gather between 9am and 10:30am. Registration forms are available in the church foyer and the parish office. You can email your completed form to Bertilla. Her email: bwatanabe@rcav.org.

Joining the Parish: If you would like to be part of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, please email reception.olph@rcav.org for a registration form or drop in at the parish office during office hours. Registration forms are also available on the ledge of the back pew in the church. Feel free to fill it out and email it to us along with your Baptism certificate.

PREP: The Parish Religious Education Program (PREP) is for elementary school aged children who are not attending Catholic school. Please contact Elizabeth Towers at 604-440-8809 or email prep.olph@rcav.org for information.

Retrouvaille: This weekend gathering for couples in troubled marriages helps spouses to listen, forgive and be reconciled in the certainty that God's love can help heal and overcome all difficulties. Next session: Sept 27-29, Barnabas Landing, Keats Island. For info, please call: 604-530-6710 or visit www.retrouvaillevancouver.com

Theology of the Body: Come and discover human nature as the "Gift of Self" in our relationship with God and one another. Discover holiness intimately connected with human nature. Discover how the sacraments, particularly the Eucharist, redeem human nature. Discover what this tells us about life on earth and Eternal Life with God. Courses are Tuesdays from Sept. 10 to Dec. 3 (except Sept. 17, Nov. 12) from 7 p.m. - 9:15 p.m. at the John Paul II Pastoral Centre in Vancouver. Register online at rcav.org/tob

Catholic Charismatic Conference 2019: Come experience God's love, compassion, mercy, and healing at our yearly conference at the Sheraton Vancouver Airport Hotel in Richmond. Friday, Aug. 30, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday at 9 a.m. with closing Mass at 5 p.m. celebrated by Archbishop J. Michael Miller. Tickets are \$25 for two days. For more info please email lennieptl@telus.net or phone 604-597-8227

Pro-Life Mass & Prayer Vigil: Join us for a peaceful, prayerful vigil for unborn children and their parents. Mass is Saturday, Sept. 7, at 9 a.m. at St. Edmund's Parish, North Vancouver. One of the fundamental answers to abortion is prayer. Please join your voice with ours as we pray on the first Saturday of each month at a different parish for a new culture of life. More information at 604 683-0281.

LifeCanada 4th Annual Gala: LifeCanada and Vancouver's Life Community announce their 4th Annual Gala Dinner. This year, they are excited to introduce EWTN's host of the World Over and Fox News contributor Raymond Arroyo. Raymond is one of the most widely acclaimed and celebrated commentators in his industry. At the Pinnacle Harbourfront Hotel in Vancouver Saturday, Sept. 7, at 6 p.m. Tickets \$75. All proceeds go to support the work of LifeCanada and Vancouver's Life Community. Visit www.lifecanada.org/gala_2019_tickets for more information.

Rosary Rally: Come to pray the Rosary in honour of Our Lady, to make reparation to her for sins committed against her Immaculate Heart, and to beg graces from her Divine Son, through her; with public witness to the faith. Rallies will be held at 10 a.m. at the Vancouver Art Gallery, North Plaza, Sat. Sept. 14 and Sat. Sept. 19.



Our Lady of Perpetual Help Noon Mass, Novena & Veneration of the Relic of St. Alphonsus

Come and join us at 12:00 noon on the first Thursday of each month, starting September 5, 2019 for a beautiful Mass and Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help as well as special healing prayers with the relic of St Alphonsus. Email your prayer intentions to olphnovena@gmail.com. Fellowship in the parish hall over soup to follow. All are welcome!

Stewardship Reflection

"For behold, some are last who will be first and some are first who will be last." (Luke 13:30)

Our standards in society are different from God's standards. We often rank people by what they have, how powerful they are, or how successful they are. Jesus reminds us that God will not judge us by the same earthly standards. When God asks you, "what have you done with the gifts I have given you?" How will you respond?

Stewardship Office, Archdiocese of St. Louis

PARISH DIRECTORY

Pastoral Council

Donna Trasolini
trasolini@telus.net

Finance Council

Kevin Chan
kchanolph@gmail.com

Parish Education Committee

Maili Wong
pec@olphbc.ca

Parish Fundraising Committee

Sandie Weitz
sweitz20@gmail.com

COORDINATORS

Altar Guild

Bridget Bird 604-228-9180

Altar Servers

Kate Carr 604-730-5640

Catholic Women's League

Meg Knowling
MKnowling@Outlook.com

Children's Liturgy

Kathy Mok
communications.olph@rcav.org

Craft Group

Elizabeth Hii e1kmhii@gmail.com

Development & Peace

Deirdre Webster 604-736-0714

Eucharistic Ministry

Pamela Brammall 604-228-9206

Food Bank

Robyn Sirmul robynsirmul@shaw.ca

Hospitality Ministry

Gerry Macken 604-222-1369

Knights of Columbus

Peter Dodge 604-649-1111

Liturgy of the Hours

Bridget Clark 604-228-8773

Madonna Group

Monica Cheung 604-739-8837

Ministry of the Word

Roger Poirier 604-224-0426

Music Ministry

Catherine Walsh
catherine.organist@gmail.com

Communion to the Sick

Mary Thompson 604-263-6008

PREP

Elizabeth Towers 604-440-8809

Project Advance

Bertilla Watanabe 604-224-4344

RCIA

Bertilla Watanabe
bwatanabe@rcav.org

Social Justice/St. Vincent de Paul

Mark Thompson 778-891-6275

Volunteers Coordinator

Lara Garcia Carton
olphchurchvolunteers@gmail.com

Weddings

Fr. Babu Mathew 604-224-4344