

FEAST: OUR LADY OF THE HOLY ROSARY

The Feast of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary

October 7 is the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, the principal patron of the Archdiocese of Vancouver. Under this title, our Blessed Mother is a model of contemplation and the sweet chain that unites us to Jesus. May her example inspire us to contemplate the life of her Son.



The feast always occurs one week after the similar Byzantine celebration of the Protection of the Mother of God, which most Eastern Orthodox Christians and Eastern Catholics celebrate on October 1 in memory of a 10th-century military victory which protected Constantinople against invasion after a reported Marian apparition.

Pope Leo XIII was particularly devoted to Our Lady of the Rosary, producing 11 encyclicals on the subject of this feast and its importance in the course of his long pontificate. In the first of them, 1883's "Supremi Apostolatus Officio," he echoed the words of the oldest known Marian prayer (known in the Latin tradition as the "Sub Tuum Praesidium"), when he wrote, "It has always been the habit of Catholics in danger and in troublous times to fly for refuge to Mary." "This devotion, so great and so confident, to the august Queen of Heaven," Pope Leo continued, "has never shone forth with such brilliancy as when the militant Church of God has seemed to be endangered by the violence of heresy ... or by an intolerable moral corruption, or by the attacks of powerful enemies." Foremost among such "attacks" was the battle of Lepanto, a perilous and decisive moment in European and world history.

Troops of the Turkish Ottoman Empire had invaded and occupied the Byzantine empire by 1453, bringing a large portion of the increasingly divided Christian world under a version of Islamic law. For the next hundred years, the Turks expanded their empire westward on land, and asserted their naval power in the Mediterranean. In 1565 they attacked Malta, envisioning an eventual invasion of Rome. Though repelled at Malta, the Turks captured Cyprus in the fall of 1570.

The next year, three Catholic powers on the continent – Genoa, Spain, and the Papal States - formed an alliance called the Holy League, to defend their Christian civilization against Turkish invasion. Its fleets sailed to confront the Turks near the west coast of Greece on October 7, 1571.

Crew members on more than 200 ships prayed the Rosary in preparation for the battle - as did Christians throughout Europe, encouraged by the Pope to gather in their churches to invoke the Virgin Mary against the daunting Turkish forces.

Some accounts say that Pope Pius V was granted a miraculous vision of the Holy League's stunning victory. Without a doubt, the Pope understood the significance of the day's events, when he was eventually informed that all but 13 of the nearly 300 Turkish ships had been captured or sunk. He was moved to institute the feast now celebrated universally as Our Lady of the Rosary.

"Turkish victory at Lepanto would have been a catastrophe of the first magnitude for Christendom," wrote military historian John F. Guilmartin, Jr., "and Europe would have followed a historical trajectory strikingly different from that which obtained."

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Reflection

"It could be said that each mystery of the rosary, carefully meditated, sheds light on the mystery of man. 'Cast your burden on the Lord and he will sustain you' (Ps 55:23). To pray the rosary is to hand over our burdens to the merciful hearts of Christ and his Mother. The rosary does indeed 'mark the rhythm of human life,' bringing it into harmony with the 'rhythm' of God's own life, in the joyful communion of the Holy Trinity, our life's destiny and deepest longing. Through the rosary the faithful receive abundant grace, as though from the very hands of the Mother of the Redeemer." – Saint John Paul II

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MASSES & SERVICES
- Saturday Anticipated Mass: 5pm
- Sunday Masses: 9am, 11am & 5pm
- Monday – Wednesday Masses: 8am
- Thursday Mass/OLPH Novena: 8am & 7pm
- 1st Thursday: 8am Mass/Novena & 12pm Mass/Novena/Healing Prayer
- Friday, Saturday, Holidays: 9am Mass
- 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: 4pm - 4:45pm
- Adoration
Saturday 9:30-10am

OFFICE HOURS
Monday-Friday: 9am-4pm
STAFF
Pastor
Babu Mathew, CSsR
Associate Pastor
Joseph Horo, CSsR

Office Manager
Virginia Fong
Pastoral Coordinator
Bertilla Watanabe
Bookkeeper
Corinna Siy
Youth Ministry Coordinator
Theresa Barao
OLPH School Principal
Lora Clarke
Jr. Kindergarten Director
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October 6, 2019

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

October is Extraordinary Missionary Month

Dear Parishioners,

The Extraordinary Missionary Month of October decreed by Pope Francis is an exciting time for all of us to think about the Faith and how we share it with others. The word "missionary" might be scary to some people. Catholics are not used to thinking of themselves that way. Yet it is very much a part of our tradition. If it had not been for the hard work of those who came before us and paved the way through their missionary activities, the Church would not have the universal reach it has today.

Pope Francis in his message about this Extraordinary Missionary Month says that we as a Church must always be "on the go." Indeed, if we relax and get complacent about the gift of faith, we will have to account for it one day. You could say we are stewards or custodians of the Faith with the responsibility to share it and not keep it tucked out of sight.

So how can we be better sharers of the Faith?

Active participation in Mass and prayer to the Holy Spirit will certainly feed the soul and boost our spiritual courage and conviction to do this better. Being more involved in parish life through keen participation in a parish ministry is another way. It creates opportunities for us to meet like-minded individuals which could be a springboard for other faith-sharing activities.

The Upper Room Conference with its excellent lineup of speakers, organized by the Archdiocese of Vancouver, also looks like a good opportunity to get fired up about our faith. Find out more about it on rcav.org.

May our Blessed Mother be our inspiration for the work of spreading the good news.

Families Gather at Musqueam Course in Golf Fundraiser

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

After days of rain, it was a wonderful blessing that OLPH Parish's first golf outing turned out to be a beautiful sunny occasion. Thirty-six parishioners registered for golf and another 17 joined the group at mid-day for a tasty buffet lunch.

The fundraising event was a great opportunity for two and three generations of some families to play together. Thank you to all who supported the event and all those who volunteered to put it on.



O that today you would listen to the voice of the Lord. Do not harden your hearts! - Psalm 95

NEWS & NOTICES

Weekly Collection: Sunday Mass Offering Sept 28 & Sept 29: \$5,044.10. Pre-authorized giving for the month of September: \$17,953.08. Needs of the Canadian Church: \$1,235.60. CSsR Pension: \$345. Offering for the Needy: \$25. OLPH Youth: \$200. Thank you for your faith-filled generosity.

Project Advance: If you have not made your 2019 Project Advance contribution yet, you would probably have received a pledge form in the mail this week. Our parish's current total in pledges is \$62,492. Thank you to all who have given. We are still some way from reaching our own parish goal of \$104,000. If you have not made your donation yet, please prayerfully consider how you can support this year's appeal. Thank you for your support!

Rosary & Coffee After Monday Mass: To celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary on Monday October 7, we will pray the Rosary at the Grotto (weather permitting) after the 8am Mass. This will be followed by coffee in the Madonna Room.

Morning Prayer in the Chapel: Join us every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 9 – 9:20am for morning prayer in the Rectory chapel. Please download the iBreviary from the App store for convenient access to these prayers.

Training for Altar Servers: Training for new altar servers will be starting later this month. Anyone in Grade 3 or up who has received First Communion is welcome to join. For more information and to sign-up, please contact Kate Carr at cecarr@telus.net by October 16th.

Raffle Ticket Sale: The Knights of Columbus will be selling raffle tickets after mass in support of the Kits Shower program and Mary's Place. Tickets are \$2 or a book of 10 tickets for \$20. If you fill in the top ticket in a book of 10, the Knights will fill in the rest for you. Thank you for giving generously to support Kits Shower program which brings comfort to our local unhoused people and Mary's Place which supports women at risk.

CWL Meeting: The next CWL business meeting is on Thursday, October 17 at 7:30pm, Madonna Room. Presentation on Anti-Human Trafficking by the Archdiocese of Vancouver to follow.

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). We gather between 9am and 10:30am on Sundays. 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 Teachers & Teaching Assistants Needed: If you are a registered parishioner or high school student needing volunteer hours and would like to help with teaching Catechism, please contact Elizabeth Towers at 604-440-8809 or email prep.olph@rcav.org.

Taizé Prayer Service at St. Augustine's Church: Come join us on our monthly Taizé prayer service at the beautiful St. Augustine's Church on Thursday, Oct 17, 7:45 p.m. - 9 p.m. For the coming months, this prayer service will take place on the 3rd Thursday evening of the month. Come and experience a quiet meditative evening with candles, Scriptures, prayers, chants, and silence. All are welcome.

Eucharistic Adoration and Solemn Vespers for Feast of Bl. John Newman: On Wednesday, Oct. 9, join us at St. Mark's Church in Vancouver to celebrate the feast of Blessed John Henry Cardinal Newman with a particular emphasis and special anticipatory celebration of his upcoming canonization. Exposition and adoration begins at 5:30pm with evening prayer and benediction at 6:30 p.m. Refreshments afterwards.

Catechist Evening with Archbishop Miller: Join us Friday, Oct. 11, at 6 p.m. for an evening to celebrate catechists and the work that they do as they prepare for the new catechetical year. There will be Mass, a blessing, and reflection by Archbishop J. Michael Miller, CSB. A light meal will be provided. At the John Paul II Pastoral Centre in Vancouver. Register online for \$15 at secure.rcav.org/catechist-evening

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.



Stewardship Reflection

“For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather of power and love and self-control.” (2 Timothy 1:7)

Many of us compartmentalize our Faith, we bring it out only when we attend Mass or when we attend a parish event. Being a good steward requires discipline and striving to put God first in everything, all the time. The next time you are at a neighborhood party, at work or out shopping, would your actions signal to others that you are a good and faithful servant of our Lord?

Stewardship Office, Archdiocese of St. Louis

CALENDAR

OCTOBER

Icon of Hope Concert



In connection with Extraordinary Mission Month, OLPH Youth will be presenting the Icon of Hope Yellowknife Tour in our church on Friday Oct 25 at 7pm. It will be an evening of great music and powerful reflections on the icon of our Mother of Perpetual Help. Admission is by donation. Proceeds will go to L'Arche and the priestly and lay formation in the Diocese of Mackenzie-Fort Smith where the youth shared the message of hope in a concert at a men's prison and a parish.

Anti-Human Trafficking Presentation

The Anti-Human Trafficking Committee is thrilled to host presenters from the archdiocesan Anti-Human Trafficking Committee on October 17, 7:45pm OLPH Madonna Room. Pope Francis is calling on the Church to play a role in dismantling and eradicating human trafficking, calling it "an open wound on the side of contemporary society". Despite concrete efforts, human trafficking is still rampant. Come hear what remains to be done and how we can help. All are welcome.

New Mother's Lunch

Expectant mothers and mothers with children a year and under are invited to a special St Gerard's Feast Day lunch gathering on Sunday Oct 27 at noon (after the 11am Mass). Spouses and children are welcome to attend. Please email rsvp2olph@gmail.com by Oct 18 if you are attending and state the number of adults and children in your group. Thank you!

Youth Ministry Pie Sale

OLPH Youth will be selling frozen pumpkin, apple and blueberry-peach pies in the foyer to celebrate Thanksgiving. Funds raised will go to youth ministry initiatives. Available after all masses this weekend and next. All pies are going for \$15. If you would like to pre-order pies, please email Theresa. olphyouthmin@gmail.com.



Pope Francis: God loves the Church on the Go

God wants everyone to take a risk to share with others the gifts he has given to them – their life, talents and his love, Pope Francis said.

Opening the Extraordinary Missionary Month at a prayer vigil in St. Peter's Basilica Oct. 1, the pope said God "is asking you not simply to go through life, but to give life; not to complain about life, but to share in the tears of all who suffer."

Offering his encouragement, the pope said: "The Lord expects great things from you. He is also expecting some of you to have the courage to set out and to go wherever dignity and hope are most lacking," as there are still many people living without the joy of the Gospel.

Pope Francis called for the special month to remind people of their responsibility to share the Gospel and to proclaim the Gospel with renewed enthusiasm. God "loves the church on the go," the pope said in his homily. "If it is not on the go, it is not church."

A missionary church, he said, "does not waste time lamenting things that go wrong, the loss of faithful, the values of a time now in the past," he said. The church "does not seek safe oases to dwell in peace, but longs to be salt of the earth and a leaven in the world" because she knows her strength is Jesus himself, "not social or institutional relevance, but humble and gratuitous love."

The pope used the parable of the talents to explain how God entrusts people with his greatest treasures: "our own lives, the lives of others" and a number of different gifts and talents.

God does not want those gifts to be "stored in a safe," but to be dedicated "with boldness and creativity" to a true vocation that will bear fruit, the pope said.

On the day of judgment, "God will not ask us if we jealously preserved our life and faith, but instead whether we stepped forward and took risks, even losing face," he said. The Extraordinary Missionary Month is meant to "jolt us and motivate us to be active in doing good. Not notaries of faith and guardians of grace, but missionaries," he said.



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How to Live the Extraordinary Missionary Month

As Christians we live in a time when the world order is shaken and value systems are questioned, when our faith is challenged by a secular culture and in many places Christians face persecution. In this historical context we are invited to reflect together on the meaning and practice of mission today and to renew our missionary commitment.

There are four dimensions, specified by the Pope, to live more intensely the journey of preparation for the Extraordinary Missionary Month October 2019. You are invited to enter into a personal and communal reflection on the different dimensions of the mission of the Church:

1. A personal encounter with Jesus Christ alive in His Church through the Eucharist, the Word of God, personal and communal prayer
2. Testimony: missionary saints, martyrs and confessors of the faith, as an expression of the Church scattered throughout the world
3. Missionary formation: biblical, catechetical, spiritual and theological
4. Missionary charity: The witness of selfless love and of lived solidarity with the poor and the suffering to make God's love for all people visible.

EXTRAORDINARY MISSIONARY MONTH

UPPER ROOM: A PROCLAIM CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 26, 2019 — VANCOUVER CONVENTION CENTRE

On October 26, disciples from all over our Archdiocese are gathering to be challenged, equipped, and inspired to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus. But this event goes far beyond just one day: the Upper Room Conference is the official launch of Proclaim, a movement to awaken disciples across our region and boldly share the Good News of Jesus Christ in their homes and communities. Upper Room is a Vancouver Conference that inspires and equips Catholics on how to live on mission in our homes and community. **To book your ticket, go to upperroomvancouver.com.**

THE CONFERENCE EXPERIENCE

What you can expect from Upper Room:

Esteemed Speakers

Keynote presentations from His Eminence Cardinal Timothy Dolan, Archbishop J. Michael Miller, Sr. Miriam James Heidland, Brett Powell, and more.

Connect with Missional Leaders

Connect with members of the new Proclaim Movement, or attend a lunch hosted by Shaila Visser, National Director of Alpha Canada and International Vice President, and Angele Regnier, Founder of Catholic Christian Outreach Canada (CCO).

Breakout Sessions

Gain insight from a variety of incredible breakout sessions with speakers like Fr. Justin Huang and Eric Chow, as well as connecting with other disciples.

Community with Disciples

Meet other disciples from all over Vancouver, building relationships to support and encourage as you are sent out to spread the name of Jesus in your homes and communities.

PRAY & FAST

“May the Extraordinary Missionary Month prove an intense and fruitful occasion of grace, and promote initiatives and above all prayer, the soul of all missionary activity , so that missionary zeal may revive and never be wanting among us.”

Pope Francis October 22, 2017 World Mission Sunday

Archbishop Michael Miller, CSB is inviting disciples to 40 days of prayer and fasting for the Upper Room Conference. Please consider one or more days that you will engage in a fast and fill out the form below. We thank you in advance for your solidarity as we launch a new missionary impulse capable of transforming everything.

Prayer for Upper Room

Heavenly Father,
when your Only Begotten Son Jesus Christ
rose from the dead,
He commissioned his followers
to “go and make disciples of all nations.”
Through Baptism
You make us sharers in the Church's mission.
Empower your disciples in Vancouver
with the gifts of the Holy Spirit.
Fill them with courage and zeal
for proclaiming Jesus
and bearing witness to the Gospel.
May the Great Commission entrusted to the Church
find fresh expressions
that can bring new life and light
to the Lower Mainland.
Inspire many disciples to attend the Upper Room, and
fan into flame the launch of the Proclaim Movement.
Fill us with a new vision and hope.
Enable all peoples to experience
the saving love and mercy of Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
One God, forever and ever.
Amen.