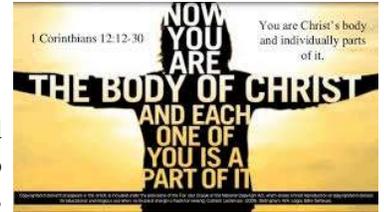


**A Reflection from Fr. Joseph**



Today's second reading, from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, might be the most radical and challenging passage of the New Testament. It presents a fundamentally different way for us to see ourselves. The normal way that we see ourselves is as individuals, individuals with rights and responsibilities. As individuals, if we choose to connect ourselves to other people, we can do so. If we choose to remain aloof, we can do that as well. But, what Paul gives us in the second reading is a very different understanding. He certainly sees us as individuals, but he insists that as individuals, we are part of a larger reality. We form with others an organism. Together with others, we are the body of Christ.

As Paul says it, "**You are the body of Christ. Each of you is a member of it**". What Paul is saying is that at the very core of our being we are connected to others as part of Christ's body. That connection is necessary, because without that connection, we are incomplete. As Christ's body we need others to be parts with us in the same reality. Paul plays this out later in the letter where he says that as part of Christ's body, the head cannot say to the feet, "**I do not need you.**" The eye cannot say to the hand, "**I do not need you.**" We need one another because we share the same life. It is only in our relationship to others that we discover who we truly are.

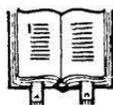
Now, if we were to accept this challenging understanding of ourselves and others, it would change the way we see everything, both personally and socially. As a country we seek to address issues of poverty and education. When we approach those efforts as a part of Christ's body, we are no longer trying to feed or educate "those" people, "those" children. We are trying to feed and to educate people who are a part of us, who form with us the same body. The same truth applies to us, personally, in our relationships with the people with whom we work, the people in our family, the people in our neighborhood. We cannot say to any of them "I have no need of you. You are of no value to me." Each person is a part with us in the same living organism.

So, look at the person at work who makes you angry, or the person in your family who irritates you, or the person who exhausts you. The teaching of Paul encourages us to see that person as somehow necessary to us, necessary in order for us to be the person we are, and to become the person Christ wants us to be.

The teaching that we hear today, in the second reading, is not a simple or easy truth. Just as Christ did not come into this world simply to confirm all the truths which were established before his arrival. Christ came into this world to present us with a new and challenging vision of ourselves and of others. It is not new to say that we need others. But it is new to say that we need *every* other person, because *every* other person is a part, with us, of the same body. And that body is not the body practical, or the body political, or the body commercial. It is the Body of Christ.

**DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS**

- Mon. Jan. 28<sup>th</sup>** - ST. THOMAS AQUINAS, memorial  
Hebrews 9:15, 24-28-10; Mark 3:22-30
- Tue. Jan. 29<sup>th</sup>** - Hebrews 10:1-10; Mark 3:31-35
- Wed. Jan. 30<sup>th</sup>** - Hebrews 10:11-18; Mark 4:1-20
- Thurs. Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>** - ST. JOHN BOSCO, memorial  
Hebrews 10:19-25; Mark 4:21-25
- Fri. Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>** - Hebrews 10:32-39; Mark 4:26-34
- Sat. Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>** - THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD, feast  
Malachi 3:1-4 or Hebrews 2:10-11, 13b-18; Luke 2:22-40
- Sun. Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup>** - FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19; 1 Cor. 12:31-13:13; Luke 4:21-30



**ALTAR SERVERS**

- Wed. Jan. 30<sup>th</sup> - 7:30 PM** - Volunteers
- Fri. Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> - 7:30 PM** - Volunteers
- Sat. Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup> - 5:00 PM** - C & C Akol, M.Cabyhayan, J.Lanuja, J.Nguyen.
- Sun. Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> - 9:00 AM** - N.Chao, J & N Yuen, C.Vu, T.Johnson. **11:00 AM** - R/Bottin, S.Cho, W.Phram, J.Roque. **5:00 PM** - K.Alonzo, A.Babas, P.Casanova, F & T Le, E.Nguyen, J.Plata.



**Catholic Press Collection: Feb. 2-3**

February is Catholic Press Month and with it comes the annual Catholic Press Collection. There will be a 2<sup>nd</sup> collection, next weekend, Feb. 2-3, in all the parishes in the Archdiocese of Vancouver. This is a great opportunity for parishioners to show their appreciation for receiving The B.C. Catholic. The collection helps defray your parish's costs for mailing the paper. Please give generously so we can continue to deliver this vital, award-winning publication. For more info, please visit: [www.bccatholic.ca](http://www.bccatholic.ca).

**PARISH ENVELOPES FOR 2019**

**Have you picked up your new set of parish envelopes for 2019 from the entrance of the church?** If you have recently requested envelopes, you will find them at the entrance of the church. Anyone wishing a set, please call the parish office.

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sat. Jan. 26 <sup>th</sup>	5 pm Mass for Steven Gonzales, R.I.P.
Sun. Jan. 27 <sup>th</sup>	9 am Mass for Gus Huggan, R.I.P. 11 am Mass for Marianina D'Amico, R.I.P. 5 pm Mass for parishioners
Mon. Jan. 28 <sup>th</sup>	8 am Mass for Abilio Campos, R.I.P.
Tue. Jan. 29 <sup>th</sup>	8 am Mass for Perpetua Salao, R.I.P.
Wed. Jan. 30 <sup>th</sup>	9 am Mass for Florence Wallace, R.I.P. 7:30 pm Novena Mass
Thur. Jan. 31 <sup>st</sup>	8:00 am Mass for Carlo Gabriele, R.I.P.
Fri. Feb. 1 <sup>st</sup>	8:00 am Mass for Florentina Belandres, R.I.P. 7:30 pm Mass for Christopher Hou, R.I.P.
Sat. Feb. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	9:00 am Mass for Humberto Almeida, R.I.P.

## RCIA & ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Our RCIA program (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adult) has resumed. Interested? Know someone who might be? Come or invite them to join our parish program.

The program is suitable for all those interested in learning more about our faith and for Catholics who have not yet received the sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Communion and for those who would like to deepen their faith, whether you were baptized or not. For more info call the parish office (604) 434-6700.



**FIRST FRIDAY, 24 HOUR, EXPOSITION AND ADORATION OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT**, will be held this coming Friday, Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>, following the 8 am Mass, until Saturday, 8:30 am. A minimum of 2 volunteers per hour is required. Please write your name at the hour you can attend, on the sheet provided on the table in the vestibule.

## CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE NEWS

- **Friendship Day:** Next Sunday after the 9 & 11 am Masses at the entrance of the church. Please join us!



## SCHOOL NEWS

- School Mass: This Wednesday at 9 am. Join us!
- Re-Registration Packages have been sent home. Re-Registration will take place on Feb. 6<sup>th</sup> after the AGM.
- Annual General Meeting: Mark your calendars and plan to attend our AGM on Feb. 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.
- Kindergarten Sibling Registration:

St. Jude School is starting to field registration questions from interested new families. In order for us to know how many spots we have available, we need to hear from our existing families that have children who will be entering kindergarten. So, if you have a child who will be entering Kindergarten this September 2019, we ask that you please email Ms. Goh at the school - office@stjude.ca. Please also include the child's name and date of birth in the email.

# ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

## Up-Coming Events

### Stewardship Reflection

*"Go, eat rich foods and drink sweet drinks, and allot portions to those who had nothing prepared..."* (Nehemiah 8:10)

Ezra's instructions to the people show us that God does not forbid us from enjoying the good things in life. He wants us to be happy! However, God expects us to be grateful for all that He has given us and to generously share our blessings with those who are in need without expecting anything in return.

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### World Day for Consecrated Life

The World Day for Consecrated Life was instituted by Pope John Paul II in 1997, a day of prayer for women and men who have devoted their lives to God in consecrated life. Join Archbishop Miller, CSB, in celebrating and witnessing the renewal of vows of those consecrated to God at Mass on Saturday, Feb. 2 at 12 p.m. at St. Patrick's Church, Vancouver. All are welcome.

### St. Mary's Padre Pio Prayer Group

One of the many ways to get to know Padre Pio is to uncover the experiences of those who had direct encounters with the Saint. Fr. Pierre Leblond, OP, will walk you through 2,000-old-virtues of faith, hope, and love through the day to day lives of ordinary people. Padre Pio and Friends series will help you to comprehend God's love for him and us. Come, learn and be inspired. Join our upcoming prayer meeting on Saturday, Feb. 2, at 9:30 a.m. in the Church Hall at St. Mary's Parish, Vancouver. For more information please visit: <https://stmarysvancouver.ca/padre-pio-prayer-group>

### Yearend Thanksgiving Mass

Join us for a Year-end Thanksgiving Mass (before the Chinese New Year) at Our Lady of Fatima Church, Coquitlam on Sunday, Feb. 3, at 3 p.m. For more info visit <https://rcav.org/chinese-ministry>

### Quo Vadis – Men's Discernment Event Feb. 8-10, at Seminary Christ the King

Visiting Christ the King Seminary for a weekend is one of the best ways to discern if you are being called to the priesthood. It's a chance to experience the life of a seminarian. You'll share meals, attend classes, and talk with others about your interest in the priesthood. The weekend includes confession, Mass, talks about discerning your vocation, and plenty of time for personal prayer. We also play basketball and street hockey, so bring athletic clothes and your hockey stick. The cost is: \$40. For more info visit: <http://vocationsvancouver.ca/events/pray-and-play>

### World day of the sick

Our Archdiocesan celebration will be held on the actual date this year which is on Monday, Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>. Archbishop Michael Miller, CSB, will be the main celebrant at a Mass of Anointing held at Our Lady of Sorrows, 555 S. Slocan St., Vancouver, at 11:00 a.m. The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be administered after the Homily.