

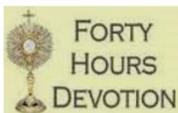
February 17, 2019 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today's Gospel: Luke 6.17,20-26 Jesus came down with the twelve and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. Then Jesus looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. "Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. "Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. "Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. "But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. "Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. "Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. "Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

Vangelo di Oggi: Luca 6,17,20-26 *In quel tempo, Gesù, disceso con i Dodici, si fermò in un luogo pianeggiante. C'era gran folla di suoi discepoli e gran moltitudine di gente da tutta la Giudea, da Gerusalemme e dal litorale di Tiro e di Sidone. Ed egli, alzati gli occhi verso i suoi discepoli, diceva: «Beati voi, poveri, perché vostro è il regno di Dio. Beati voi, che ora avete fame, perché sarete saziati. Beati voi, che ora piangete, perché riderete. Beati voi, quando gli uomini vi odieranno e quando vi metteranno al bando e vi insulteranno e disprezzeranno il vostro nome come infame, a causa del Figlio dell'uomo. Rallegratevi in quel giorno ed esultate perché, ecco, la vostra ricompensa è grande nel cielo. Allo stesso modo infatti agivano i loro padri con i profeti. Ma guai a voi, ricchi, perché avete già ricevuto la vostra consolazione. Guai a voi, che ora siete sazi, perché avrete fame. Guai a voi, che ora ridete, perché sarete nel dolore e piangerete. Guai, quando tutti gli uomini diranno bene di voi. Allo stesso modo infatti agivano i loro padri con i falsi profeti».*

Taizé Prayer Service Immaculate Conception School, 3745 W 28th Ave Vancouver will be hosting a contemplative prayer in the tradition of the Taizé community on Wednesday, Feb 20 at 7 pm. The evening will feature candlelight, music, and time for quiet in the midst of our busy lives. All are welcome. For more information please visit <https://rcav.org/event/taize-prayer-service-5>



Forty Hour Devotion We will be holding our annual observance of the Forty Hours Devotion from Tuesday, Feb 26 to Thursday, Feb 28. We'd like to make sure that one or preferably two people will be in the church and with Jesus at all times. Take this opportunity to spend some quiet time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. Sign up sheets available in the foyer.



"Blessed are you..."

"The glass is either half empty ... or broken," said a discouraged detective in one of Jonathan Kellermann's mystery novels. The beatitudes Jesus proclaims this Sunday seem for all the world like the broken option. Blessed are those who are poor, hungry, weeping, hated, excluded, insulted, and denounced. Are these really beatitudes? What is a beatitude supposed to be, anyway? They were an ancient formula for encouraging people to do good. For instance, in this week's Responsorial Psalm, which is the first psalm in the Bible, we read, "Blessed is the one who does not take the wicked for his guide, nor walks the road that sinners tread." And Psalm 41 says, "Happy those concerned for the lowly and poor; when misfortune strikes, the Lord delivers them". Jeremiah 17 has "Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord. He is like a tree planted [next to] water that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green." Beatitudes are numerous and beautiful in the Old Testament. They all say this: if you do a particular thing, you will receive blessings. Beatitudes were consolations, helping their hearers to be good persons. But Jesus seems to have reversed the idea. Blessed are you if you do the deed of suffering. Wait, Lord, what do you mean? I am supposed to seek to be penniless and sorrowful and in pain? Why would you want me to be in such a terrible state? A person has to be open and empty in order to let God and others come in. If we want to love and be loved we need to have space at the centre of who we are. And then goodness will come in. The principle running through all the beatitudes is this: you are blessed if you don't cram yourself full. Instead, blessed are you if you stay empty, if you become a spacious home for God, for other human beings, for the long-suffering earth. We are built to be quiet receivers, people who know they are empty and yet are patient. There is only one reality, only one Being who can give us the bread of life, who can satisfy our deep hunger for love.

Income Tax Receipts The 2018 income tax receipts have been mailed out.

SFA School AGM SFA School's Annual General Meeting takes place this Thursday, Feb 21 at 6:45 pm in the parish hall. All parents are required to attend and re-registration packages will be handed out.

Discover Discipleship All are welcome to attend the Discover Discipleship study beginning March 8th, lead by Sonia Erichson. Discover is a small group faith study looking at the core message of the Christian faith with a focus on Jesus. We look at short Scripture passages, reflect on them and discuss them – all within one hour. Discover is a step in answering the questions of faith we all have. Join us for Discover on six Fridays during Lent from 6:45pm, in the Conference Room.



Fiat: Women's Discernment Retreat Fiat Women's Discernment Group is having a weekend vocation discernment retreat March 1-3 at Westminster Abbey. Retreat includes

Mass, talks, and discussions about discerning a vocation, adoration, Divine Office, and opportunities for confession and individual conferences with sisters. Cost: \$130, including \$30 deposit due at registration. Contact the vocations office at 604-683-0281 with any questions. Register at <https://secure.rcav.org/fiat-weekend-retreat/> Please feel free to email womensvocations@rcav.org.

Restore the Beauty: Women's Conference This two-day conference is for every woman desiring to experience restoration in her life, the lives of those around her, the Church and the world. This event includes inspiring talks, prayerful moments of encounter with God and Mass with Archbishop Michael Miller. Throughout the weekend you'll experience hope and encouragement, while gaining practical tools to help you restore the beauty in your world, no matter your circumstances. We are excited for our amazing speaking team: Sister Miriam James, Fr Josh Johnson, Michelle Benzinger, and Heather Khym. Event will be May 3 & May 4. Registration opens Feb 25. www.liferestoration.ca/womensconference.



Catholic Bible Study Noted Biblical Scholar and inspirational speaker Fr Jim Nisbet returns to Vancouver, to present The Second Book of Samuel and The First Book of Kings on March 22 (7-9 pm), Mar 23 & 24 (9 am- 4 pm), at St Mary's (Ukrainian) Catholic Parish 3150 Ash St, Van. Saturday

starts with Divine Liturgy (Mass) in English and Holy Sunday Mass at the end of the Seminar. Fr Jim goes line by line and has a way of bringing Scriptures to life, easily understood and relevant to our times. The Adult 3-Day registration rate is \$70, and the Married Couple registration rate is \$130. Day rates and student discounts are available. Please pre-register at: www.biblestudies4.wixsite/biblecentre/registration. For more information, please call Adrian at 604-380-2575 or email to biblestudies@shaw.ca.

| Mass Intentions | | |
|---|--|--|
| Sat Feb 16 | 5:00 pm | All Parishioners |
| Sun Feb 17 6th Sunday in Ordinary time | 9:00 am | † Domenico Di Tomaso † Angela Morena & family |
| | 10:30 am | † Domenica & Giuseppe Giustra † Chianesi family |
| | 12:00 pm | Baptism - Welcome to Adrianna Fadl-Alla |
| | 12:00 pm 5:00 pm | SFO meeting † Bruno Soriano |
| Mon Feb 18 | 8:00 am | Office Closed † All Souls in Purgatory |
| Tue Feb 19 | 6:30 pm 7:00 pm | Prayer for Virtues Perpetual Novena - St Anthony |
| Wed Feb 20 | 8:00 am 7:00 pm | †Luigi & Angelina Capolongo † Enrico Torrelli RCIA |
| Thu Feb 21 | 8:00 am 11:00 am 11:00 am 5:15 pm 6:45 pm 7:00 pm | † All Souls in Purgatory † Carmela Morande † Nicola Guirlio SFA Over 50 Club Legion of Mary meeting SFA School AGM Choir Practice - Sat 5 pm |
| Fri Feb 22 Chair of St Peter | 8:00 am 6:30 pm 8:00 pm | † Francesca & Gaetano Magliocco † Funeral for Maria Taddei Requiescat in pace Choir Practice - Sun 10:30 Prayer for the Church |
| Sat Feb 23 | 9:00 am 9:30 am 9:30 am 5:00 pm | † Pilusso family † Carmine & Carmelina La Montagna Confession Rosary † Luciano Zoccolan & Igineo Persinotto |
| Sun Feb 24 7th Sunday in Ordinary time | 9:00 am 10:30 am 5:00 pm | † Caterina Zappavigna † Lepore family All Parishioners † Chai Noan Ang † Argento Mascitti |



40 days for Life Campaign begins The annual 40 days for Life Campaign and pray for an end to abortion Campaign begins Wednesday, Mar 6, in front of the priests' residences, 4885 St John Paul II Way, Van. For more info contact Alba Stevenson, Campaign Coordinator at 604-299-4123.

Baptisms and Weddings The first step in arranging for baptisms and weddings is to call the Parish Office to arrange an appointment with Fr Eugenio. Please call 604-255-8855.

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