



Guardian Angels Parish

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Pastor: Rev. John Alex Pinto, OCD

Aug 28, 2020

Dear Parishioners,

Congratulations to our First Communion Children namely, *Izabel Gomes Thomazini and Nate Santos Conwi.*

In 2015, Pope Francis declared September 1 as the World Day of Prayer for the Creation. Coinciding with a celebration instituted by the Orthodox Church, it is also a day of ecumenical prayer and unity. The Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace (which is in the process of merging with the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development) has some proposed celebrations on their website. gathering for prayer are encouraged in parishes. The faithful should also be encouraged to take practical initiatives to combat earth's environmental crisis. [Ordo 2019-2020 p.329](#)

Coming Friday, Sept. 4, is the First Friday of the month. After the 8 am Mass there will be Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. On Sept. 7, Monday is Labour Day. Labour Day Weekend marks the end of the summer vacation period and the resumption of activities in home, parish and school. Parishes could take this as an opportunity to encourage active and renewed participation in the community. [Ordo 2019-2020 p.332](#)

I wish all our parishioners safe and joyful labour weekend.

RCIA sessions will commence Sept. 8. Please make an earnest effort to contact people who would like to become Catholic. Please contact the Parish Office for details.

Loyalty proves true or false when one undergoes the test of his faithfulness to the task one is entrusted with. Today's liturgy highlights the theme "what is authentic discipleship?" [Jer. 20: 7-9](#); "*You seduced me,* LORD, and I let myself be seduced; you were too strong for me, and you prevailed. All day long I am an object of laughter; everyone mocks me. Whenever I speak, I must cry out, violence and outrage I proclaim; The word of the LORD has brought me reproach and derision all day long. I say I will not mention him, I will no longer speak in his name. But then it is as if fire is burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones; I grow weary holding back, I cannot!*", challenges believers to take on a courageous stands in facing the situation, when one is at the edge. We in present time are sometimes ridiculed for our belief and loyalty to Christ and His Church. Like Jeremiah let us seek God's help, even help may not be in sight. Please remember, your perseverance will win your lives.

Stay safe!

Prayers and blessings,

Fr. John Alex Pinto OCD
Pastor

12 Marks of Discipleship

Anonymous (<https://catholicmissionarydisciples.com>)

I was on a cruise ship in the middle of the Caribbean, when I saw the man on the other side of the ship. He was wearing a shirt that said "Texas A&M". He saw me too. I had a Texas A&M hat on. We smiled at one another and started to walk toward each other, because there is a shared experience and bond between Aggies. We chatted for several minutes and had fun talking about our time as students. We had "marked" ourselves, with our clothing (and Aggie rings) as Aggies. It was a moment that would not have happened had we not recognized that we identified each others as such.

Being a disciple of Jesus should also mark us much more deeply, in several ways. In fact, being a disciple of Jesus, marks our very souls in three Sacraments (Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Orders) and changes our very being in others. Even outside of the Sacraments, our life of discipleship should be the primary marking in our lives. It should be our very identity as disciples (followers) of Jesus. Below are several of these marks of discipleship.

12 Marks of Discipleship

- Disciples are called** - Luke 5:1-11 perfectly illustrates this. God always acts first! Jesus came to the fishermen and gave them an invitation. It was only after this invitation to discipleship that our choice matters. Jesus has called each of us. The next step is...
- Disciples intentionally respond to Jesus' call** - After we are called, then a disciple must respond positively to the call! If Peter had not dropped his nets and followed Jesus, he would not be a disciple. You can't follow, if you don't make a choice. Discipleship is never inherited or accidental!
- Disciples love** - This is a primary mark of a disciple. Love of God and love of others. Jesus says that others will know we are disciples by our love for one another. (John 13:35).
- Disciples are fruitful** - In fact, Jesus says that being fruitful PROVES that you are his disciple. *"By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be my disciples"* -John 15:8.
- Disciples are obedient** - Go a little farther in John 15 and you find in verse 14 - *"you are my friends if you do what I command"*. Notice, we can't be intimate with Jesus and be disobedient. It is a non-starter.
- Disciples are taught** - In Scripture, we constantly find the disciples of Jesus learning from Him. They listen and then implement the teaching in their lives (or at least attempt to). We too have to follow this model. The life of a Christian disciple is one of lifelong learning.
- Disciples follow** - The word, "disciple", means "follower". All of our life of discipleship starts with following Jesus. We must do as he did. Love

as he loved. Choose what he chose. *"Soon afterward he went on through cities and villages, preaching and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. And the twelve were with him"* -Luke 8:1

- Disciples keep an eye on Heaven** - The life we live now is not our final home. In fact, we are made to live with God forever in eternal bliss. Still, this heavenly home is determined by our decisions in this life. The prize of heaven is a gift we must keep our eyes on, so that we don't lose the eternal perspective of God.
- Disciples carry crosses** - Discipleship isn't easy. Jesus puts it this way, *"If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me."* -Luke 9:23. We should never forget that suffering is a part of discipleship. It isn't merely about feel-good emotions and good times.
- Disciples spend time with Jesus in prayer** - If we do what Jesus did, then we need to live in intimate relationship with God. *"He was praying in a certain place, and when he ceased, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples."* -Luke 11:1
- Disciples love and serve God (and others)** - Think of the many times the disciples were called to serve. Jesus commands his 12 to be the ones to serve the crowds at the breaking of the loaves and fishes, to heal the sick, to drive out demons, etc. The life of a disciple isn't about you!
- Disciples make other disciples** - Ultimately, we need to do what Jesus did, which means to "make disciples". This was his final command and the one we cannot avoid personally.

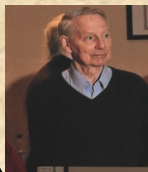
The life of a disciple can be a challenge and one that we all need to grow in. How can you better follow our Lord today?

"If anyone wishes to come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me."*
- Luke 9:23 -

Happy Birthday,
Terry O'Neil

August 13

belatedly!!!



Forgetting a birthday doesn't mean forgetting the person, especially a true witness of discipleship. May God continue to bless you, Terry, with good health and may the Light of Jesus shine upon you always. Thank you for your untiring service to the Parish.

Stewardship Reflection - August 30, 2020
22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

"What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?" (Matthew 16:26)

St. Francis of Assisi once said, "Remember, you are what you are in the eyes of God, and nothing else." We often forget this stewardship wisdom when we spend all of our time, talent, and treasure to gain more of the world's riches. We need to set our priorities based on God's values and not the values of the material world.

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Mass Intentions

	Day		Intention
Saturday	Aug 29	4pm	+Barbara & Dariusz Kibicek+
		6pm	Sp. Int. of Parishioners
Sunday	Aug 30	9am	+Allan Voth+
		11am	+Guillame Ho+
		12:30pm	Anonymous
Monday	Aug 31	8am	+Jose Yap Jr.+
Tuesday	Sep 01	8am	+Sergio de Silva+
Wednesday	Sep 02	8am	Sp. Int. of Eleanor Magsakay
Thursday	Sep 03	8am	Sp. Int. of Rosini Cordero
Friday	Sep 04	8am	Sp. Int. of Jacob Cordero



The Knights of Columbus (KofC) is a Catholic service organization that has had an active affiliation to our Guardian Angels Parish and they do a lot more than pancake breakfasts. KofC Council 14723 are currently welcoming new members who are practicing Catholics and interested in making our community stronger.

For information regarding the Knights call John Jane at 604-558-2749, Barry Wingo at 604-767-6496 or visit kofc.org. If you just happen to have shoe-boxes full of old postage stamps, consider donating to our Parish council of KofC. The stamps would be put up for auction and all proceeds will go to the KofC Vocation Fund. There is a stamp box in the vestibule at the back of the church or pass them along to Guardian Angels Sacristy steward Terry O'Neil.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sep 01: World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation

Sep 03: Memorial: St. Gregory the Great

Sep 04: First Friday of the Month - there will be Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament after the 8 am Mass.

Sep 07: Labour Day (Stat Holiday); Parish Office will be closed.

Sep 08: Feast: The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

TEMPORARY Cancellation of the 9 am Saturday morning Mass:

As there is not much people coming to the 9 am Saturday Mass compared to the 4 pm & 6 pm Anticipated Mass, *we are TEMPORARILY cancelling the 9 am Saturday Mass until further notice.*

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding in our attempt to normalize operations in our Parish amidst this uncertain time.

BAPTISM PREP CLASS



For those preparing their child to get baptized in the Catholic church, we are conducting Baptism Prep Class upon request. Please call or email the parish office for details.

In light of the CoVid pandemic, the goals of this year's Project Advance have been altered to reach out to those most in need of our help. A number of parishioners have already made their annual donations, either online or by mail. The Archbishop has been heartened by the generous response of parishes throughout the Archdiocese, including our own parish of Guardian Angels which has already raised \$10,115 toward the appeal. Thank you to those parishioners who have already given, and reassurances to those who are not able to donate until later in the year. All of us have been affected by CoVid-19, but we are united in our concern for one another and in our continued gratefulness for blessings received.

As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace.



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ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

⚠ Email Fraud Warning

The Archdiocese has received multiple reports from parishioners and priests who have fallen victim to a recent Internet email phishing scam. Imposters, posing as priests and using email addresses that are similar to those of our priests, have been emailing people asking for personal donations, gift cards, and other forms of financial assistance.

Upper Room Conference 2020

At the Upper Room Conference, you will hear from incredible speakers, be able to connect with other disciples and gain insight and resources on how to live out your missional call in your homes and communities. We'll have times of worship, prayer, community, and hear from amazing speakers like Dr. Mary Healy, Fr. John Riccardo, Pete Burak, Matt Maher, and Archbishop J. Michael Miller.

This year's conference marks one year since the launch of the Proclaim movement in the Archdiocese of Vancouver. Led by the vision of Archbishop Michael to see the Gospel shared, the heart of the Upper Room comes back to the prodding of the Holy Spirit in our city.

The Upper Room Conference will be streamed live on Saturday, September 19 from 9:00 am until 5:00 pm. You can join from the comfort of your home or gather safely with other intentional disciples at a host parish near you. Registration coming soon to upperroomvancouver.com

Join us as we listen to the Holy Spirit and respond to God's call in our Archdiocese. This is your invitation to see God move.

The Catholic Faith in Plain English Free Course

Learn about the rich teachings and practices of our Catholic Faith from Father Vincent Hawkswell and Maureen Creelman in their course "The Catholic Faith in Plain English". This free, 36 week-long course will be offered online this year and will start on September 6, 2020. This course is suitable for all adult learners including Catholics and non-Catholics. Register for free at beholdvancouver.org/catholic-faith-course

Santa Maria House

If you, a loved one, or someone you know, wants to be free from an addiction to drugs or alcohol, consider Sancta Maria House. Located in a beautiful part of Vancouver, we offer a structured and supportive Catholic Christian 12-Step recovery program, in a pleasant, loving, family-like setting. We accept women of all faith backgrounds. For more information, visit: agapestreetministry.org/healing-homes/sancta-maria-house-1st-stage-recovery-house/ <<http://agapestreetministry.org/healing-homes/sancta-maria-house-1st-stage-recovery-house/>> or call **604-731-5550**.