

*A Reflection from Fr. Joseph*

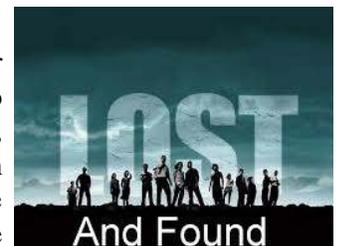
We all know the parable of the lost sheep—or do we? What challenges us about this parable is that there are two versions of it, one in the Gospel of Matthew and the other in the Gospel of Luke. And the two are not the same. Matthew’s version is better known. In it, a shepherd has 100 sheep and one goes astray. The shepherd leaves the 99 in the wilderness and finds the sheep. In this version of the parable, the shepherd is usually seen to represent God, the God who seeks out any one of us who goes astray. In Matthew’s, the parable is about God seeking out what is lost.

Luke’s version, which is today’s Gospel, is different. In his story, the sheep does not go astray. The shepherd loses it. Luke says, **“Which one of you having 100 sheep and losing one of them...”** So, if the shepherd in Luke’s Gospel loses the sheep, he cannot represent God. God loses nothing. The shepherd in Luke’s version must represent us, because we are the ones who sometimes lose what is important to us. Luke’s parable intends to reflect upon that experience.

How does a shepherd lose a sheep? By not noticing that it is missing. It is hard to watch 100 animals, but a good shepherd knows how to keep his eye on what belongs to him. Luke’s parable poses this question to us: What person or what thing of value could be missing from your life and you have not yet noticed that it is gone? Could it be a son, daughter, or elderly parent whose circumstances have changed and now need you in a new way, and you are still living life as usual? Could it be a friend who has lost respect for you because of a mistake or insensitivity and has now left your life, and you have not yet realized the absence? Could it be a joy that once was a part of your work or your marriage but now has gone missing? Our lives are full, as full as a field of 100 sheep, and that is why someone or something important can slip away without us noticing that it is gone.

Here is where the example of the shepherd in Luke’s version of the story is valuable. This shepherd, once he notices that he has lost something important, goes out immediately to find it. He makes it his top priority and puts everything else aside, including 99 other things which he also values. He is determined to find what has slipped away. This shepherd does not surround himself with regret, saying, “I should have noticed that she was leaving. I should have been more sensitive.” This shepherd does become stuck in self-pity, concluding, “I am really not that good a shepherd, or a parent, or a friend.” This shepherd chooses to act, to search out the one thing that is missing. He is determined to make his life whole again.

Luke’s version, of the sheep story, calls us to that kind of action. Once we notice the one person or the one thing that we have lost in our lives, this parable encourages us to expend all our energy to find it. Now, of course, there is no guarantee that we will be successful. Some people leave our lives, and we can never find a way to bring them back. Some blessings slip away, and we can never claim them again. But it is important to make the effort. Even if we have to leave behind 99 other valuable things, our attempt is worth it. This parable understands that when we find the one person, the one thing who has slipped away, there is a particular kind of joy. Then we will be able to say to our neighbors and our friends, **“Rejoice with me, because my daughter, my friend, my joy that I lost I have now found again.”**



**DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**Mon. Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>** -ST. CORNELIUS &ST. CYPRIAN, memorial  
1 Tim 2:1-7; Luke 7:1-10

**Tue. Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>** - 1 Tim 3:1-13; Luke 7:11-17

**Wed. Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>** - 1 Tim 3:14-16; Luke 7:31-35

**Thurs. Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>** - 1 Tim 4:12-16; Luke 7:36-50

**Fri. Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>** - ST. ANDREW KIM & Companions, memorial  
1 Tim 6:2c-12; Luke 8:1-3

**Sat. Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>** - ST. MATTHEW, feast  
Ephes. 4:1-7, 11-13; Mat. 9:9-13

**Sun. Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup>** - 25<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
Amos 8:4-7; 1 Tim 2:1-7; Luke 16:1-13



**PROJECT ADVANCE NEWS**

Thank you to all those who generously supported our Project Advance campaign. Our goal is to increase participation. If you haven’t contributed, please consider doing so. You can give at the parish office, drop off your donation marked Project Advance in the Sunday collection or give online at: [www.rca.org/giving](http://www.rca.org/giving).

**ALTAR SERVERS**

If you are in gr. 4 or up and interested in serving, pick-up a registration form from the school or the sacristy and return it by Sunday, **Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup>**. You will be trained and the dates and times of rehearsals will be communicated to you by phone or email. Those who have previously served are asked to complete a registration form to let us know that you intend to continue serving this year. **Former altar servers please volunteer your services at the Mass you attend, until a new schedule is provided.**



There will be a 2<sup>nd</sup> collection, next weekend, for the Needs of the Church in Canada.

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sat. Sept. 14 <sup>th</sup>	5 pm Mass for parishioners
Sun. Sept. 15 <sup>th</sup>	9 am Mass for the int. of Astor Pang 11 am Mass for all the souls in purgatory 5 pm Mass for Federico Cayabyab Jr., R.I.P.
Mon. Sept. 16 <sup>th</sup>	8 am Mass for Emilia Sibau, R.I.P.
Tue. Sept. 17 <sup>th</sup>	8 am Mass for Victoria Capacillo, R.I.P.
Wed. Sept. 18 <sup>th</sup>	9 am Mass for Minerva Larawan, R.I.P. 7:30 pm Novena Mass
Thur. Sept. 19 <sup>th</sup>	8:00 am Mass for Rodrigo Dorado, R.I.P.
Fri. Sept. 20 <sup>th</sup>	8:00 am Mass for Isaias Lachica, R.I.P.
Sat. Sept. 21 <sup>st</sup>	9:00 am Mass for all the souls in purgatory

## PREP NEWS

Our Parish Religious Education Program for children in grades 1 through 7 attending public school has begun. Classes are held every Tuesday from 6:30 - 7:45 pm in our school. Registrations are still being accepted prior to classes.

## RCIA & ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Begins at St. Jude's on Thursday, Sept. 26th. Interested? Know someone who might be? Come or invite them to join our parish program called RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adult). The program is suitable for anyone who is interested in learning more about our faith, for Catholics who have not yet received the sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Communion and for those who would like to deepen their faith. For more info call (604) 434-6700.



## ST. JUDE'S PARISH - 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

The 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee is requesting a few more items, valued at \$50 - \$100, to be used for door prizes. If you are willing and able to donate an item please contact Imelda Bateria or drop off at the parish office. Thank you for your generosity!

## SCHOOL NEWS

- School Photos: Individual photos will be taken on Tues. Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>. Students are to be in full uniform.
- School Mass: This Wed., Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> at 9 am. Join us!

# ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

## Up-Coming Events

### Stewardship Reflections

*"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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## The Men's Retreat

Are you ready to take the next step in your faith journey? Life Restoration, in partnership with the Archdiocese of Vancouver, is inviting all men to attend this incredible retreat, Sept. 20 - 22, in Princeton, BC, with amazing presenters, times of personal and group prayer, Mass and confession, fellowship, adventure, rest, and the rugged beauty of Rockridge Canyon. For more info and to register, go to: [www.liferestoration.ca/mensretreat](http://www.liferestoration.ca/mensretreat)

## Retrouvaille

Retrouvaille Vancouver is pleased to offer again a program for couples seeking help for marital problems. The program is highly successful in saving hurting marriages, even bringing reconciliation to couples who have already separated or divorced. It starts with a weekend at Barnabas Landing Family Ministries Retreat Centre on Keats Island, Sep. 27- 29. More info [vancouverbc@retrouvaille.org](mailto:vancouverbc@retrouvaille.org)

## An Evening with Archbishop Miller

The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Archbishop's Dinner will take place Tuesday, Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup>, at the Hyatt Regency, Van. This year, in partnership with Providence Health Care and with St. Mark's College, Archbishop Miller has designated the proceeds to help foster Catholic health-care ethics in the education of health-care providers and in the support of their day-to-day practice. Reception at 6 p.m. followed by dinner at 7 p.m. For more info or to reserve your table(s) please visit [rcav.org/dinner2019](http://rcav.org/dinner2019).

## Men's Ministry - Into the Breach

Into the Breach is a men's only, 8-week faith study exploring what it means to be a Catholic man in contemporary culture. Thursdays from Oct. 3 - Nov. 28 at the John Paul II Pastoral Centre in Vancouver. Register online for \$10 at [secure.rcav.org/into-the-breach](http://secure.rcav.org/into-the-breach)

## MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Attention Married Couples: wouldn't it be wonderful to be as joyful together as you were on your wedding day? Lack of time, distractions, work & family responsibilities make us forget that our marriage is a priority. Spend a weekend rediscovering and renewing your marriage. *"As the family goes, so does the nation and so goes the whole world in which we live"* - St John Paul II

Limited spots available: October 18-20, 2019 at the Holiday Inn Express, Langley, BC. Register online: <https://rcav.org/wvme/>  
Questions? Sharon & Glen Goh Tel: 604 723 5998.

## Upper Room Conference

At the Upper Room Conference, you will hear from incredible speakers, be able to connect with other disciples, and gain insight and resources on how to live out your missional call in your homes and communities. We'll have times of worship, prayer, community, and hear from amazing speakers like Cardinal Dolan, Sr. Miriam James, and Archbishop J. Michael Miller. This conference has been a long time coming. Led by the vision of Archbishop Michael to see the Gospel shared, the heart of Upper Room comes back to Pope Francis' declaration of the Extraordinary Missionary Month and the prodding of the Holy Spirit in our Archdiocese. The conference takes place at the Vancouver Convention Centre on Saturday, Oct. 26. Registration and conference info at [upperroomvancouver.com](http://upperroomvancouver.com) We believe that God is beginning a new movement in Vancouver. Join us as we listen to the Holy Spirit and respond to God's call in our Archdiocese.

