

5th Sunday of Lent March 18th, 2018

Stewardship Reflection

Jesus tells us that we must be willing to *“hate our life in this world to keep it for eternal life.”* As his followers we must learn to die to self. How does any of this play a role in stewardship? It’s really quite simple; stewardship declares that my life, and my possessions, are not mine; they are gifts given to me by our good and gracious God.

Stewards deny any self-confident pride in their accomplishments in this world and give all the credit to God. Stewardship places Christ at the centre of how I choose to share and use my gifts. Stewardship is living Christ-centred, not self-centred in this life so as to keep our eternal reward. Still, Jesus promised an abundant life here and now (John 10:10).

Admitting that I utterly depend upon God for all that I have and all that I am is very freeing. To be a steward is not to hoard my life, but to live it generously! This is the abundant life we are created for.

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Please note: There will be NO PREP on Mar 20 & 27 during Spring Break.
Classes will resume on April 3. Enjoy your holiday!

Ministry Opportunity: The Coffee Ministry at 10:00 AM Mass

Every Sunday after the 10:00 am Sunday Mass quite a few parishioners look forward to gathering in the parish center to enjoy friendship with their brothers and sisters in Christ around coffee and a snack...The Coffee Ministry creates something beautiful for God – parishioners delighting in being the Body of Christ. It is a wonderful opportunity that literally builds up our parish family.

Currently, we are in need of parishioners to come forward to assist us with this wonderful ministry. Last Sunday we had ‘no’ coffee after mass because no one had signed up! So we need ‘you’ to consider taking on the responsibility of doing a ‘coffee Sunday’ from time to time ... Some of our more experienced coffee makers would be glad to have you shadow them so that you could learn what needs to be done. It is not an overwhelming task – just a great ministry! Consider gathering a few friends together – or even – making a few new friends in the parish by signing up to do a coffee Sunday?

Chat up the coffee makers after the 10am Mass and/or contact Trish at (604)228-9680. There is also a sign up sheet in the Jesuit Room showing the Sundays where we need someone to help.

Mark Your Calendar

Wed, Mar 21: Parish Lenten Prayer
11:30am – 12:30pm
Wed, Mar 21: Lenten Evening Mass at 7pm
Fri, March 23: Sacrament of the Sick at 11am
Sun, March 25: Palm Sunday
Wed, March 28: Taize Prayer Evening at 7pm
Thu, March 29: Holy Thursday
Fri, March 30: Good Friday
Sun, April 1: Easter Sunday



On **Friday, March 23 at 11:00am** we will have a Mass and Celebration of the Sacrament of the Sick.
All are welcome!

This anointing is for all who are in need of healing – mind, body or soul. There is no school that day so there will be plenty of parking on the school grounds! Following the Mass there will be a reception in the Jesuit Room.



Palm Sunday: March 25th
Blessed Palms will be available at all Masses!

❖ **Banner on the Altar: *MAKE TIME, SPACE AND ROOM FOR GOD***

The beautiful purple Banner on the front of the Altar was made by the grade 1 class. It is our school's Lenten theme. Every week a class leads the whole school in a Lenten Para-liturgy to ponder, seek and celebrate the Graces of Lent. One class reflected on the time, space and room a seed needs to grow, another class reflected on our needs to let Jesus shepherd us, and another class reflected on the symbol of water and how we thirst for living water ... so many beautiful things are happening at our school.

May the prayer of our children help us as adults to 'Remember' – Lent is a time for all of us to *MAKE TIME, SPACE AND ROOM FOR GOD!* What have we done so far – or what might we do today? Today is always the day on which the Lord touches our life!

Wednesday Evening Mass at 7pm & Confessions until 8pm



Children Reaching Out to Children

The children's Lenten project 'Children reaching out to Children' seems to be touching and blessing a lot of hearts in our parish family. The children are delighted by the project and their delight makes us all smile. Our children are hoping to buy soccer balls for the boys and girls in our sister schools in Haiti and Vietnam. For many around our world the only soccer ball they have is home made from plastic bags wrapped up with tape.

The children's title of 'five cents to a Tonnie' at the weekend Masses is doing something beautiful for God, the boys and girls in Haiti and Vietnam and for our children! May it spire all of us to do some 'little thing' for someone in need – whenever we do something for God – it awakens our soul and nourishes our Faith!

**ICS Taize Prayer Evening:
Wednesday, March 28 at 7pm**

On Wednesday Mar 28 there is no 7pm Mass -

Because the Chrism Mass is that evening and all of the priests gather with the Archbishop for Eucharist that evening. Instead of Mass you are invited to an evening of Taize Prayer - Come join us for an evening of Taizé prayer in front of the Blessed Sacrament in the church on **Wednesday, March 28 from 7pm to 8pm.** Taizé prayer is contemplative in nature, as it involves softly singing simple hymns by candlelight. This evening of prayer will be a good opportunity to get ready for the celebration of the Triduum. All are welcome. We hope to see you there!

Seismic Upgrade

for Immaculate Conception School

Praise God – our Seismic Committee have indicated that we are on track in regards to the seismic upgrade project for our school and that the work is scheduled to start this summer.

Our Seismic Committee – John Cordonier, Sue Dvorak, Noval Lee-Son and Eric Young – have been working and planning with professionals in the seismic field for over two years now. We are so blessed to have such dedicated and competent parishioners on this committee. The research, meetings, consultations – the countless planning hours put in on the project – is done out of love for our school children, because they believe in Catholic education and they deeply believe that our little parish has a promising future.

A seismically upgraded school is another way of us walking into the future in Hope. A seismically upgraded Immaculate is very much saying that Immaculate will continue to be a vibrant presence nurturing faith and soul here in Dunbar well into the future!

IC PARISH Men's Shoe Drive A grade 12 ICS Alumni currently at Vancouver College would like to encourage everyone to contribute any new or gently used Men's walking shoes. These will be collected through Lent and then taken to the Catholic Charities Men's Hostel in downtown Vancouver.

Immaculate Conception School Spring Break: Mar 19-25