

Like the prophets, Jeremiah and Jesus, this following poem was dedicated to the new martyred Saint of El Salvador, Oscar Romero, who was canonized on October 14, 2018, along side with St. Paul VI and others in Rome by Pope Francis. You are welcome to “ponder and treasure” it at your leisure.

*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

*Saint Oscar Romero, pray for us.*

**Holy Michael, the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do you, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who wander through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.**



**ST. MONICA PARISH**

12011 Woodhead Road, Richmond, BC V6V 1G2  
Tel. 604.278.0844 Fax. 604.279.0334

Website: [stmonicaparish.ca](http://stmonicaparish.ca) Email: [parish.smon@rcav.org](mailto:parish.smon@rcav.org)

February 3, 2019

**4th Sunday in Ordinary Time**



God calls some people, such as Jeremiah, to be prophets – to bring others to him by speaking God’s words to them. However, all of us are called to be witnesses through the love that we show in our actions and words. We are witnesses to Jesus, primarily through our love for one another!

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

In the first reading, Jeremiah heard God’s call and assurance that God will always be with him, no matter how much others oppose him. St. Paul’s letter to the Corinthians speaks of the *more excellent way* of love, the very foundation of the Christian life. Jesus, in the Gospel, is not accepted in his own hometown.



**Today’s Readings:**

1st: Jeremiah 1.4-5, 17-19  
Psalm: 71  
2nd: 1 Corinthians 12.31—13.13  
Gospel: Luke 4.21-30

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**

4th SATURDAY AFTER 9:30 am MASS

**HOUSE BLESSINGS**

PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE

## PARISH UPDATES

**2018 Tax-Receipts** – The donation receipts to our Parish and Project Advance are available for you to collect from the volunteers. This process ensures you have the correct records. Archbishop Miller sends his note of gratitude for your generosity. Thank you for your patience.

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**Chinese New Year of the Pig** – A blessed New Year to all who are celebrating the Lunar New Year on Tuesday. May you be filled with spiritual prosperity and blessings!

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**The Khumpi's Family** – The good news is that the family has been contacted by our Canadian Embassy in New Delhi to begin the process of resettlement. They need to pass their medical examinations prior to obtaining their travel visas to come to Canada. Furthermore, *Jesuit Refugees Service USA and Friends* have raised the funds needed to assist in the resettlement. God is good indeed!

### **The Art of Keeping Kids Catholic**

Learn how to listen to what matters to children for their involvement. Learn how to involve family in service and church activities. Learn ways to involve loved ones in a fun and social way to prioritize faith in their daily lives.

Join us for an evening presentation and mini workshop to help equip us with the skills for engaging and keeping children in the faith on Monday, Feb. 28, at 7 p.m. at St. Augustine's Church, Vancouver. *Dolores Madaisky, B.A. in Psychology, M.A. in Family Studies, is passionate about improving parenting through the development of communication skills. She has done many workshops for schools and for the Archdiocese.* To register, visit <https://rcav.org/event/the-art-of-keeping-kids-catholic>

## ARCHDIOCESAN EVENTS

### **World Day of the Sick 2019**

Archbishop Miller will be celebrating a Mass of anointing in honour of World Day of the Sick 2019 at Our Lady of Sorrows Church, Vancouver on Monday, Feb. 11, at 11 a.m. The sacrament of anointing of the sick will be administered after the homily. All the sick and their caregivers are invited to attend. Following Mass, simple refreshments will be offered in the school gym. Plenty of parking is available. For more info visit <https://www.chabc.bc.ca/world-day-of-the-sick-archdiocesan-celebration-february-11-2019> or contact 604-524-3427 or [info@chabc.bc.ca](mailto:info@chabc.bc.ca)

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### **Pauline Books & Media Parish Catholic Book Fair**

The Daughters of St. Paul will be visiting Vancouver on the following dates :

**February 9 & 10:** Good Shepherd Church, Surrey (before and after all the Saturday/Sunday Masses) <https://rcav.org/event/paulinemediagoodshepherd/>

**February 9 & 10:** Immaculate Conception Parish, Delta (before and after all the Saturday/Sunday Masses) <https://rcav.org/event/paulinebooks-icdelta/>

<https://rcav.org/event/paulinemedi-hrc>

**February 16 & 17:** St. Michael Parish, Burnaby (after all the Sat/Sun Masses) <https://rcav.org/event/paulinemedi-stmichaels>

All are welcome to stop by to purchase books & media for kids and adults published and produced by the Sisters. Daughters of Saint Paul are visiting us from Toronto, ON. View their catalogue at [www.paulinemedi.ca](http://www.paulinemedi.ca). Mastercard, Visa, Interac and Cash are accepted. If you would like to request a specific book you may call the Sisters at 647-880-1012.

## **Family Connection**

Jesus' statement that no prophet is accepted in his home town reminds us that it is often difficult to hear a challenging message from those who know us best, even if it is true. Perhaps we remember and even regret this aspect of our childhood and adolescence. We may have overlooked the wisdom and guidance of our parents, while allowing the voices of others—teachers, friends, and counselors—to carry more weight, even when these people were telling us the same thing. Perhaps this developmental stage is unavoidable. Perhaps as we have matured, we have come to a new appreciation for our parents and others whose perspective and experience we once rejected. Today's Gospel provides an opportunity to talk about and to learn from such experiences.

As you gather as a family, consider proverbs or other wise sayings that are familiar to your family ("Blood is thicker than water;" "All that glitters is not gold."). Consider what these proverbs mean and whether you believe them to be true. Why or why not? Jesus challenges the people of Nazareth by reminding them of old sayings that seem to have a lot of truth in them. Let's listen to this Gospel and consider what these proverbs mean. Read aloud today's Gospel, Luke 4:21-30. Ask: ***What were the proverbs that Jesus quoted?*** (Physician, cure yourself; No prophet is accepted in his native place.) Consider the meaning of these proverbs and look for examples from your own family life that show their truth. Consider how your family might accept one another's wisdom and guidance and not reject the prophets in your midst. Conclude by praying together the [Prayer to the Holy Spirit](#).

*Taken from:*

<https://www.loyolapress.com/our-catholic-faith/liturgical-year/sunday-connection>

### **Stewardship Reflection**

In today's second reading, St. Paul tells the Corinthians (and us) that all of our gifts are from God and that they are given, not for ourselves alone, but for the common good. But the generosity of God knows no limits — the miracle at Cana reminds us that whenever we faithfully do as God asks, He can change our gifts of water into wine!

### **Mass Intentions February 3—9, 2019**

Mon, Feb 4—	Maria Nenita & Jose Antonio Sr. (RIP)
Tue, Feb 5—	Kay Sullivan (RIP)
Wed, Feb 6—	9am, Sario D'Silva (TG) 7pm, Ziad Hameed & family (INT)
Thu, Feb 7—	Kay Sullivan (RIP)
Fri, Feb 8—	Matthew Abraham & Jini Matthew (TG)
Sat, Feb 9-	9:30am, Betty Santamaria Imperial (RIP) 5pm, Mrs. Lau (INT)