

*Prophets of a Future Not our Own*

It helps, now and then, to step back and take a long view.  
The kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is even beyond our vision.  
We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work. Nothing we do is complete, which is a way of saying that the Kingdom always lies beyond us.  
No statement says all that could be said.  
No prayer fully expresses our faith.  
No confession brings perfection.  
No pastoral visit brings wholeness.  
No program accomplishes the Church's mission.  
No set of goals and objectives includes everything.  
This is what we are about.

We plant the seeds that one day will grow.  
We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise.  
We lay foundations that will need further development.  
We provide yeast that produces far beyond our capabilities.  
We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that.  
This enables us to do something, and to do it very well.  
It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest.  
We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker.  
We are workers, not master builders; ministers, not messiahs.  
We are prophets of a future not our own.

—Bishop Ken Untener, often attributed to Oscar Romero

**Prayer Service for Healing**

Join us every month to pray for those in need of healing – the Moleben Prayer Service – an Office of Supplication in the Byzantine Rite. *“Deliver Thy servants from harm, O Thou Who art plenteous in mercy, for we fervently flee unto Thee, the merciful Redeemer, Master of all, O Lord Jesus.”* Friday, Sept. 28, at 7 p.m. at Eastern Catholic Church, Richmond.



**ST. MONICA PARISH**

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September 16, 2018

**24th Sunday in Ordinary Time**



Jesus asks today: *Who do people say that I am?* How do we answer that question goes to the heart of our faith. Can we, like St Peter, say *You are the Christ?* And how deep is our commitment to this confession of faith?

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

Describing the Servant of the Lord, Isaiah emphasizes this total trust in God, even in times of trial and persecution. Saint James calls us to show our faith in action and deeds. Jesus chastises Peter for failing to understand the true purpose of his mission.



**Today's Readings:**

1st: Isaiah 50.5-9

Psalm: 116

2nd: James 2.14-18

Gospel: Mark 8.27-35

PASTOR: **Rev. Robert Wong, SJ**

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS**

Monday – Friday

**9:30 am – 1 pm / 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm**

**MASS SCHEDULES**

WEEKDAYS: **9:00 am**

SATURDAYS: **9:30 am & 5:00 pm**

SUNDAYS: **9:00 am & 11:00 am**

**CONFESSION SCHEDULE**

SATURDAYS: **4:30 pm – 4:55 pm**

CONFESSIONS: 10 MINUTES BEFORE DAILY

MASS OR BY REQUEST AT OTHER TIMES

**NOVENA TO**

**OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP**

WEDNESDAYS: **7:00 pm**

MASS FOLLOWED BY NOVENA

& BENECTION

**BAPTISM COURSE**

EVERY 2<sup>ND</sup> TUESDAY OF THE MONTH AT **6 pm**

**BAPTISMS**

4<sup>th</sup> SATURDAY AFTER 9:30 am MASS

**HOUSE BLESSINGS**

PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE

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## PARISH UPDATES

**PREP and RCIA** – For those who has missed the registration, you can still enroll in these faith formation programs. Please contact the parish office for more information.

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**Mission Appeal** – We extend a warmth welcome to Fr. Gosbert Mgina, from the Diocese of Iringa, Tanzania. This *Sunday Collections has been earmarked for the Mission Appeal. May God bless our generosity!*

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**Parish Ministry Fair: Embracing Stewardship as a Way of Life** – On September 22 and 23, different parish groups and ministries will share their talents and time with our community. The Parish Centre is the venue. Parishioners are welcome to join in these ministries. You can find out more from the attendants.

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**Parish Anniversary** – On September 30, Sunday, 11am MASS, we celebrate our 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the blessing of the art glass windows of the church. Bishop Stephen Jensen of Prince George will be presiding. Sarah Hall and Amy Kwan, who designed the windows will also join us.

**Pot-luck Luncheon** – A sign-up sheet in the foyer is available for your contribution. If you need specific information, please contact the Parish Office. Thank you for your generosity!

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**Religious articles** – A visiting sister from the Convent of St. Elisabeth from Belarus (Eastern Europe) will be here on Friday, October 12, before and after the morning Mass to promote their items of devotion. Your purchase helps to support their works and mission. Check the notice board for more info.

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**PROJECT ADVANCE 2018 – “Support the Faith - Continue the Legacy.”** We have met our Archdiocesan commitment of \$25,000. THANK YOU for all our pledgers. We need others who have yet to make a gift to respond to the appeal. The rebates will help to recover expenses for the new sound system in the hall and the repairs of the church roof. Our parish total goal is \$75,000. Please see one of our Project Advance volunteers. God Bless YOU!

You may also make your pledge online at [www.projectadvance.ca](http://www.projectadvance.ca) anytime.

**Prayer Service for the Church’s Purification & the Consolation of Abuse Victims**  
Byzantine Rite Service of Supplication for the Church’s Purification & the Consolation of Abuse Victims. Wednesday, Sept. 26, at 7 p.m. at Eastern Catholic Church, Richmond.

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## ARCHDIOCESAN UPDATES

**Donate to the Wildfires Relief Fund for Whitehorse Diocese**—Please continue to pray for those affected by the wildfires as well as for the firefighters, first responders, and volunteers. The Roman Catholic Diocese of Whitehorse is asking for online donations and for material donations to be dropped off at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Whitehorse. To help financially, please visit <https://rcav.org/whitehorse/>

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**Stewardship Awards 2018**—The Archdiocesan Award for Stewardship honours members of the laity who have provided exceptional service toward our Archdiocesan Priorities and Goals in time, talent or treasure to their parishes or the archdiocesan Church as an example of outstanding, Christian stewardship. Awarded every 3 years, recipients exemplify lives of gratitude and generosity and their lives are outstanding examples of “Stewarding God’s Gifts” in our community! Please submit your nominations to <http://rcav.org/stewardship-award-nomination/> by October 5, 2018. Awards will be presented at Mass on the Feast of Christ the King, **Sunday, Nov. 25, at 2:30 p.m. at the Holy Rosary Cathedral, Vancouver.** All faithful are invited to attend. For more info. please contact [stewardship@rcav.org](mailto:stewardship@rcav.org)

### **Stewardship Reflection**

In the second reading today, St. James has harsh words for those who do not put their faith into action. May we be such good stewards of God’s gifts to us that we can never be accused of having “faith that does nothing in practice.”

See James 2:17

### **Mass Intentions September 16-22, 2018**

Mon, Sep 17—	Rev. Robert Wong, SJ (SPL INT)
Tue, Sep 18—	Harold (RIP)
Wed, Sep 19—	9am, Christine Sooderam (TG) 7pm, Savio D’Silva
Thu, Sep 20—	Julie Dean (RIP) Sulaila Barzoom (INT)
Fri, Sep 21—	Rev. Mark McGuckin (TG)
Sat, Sep 22—	9:30am, Rosy D’Costa (INT) 5pm, Sinclair & Delona Fernandes (INT)