

March 24, 2019 3rd Sunday of Lent

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today's Gospel: Luke 13.1-9 Jesus was teaching the crowds; some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. Jesus asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did." Then Jesus told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

Vangelo di Oggi: Luca 13,1-9 *In quel tempo si presentarono alcuni a riferire a Gesù il fatto di quei Galilei, il cui sangue Pilato aveva fatto scorrere insieme a quello dei loro sacrifici. Prendendo la parola, Gesù disse loro: «Credete che quei Galilei fossero più peccatori di tutti i Galilei, per aver subito tale sorte? No, io vi dico, ma se non vi convertite, perirete tutti allo stesso modo. O quelle diciotto persone, sulle quali crollò la torre di Siloe e le uccise, credete che fossero più colpevoli di tutti gli abitanti di Gerusalemme? No, io vi dico, ma se non vi convertite, perirete tutti allo stesso modo». Diceva anche questa parabola: «Un tale aveva piantato un albero di fichi nella sua vigna e venne a cercarvi frutti, ma non ne trovò. Allora disse al vignaiolo: "Ecco, sono tre anni che vengo a cercare frutti su quest'albero, ma non ne trovo. Taglialo dunque! Perché deve sfruttare il terreno?". Ma quello gli rispose: "Padrone, lascialo ancora quest'anno, finché gli avrò zappato attorno e avrò messo il concime. Vedremo se porterà frutti per l'avvenire; se no, lo taglierai"».*

Hope Amidst Darkness Join the Community of St Mark's at UBC as they continue their Lenten Liturgy and Lunch Series. The next event is on Wednesday, March 27, beginning at 12:10 pm with the celebration of Mass with Archbishop Michael J Miller, CSB, at St Mark's Parish, followed by a vegetarian soup lunch and dialogue on this topic: "Amidst the darkness which afflicts us and causes such pain, it is the message of hope that the Gospel brings which will save us. Economic success and advanced technology are not sufficient in themselves to bring fulfillment to the human heart. Anyone who does not know God is ultimately without hope, without the great hope that sustains the whole of life' (Benedict XVI, Spe Salvi, 27)." For more info, contact campusministry@corpuschristi.ca



"Unless you repent you will all perish."

The Parable of the Barren Fig Tree brings a message of judgment but ends on a note of grace. A landowner's fig tree is barren. It is time to cut it down. But the caretaker pleads for patience for another year so he can help it grow. The implication to be drawn from the parable is that God is patient, which gives us time for repentance, but there is a limit. The parable helps place God's judgment and grace into a larger perspective. But God's grace is not to be understood as casual indulgence or indifference. The apostle Paul put it this way: "Do you not realize that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?" Each day is a day of grace, providing the opportunity to repent - and then to bear fruit.

Parish Lent Mission: Lent While Life Is In Session Fr Jerome Molokie, O'Praem, a community member at St Michael's Abbey of the Norbertine Fathers in Orange County, CA is the Parish Lent Mission speaker at St Patrick's, Vancouver, on Mar 25, 26, and 27. The Mission will start with Holy Mass at 7 pm followed by the talk at 7:30 pm. There will be Confession after each talk.

Twilight Mass Join Immaculate Conception Church, Van, in their once-a-month Twilight Mass around God's Word and Table Sunday, Apr 7, 8-9 pm. The music liturgy is guitar-led. For more information, contact Tim at 778-319-3269.



40 Days for Life Come, let's pray together! During Lent, Vancouver will take part in 40 Days for Life - a coordinated international vigil of prayer and fasting, aimed primarily but not exclusively, at ending abortion. The vigil takes place at 33rd Avenue & Willow St, behind the Pastoral Centre. Our parish has committed to pray on site this Sunday, Mar 24 from 1 to 6 pm. Please come! Bring your children and friends. Let's join in prayerful witness. This is a good Lenten sacrifice. Most importantly, it is a proven way to save lives through the power of God's grace and mercy. Visit 40daysforlife.com/Vancouver for more information.

Feast of Holy Family Luncheon The Holy Family Luncheon is this Sunday, Mar 24. If you still want to come there will be tickets at the door after 10:30 am Mass. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$10 for children 12 and under. Everyone is welcome.



Faith Study - Seven Deadly Sins, Seven Lively Virtues Examine the great spiritual blocks that inhibit our flourishing in relationship with God and one another....Based on Dante's writings, the seven deadly sins correspond to the seven levels of Dante's Mt. Purgatory. Pride, envy, anger, sloth, gluttony, avarice, and lust are all presented as patterns of dysfunction within us that lead to unhappiness. However, Bishop Barron shows us how to counteract these seven sinful patterns through a conscious process of opposition, which are the "seven lively virtues." The seven lively virtues offer antidotes to each sin and help set us on the right path to healing and happiness. Come to this new faith study lead by Patrick Foster Monday evenings at 6:30 pm beginning April 1 for 8 weeks.

Stations of the Cross Come and pray the Stations of the Cross each Friday at 6 pm during Lent. The Stations are a beautiful way to ponder Jesus death and the depth of his love for us.

SFA Penitential Service The Lenten penitential service at our parish will take place on Friday, April 12 at 7 pm. Several priests will be available to hear confessions in different languages. A list of the penitential services at nearby parishes is posted on the interior church doors.



SFA Gala This year's St Francis of Assisi Gala would not be complete without you! It's an evening for beginning new friendships, celebrating those we already count as friends, and reflecting on what

this school and parish community means to our families. Take in the 'Romance of Venice' on May 10 at the Croatian Cultural Centre, starting with a 6pm wine reception, followed by a 4-course Italian dinner, cash bar and dance. Silent and live auction fundraiser will go towards building a new learning environment for our kids. Tickets are \$100 per person (\$85 for early bird before April 12). You can purchase tickets at www.sfaschool.ca/tickets/gala-2019 or at the Parish office. For more information, call 604-253-7311 or email galacommittee@sfaschool.ca.

Notre Dame Alumni Trivia Night Fun, food, and prizes at the Notre Dame Alumni Trivia Night on Friday, April 5, at 6 pm. Join them for a pasta dinner starting 6:15 pm and games at 7 pm. Cost \$25. For more information, contact Diane at 604-291-7969.

Collecting Eye Glasses The Knights of Columbus collect used glasses and cases to distribute to the third world countries in need. All donations are appreciated. There is a drop box on the table in the foyer.

Mass Intentions		
Sat Mar 23	5:00 pm	Patrick Foster
Sun Mar 24 3rd Sunday of Lent	9:00 am	† Caterina Zappavigna
	10:30 am	† Rinaldo & Nicoletta Dilullo
	11:30 am	All Parishioners
	12:00 pm	<i>Holy Family Luncheon</i> <i>Baptism - Welcome to Ariana Sacco</i>
	5:00 pm	† Argento Mascitti † Giovanni Ferrari
Mon Mar 25	8:00 am	† All Souls in Purgatory
Tue Mar 26 Annunciation of the Lord	6:30 pm	<i>Prayer for Virtues</i>
	7:00 pm	Perpetual Novena - St Francis
	7:30 pm	<i>Ladies Faith Study</i>
	8:00 pm	<i>Knights meeting</i>
Wed Mar 27	8:00 am	† Lew Shing Kai
	7:00 pm	RCIA
Thu Mar 28	8:00 am	SFA Parish and School
	11:00 am	Thanksgiving for all Saints
	1100 am	<i>Over 50 Club</i>
	5:15 pm	<i>Legion of Mary meeting</i>
	7:00 pm	<i>Choir Practice - Sat 5 pm</i>
Fri Mar 29	8:00 am	† Lourdes Fiscal
	5:00 pm	<i>Domestic Abuse training</i>
	6:00 pm	<i>Stations of the Cross</i>
	6:30 pm	<i>Choir Practice - Sun 10:30</i>
	6:45 pm	<i>Discover Discipleship</i>
	8:00 pm	<i>Prayer for the Church</i>
Sat Mar 30	8:00 am	<i>Domestic Abuse training</i>
	9:00 am	† Benito Manzo
		† Carmelina LaMontagna
	9:30 am	<i>Confession</i>
	9:30 am	<i>Rosary</i>
	5:00 pm	† Giovanna & Lino Breda & Luigi Perone
Sun Mar 31 4th Sunday of Lent	9:00 am	† Maria Crescenzo
		† Domenica & Giuseppe Giustra
	10:30 am	† Scorsi family
	5:00 pm	All Parishioners

Pre-Authorized Donations (PAD) Pre-authorized donation is a convenient way to give to the Parish without worrying about having cash on hand or writing cheques. Forms are available at the back of the church for any parishioner who wishes have their donations withdrawn automatically.

Baptisms Baptisms are scheduled at noon on Sundays. Please call the Office for an appointment with Father.

Weddings Wedding arrangements must be made at least six months in advance. Archdiocesan Marriage Preparation classes are mandatory. Please call the Office for more info.

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