

Sep 15th, 2019
24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Stewardship Reflection

"Everything I have is yours." (Luke 15:31)
Our Heavenly Father gives us everything, including the chance to share in His eternal kingdom. Yet, like the Prodigal Son we are often lured away by the materialism of our society. Do we really want to turn our backs on all that God offers in exchange for a material wealth that has no lasting value?

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Parish Religious Education Program (P.R.E.P) at Immaculate

PREP is offered for children who are not in catholic Schools. We gather every Tuesday at 4-5pm at the Parish Center. **Our first class for this new school year will begin on Tuesday, Sep 24 at 4:00pm.** If you wish to have your child prepare and receive the Sacraments of First Reconciliation & First Holy Communion, or to receive Confirmation this year, please contact the Parish office 604-224-5678 to register.



Prayer for the Lost Sheep

Lord Jesus, we pray for all the sheep that are lost, but our hearts go out especially to the lost lambs. Have mercy on the human wolves who steal, exploit and sometimes kill the lambs of the Father's flock; help them to see the horror of what they are doing. Comfort the grieving parents who in many cases don't even have the consolation of a burial service. In your merciful love grant that those lambs, though lost here, maybe found hereafter. Watch over those who are still straying here below. Guide them along the paths that are safe. Send shepherds to look for them. And open the eyes of society so that we may cease to regard property as more important than people.
Amen.

Pro-Life Mass and Prayer Vigil

Join us for a peaceful, prayerful vigil for unborn children and their parents. Saturday, Oct. 5. Mass is at 9 a.m. at St. Paul Parish in Richmond followed by the Rosary. For upcoming dates, visit rcav.org/pro-life-mass-and-prayer-vigil

Happy Mid-Autumn Festival



As a Parish family we extend our blessings to all our Chinese families at Immaculate. May the loving God be with your families, from the youngest to the oldest, lighting up family relationships and sowing grace into troubles. May the love of God be present among all of you, filling the soul of each family member with joy and peace.

Have you thought about becoming a Roman Catholic?

R.C.I.A. – 'The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults' is a 'Faith Formation' opportunity for men and women wanting to be baptized or who want to celebrate a Sacrament that for some reason you never received when you were younger – it might be Eucharist, Confirmation, Reconciliation. R.C.I.A. is the place to ask your personal questions about Faith and what it is to be a Catholic? It is an opportunity for 'Faith Formation'. *We will be starting these Faith Formation sessions for adults on Friday, September 27th at 7:30pm. If you are interested contact the Parish office or Father Paul.*

Quotes of Pope Francis

'In Christian life, even in the life of the Church, there are old structures, passing structures: it is necessary to renew them.
~ Pope Francis, 2013

'God is not afraid of new things.' ~ Pope Francis 2014

'I see the Church as a field hospital after battle.'

~ Pope Francis 2013

'Following and accompanying Christ, staying with him, demands coming out of ourselves, requires us to be outgoing; to come out of ourselves, out of a dreary way of living faith that has become a habit, out of the temptation to withdraw into our own plans which end by shutting God's creative action'.

~ Pope Francis 2013



Calling all children at ICS & IC Parish –

Cub Scouts have begun a new season here at Immaculate! They gather every Saturday afternoons at our Parish Gym. For info please contact the Parish office.

Who Am I? Join us for a four-day workshop to help you discover the gifts you bring to parish work; improve your relationships in leadership; increase your productivity in parish ministry; and develop your unique strengths as a parish leader, coordinator, or catechist. Oct. 5-6 and Oct. 19-20, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at the John Paul II Pastoral Centre in Vancouver. Register online at secure.rcav.org/prh-workshop-2019

Ministry Renewal and Domestic Church Circles in Progress for 2019

Sacred Heart Convent Circle: Here at Immaculate some of the Alumni of the Sacred Heart Convent School are initiating a Circle to gather together alumni of the Convent School. Memories of Sacred Heart loom large in the hearts and souls of many here at Immaculate and beyond. It has left indelible blessings upon the souls of many. Hopefully, this gathering will fan into flame the blessings which you hold in your hearts. Aren't the 'real archives' of the school held in your hearts – the warm and transformative memories of moms and families, classmates and of the good Nuns. And then there is the beautiful spirituality of the Sacred Heart that the Nuns bequeathed to their girls. If you want to know more about the Sacred Heart Circle simply contact the Parish office by email – include your name, phone number and the dates that you attended Sacred Heart. An alumna will follow up with you over the next few weeks.



'Hong Kong' Catholic Circle: This proposed Circle at Immaculate has generated a significant amount of interest. As Catholics from Hong Kong you have a great history to delight in and have much to celebrate. Your experience of Catholic school in Hong Kong along with your shared journey to a new land is an adventure of grace. May your Circle become a place for all to ponder and treasure all that you share in common and become a well of deep blessing.

Duns Scotus University Student Circle: At Immaculate we have a number of international university students and university students from other parts of the country. It inspires our little parish to see you practice your Faith with such devotion and humility. As a Parish we want to welcome you and we pray that you connect with one another as well as with us. Please contact the Parish office or leave your name and phone number in the sacristy so that we can welcome you. We would love to host a 'Greet & Meet' evening for you.



St. Joseph the Worker Circle: As a Parish we are in the midst of creating a maintenance plan and maintenance strategy for the upkeep and renewal of our Parish campus. We need to form a committee/circle to formulate and coordinate maintenance schedules and the like. We have a genuine need at Immaculate for such a Committee. The Parish needs a few good men and women to step up and be on this committee – talk to Father Paul about it.



Simeon and Anna Seniors Circle: (Simeon and Anna are the two 'seniors' who were present at the Temple when Jesus was presented by Joseph and Mary. In their old age they embraced a Ministry of Prayer.) At Immaculate we too are blessed to have many seniors who are ever so prayerful and gracious. We know that you like Simeon and Anna hold us in prayer. Some of you come to daily Mass, others on Saturday or Sunday. We also know that some cannot make it to Mass yet pray for us from home. Just like Simeon and Anna you are ever so faithful to the community at Immaculate. You are a holy treasure within our Parish family.



As a Parish we want to host a 'Special Tea' just for you. The Tea will be on Friday, Oct 11th immediately following the 11am Mass. This is a Professional Day for the teachers at the school so parking will be available on the school grounds. School parents and their children will host the Tea. We are looking forward to hosting this Tea and hope to plan further Teas throughout the year.



You can now **E-Transfer** or use your **Credit Card** to make donations to the Parish! You can E-Transfer your donations to the Parish to our Parish Accounting email: **IC_Accounting@shaw.ca** (Answer to the security question is **ICParish**)

For those who would like to make Monthly Donations with their credit cards, please contact Kathy at the Parish office (604)224-5678 and she will take your credit card info from you at the office or by phone. As a Parish family we gratefully thank you for your faith-filled support. May God bless you for your generosity!