



# 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) 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

#### **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday-Friday: 9am-4pm

Sunday: 10-10:45am, 4:30-5pm

# STAFF

Pastor

Babu Mathew, C.Ss.R.

**Associate Pastor** 

Joseph Horo, C.Ss.R.

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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**

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Olphchurchvancouver

OLPH Church, 2465 Crown Street, Vancouver BC V6R3V9 September 1, 2019

22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

# 10 Catholic Ways to Celebrate Labour Day

#### By Tom Hoopes

Put on the grill, for sure, but here are some other tips to make Labour Day a little more meaningful this year. Since I work at a Benedictine College, I asked philosophers and theologians for their advice.

### 1. Stare at a leaf — then "consecrate" your desk

To work is to participate in the ordering of God's creation. That means work should be a prayer. We give strong associations to objects that have been meaningful to us – lucky jersey or the sweater you wore on your first date. Use this phenomenon. Stare at an object, shut out all else, and contemplate how God fills it with meaning — for example how a leaf shows his handiwork, his purpose and his presence. In this way you can train your mind to remember God whenever you see a leaf. Do this in your workplace and soon, you will be surrounded with God-purposed opportunities for grace.

#### 2. Renounce slavery

Once you have "consecrated" your desk, you are ready to start working the way God intended. As his partner in the perfection of the cosmos. But to be a partner you have to stop being a slave. "Work was made for man, not man for work," said St. John Paul. Stop working beneath the whip of the mortgage company, the tax collector and the demands of the Joneses, and begin working beneath the gaze of God.

## 3. Sit next to Jesus, the carpenter, at his bench

God made his attitude toward work clear to us in a very direct and simple way. By becoming a carpenter sitting down at Joseph's bench, he taught us without words that work is holy. So, sit down there with him. When you pray, serve others or speak of God, you are imitating what Christ did some of the time. When you work, you are imitating what Christ did most of the time.

#### 4. Work to be seen

You are supposed to witness to the world what a Christian life looks like. For most of us, that mostly means a Christian work life. If you work thoroughly, carefully and conscientiously people will notice and your faith will attract them. If you work sloppily, bitterly, and out of whack with your home life, people will notice that, too, and your faith will repel them.

#### 5. Shop with other workers in mind

As Pope Benedict XVI put it, "Every economic decision has a moral consequence." Whenever possible, reward entrepreneurs who respect their workers and serve customers' real needs, and avoid the corporations that treat labor and customers as commodities.

## 6. Switch your Amazon account to "no weekends"

The Catechism says that not only should we avoid working on Sundays, we should avoid making other people work on Sundays too. Sunday rest is a God-ordained break that too many are denied. Don't needlessly contribute to the problem. Stay out of stores and tell Amazon "no weekends." That seems to be the only way to stop them from delivering on Sunday.

#### 7. Work smart, rest smarter

Leisure, not work, is the basis of culture. Rest is a time for family, friendships and intellectual refreshment. It shouldn't be a time to work more to get ahead. Even secular sources are starting to say the best way to spend your down time is to fast from screens, reconnect with human beings and fully experience the pleasures of life.

## 8. Pray for your boss

Think of all you owe your boss. She/he hired you, allowed your mistakes and helped you improve. Without her/him, you wouldn't have a job — a blessing that many people beg God for daily. Whether you like your boss or not, whether your boss is a model of kindness or not, pray for your boss. Just as you can "consecrate" your desk at work, you can train your mind to have the appropriate gratitude for your boss as well.

# 9. Pray for your customers

If your work is truly a participation in God's ordering of the cosmos, then your customers are vitally important not just to your wallet, but to your soul. Treat them that way. Pray that you can serve their needs and better their lives, and thank God for sending them your way. So much in your life depends on them.

# 10. Cook out

Why not? The weather is beautiful — and tomorrow you have to go back to work.

www.aleteia.org

# FR. BILL'S SEND-OFF

# Parish Bids Farewell To Fr. Bill

It was a bittersweet farewell for all when parishioners celebrated the 11am Mass last Sunday with Fr Bill Comerford. At the end of Mass, more than a hundred people gathered for the farewell lunch in the hall to share stories of happy times with Fr Bill from his 10 years of ministry here.

Among the speakers were Peter Dodge who gave a excellent summary of Fr Bill's wide and varied dossier. His lively harmonica at houseto-house caroling, his contributions the winning lawn bowling team and his kind advice and spiritual counsel were recalled. Fr Babu Mathew presented Fr Bill with a pen to encourage him to write his memoirs in Toronto.

When it was Fr Bill's turn to speak, the warm appreciation of all gathered was palpable. Fr Bill said he's done his medicals and he's been given a clean bill of health. He recalled with gratitude all those who had reached out to him in the days and months following his heart attack. He called his new appointment a continuation of his "mission." He then led everyone in a commissioning prayer so that all hearts might be lifted up together in wishing him well. Thank you Fr Bill for a decade of kind service to the parish. May God bless you in your new home at St Patrick's Parish, Toronto.













#### **NEWS & NOTICES**

Weekly Collection: Sunday Mass Offering August 24 & 25: \$3,927.50. Offering for the Needy: \$200. Thank you for your faith-filled generosity.

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.

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.

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.

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.



# 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!

# PARISH DIRECTORY

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