

An Affirmation from John Killinger's, Lost in Wonder, Love, and Praise.

I believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of the loving God, who was born of the promise to a virgin named Mary.

I believe in the love Mary gave her son, that caused her to follow him in his ministry and stand by his cross as he died.

I believe in the love of all mothers, and its importance in the lives of the children, they bear. It is stronger than steel, softer than downy, and more resilient than a green sapling on the hillside. It closes wounds, melts disappointments, and enables the weakest child to stand tall and straight in the fields of adversity.

I believe that this love, even at its best, is only a shadow of the love of God, a dark reflection of all that we can expect of him, both in this life and the next.

And I believe that one of the most beautiful sights in the world is a mother who lets this greater love flow through her to her child, blessing the world with the tenderness of her touch and the tears of her joy.

Gratitude for my Mother

Dear Lord, today I turn to you to give you thanks for my mother. With your own gift of life, she bore me in her womb and gave me life. She tenderly, patiently cared for me and taught me to walk and talk. She read to me and made me laugh. No one delighted in my successes more; no one could comfort me better in my failures. I am so grateful for how she mothered me and mentored me, and even disciplined me.

Please bless her, Lord, and comfort her. Help her loving heart to continue to love and give of herself to others. Strengthen her when she is down and give her hope when she is discouraged.

Most of all, Lord, on this Mother's Day, give my mother the graces she most needs and desires today. I ask you this, in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior forever and ever.



ST. MONICA PARISH

Archdiocesan Shrine of St Pedro Calungsod

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PASTOR: **Rev. Mark Bautista**
DEACON: **Wilbur Victoria**

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday

9:30 am – 1 pm / 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm

MASS SCHEDULES

WEEKDAYS: **9:00 am**

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

SUNDAYS: **9:00 am, 11:00 am
& 4:00 pm (YVR)**

CONFESSION SCHEDULES

SATURDAYS: **9:45 am—10:30 am**

20 minutes before Daily Mass

BAPTISM every Saturday @ 11am

WEDDING – Please call the Parish Office at least 6 months in advance.

FUNERAL, HOUSE BLESSING, SICK CALL

Please call the Parish Office.

WEDNESDAY:

Perpetual Help Novena after 9am Mass

FRIDAY:

Holy Hour after 9am Mass

1st SATURDAY:

Rosary for Vocation after 9am Mass

The Ascension of the Lord

Weekend of May 11/12, 2024

Before he ascended into heaven, Jesus instructed his disciples to proclaim the Gospel to all of creation. In the first reading, after Jesus' ascent, the angels ask his disciples "Why do you stand here staring at the skies?" The angels want them to look around themselves and be assured that Christ is working through them. The Ascension does not memorialize Christ leaving us. But instead, Christ working through us, his mystical body, his Church. As stewards of this legacy, we too are called to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ in our words and actions; in how we live and how we treat others. Are we sharing the life of Christ with others in our day-to-day lives? In what ways do we see ourselves proclaiming the Gospel? In what ways can we do better?



Project Advance 2024: Building our Parish Community

Your support of Project Advance will help grow our parish and expand the reach of Christ's love to those who need it most. Parish Projects for 2024: (1) Installation of acoustic panels in the church, (2) Installation of laser projectors in the parish hall, (3) repair of the hall roof.

Tax-deductible donations can be made in person at the parish or online.

St Monica Parish goal is \$75,000.00. Learn more and donate at projectadvance.ca.

Catholic Women's League—St Monica Parish

St Monica CWL happily invites you to their 25th Charter Anniversary on Sunday, May 26 at the 11am Mass. Reception to follow.

Ordinations of Permanent Deacons

The Archdiocese of Vancouver will be celebrating the Ordinations to the Sacred Order of Deacons to the Permanent Diaconate through the imposition of the hands by Archbishop J. Michael Miller, CSB, on Saturday, June 1, 10:00 a.m. at Holy Rosary Cathedral in Vancouver. All are welcome to attend this joyous occasion!

Our Lady of Fátima formally known as **Our Lady of the Holy Rosary of Fátima** is a Catholic title of Mary, mother of Jesus, based on the Marian apparitions reported in 1917 by three shepherd children at the Cova da Iria in Fátima, Portugal. The three children were Lúcia dos Santos and her cousins Francisco and Jacinta Marto. José Alves Correia da Silva, Bishop of Leiria, declared the events worthy of belief on 13 October 1930.

Pope Pius XII granted a pontifical decree of canonical coronation via the papal bull *Celeberrima solemnitas* towards the venerated image on 25 April 1946. The designated papal legate, Cardinal Benedetto Aloisi Masella, carried out the coronation on **13 May 1946**, now permanently enshrined at the Chapel of the Apparitions of Fátima. The same Roman Pontiff also raised the Sanctuary of Fátima to the status of a minor basilica by the apostolic letter *Luce superna* on 11 November 1954.

The published memoirs of Sister Lúcia in the 1930s revealed two secrets that she claimed came from the Virgin Mary, while the third secret was to be revealed by the Catholic Church in 1960. The controversial events at Fátima, including the **Miracle of the Sun**, gained fame due partly to elements of the secrets, prophecy and eschatological revelations allegedly related to the Second World War and possibly more global wars in the future, particularly the Virgin's request for the Consecration of Russia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

You, Mary, are God's best creation. No one has ever loved God so intimately as you,
O glorious Lady. –St Bridget of Sweden

BEFORE I WAS A MOM—Author Unknown

Before I was a Mom - I made and ate hot meals. I had unstained clothing. I had quiet conversations on the phone.

Before I was a Mom - I slept as late as I wanted and never worried about how late I got into bed. I brushed my hair and my teeth everyday.

Before I was a Mom - I didn't worry whether or not my plants were poisonous. I never thought about immunizations.

Before I was a Mom - I had never been puked on, wet on, spit on, chewed on, or pinched by tiny fingers.

Before I was a Mom - I had complete control over my thoughts, my body, my mind. I slept all night.

Before I was a Mom - I never held down a screaming child so that doctors could do tests, or give shots. I never looked into teary eyes and cried. I never got gloriously happy over a simple grin. I never sat up late hours at night watching a baby sleep.

Before I was a Mom - I never held a sleeping baby just because I didn't want to put it down. I never felt my heart break into a million pieces when I could not stop the hurt. I never knew that something so small could affect my life so much. I never knew that I could love someone so much. I never knew I would love being a Mom.

Before I was a Mom - I didn't know the feeling of having my heart outside my body. I didn't know how special it could feel to feed a hungry baby. I didn't know that bond between a Mother and her child. I didn't know that something so small could make me feel so important.

Before I was a Mom - I had never gotten up every ten minutes, in the middle of the night, to make sure that all was okay. I had never known the warmth, the joy, the love, the heartache, the wonderfulness, or the satisfaction of being a Mom. I didn't know I was capable of feeling so much, before I was a Mom.

Living Laudato Si': The Challenge and the Promise

Laudato Si', Pope Francis' 2015 encyclical on care for creation, is a clarion call to listen to the cries of the earth and of the poor and to assuage their suffering. This second annual *Laudato Si'* lecture will reflect on the challenges and promises of devoting ourselves to this undertaking. In these turbulent times, how can we navigate the obstacles and fulfill the promises that caring for creation in the spirit of *Laudato Si'* places before us? On Friday, May 17, 7:00 p.m. at St. Mark's College in Vancouver. Free admission. All are welcome!

Learn more and register at beholdvancouver.org/events.