

The Ascension

The death of a member of his family or of a loved friend, must be the saddest event imaginable in the life of an atheist. He is one who really is convinced that there is no God, no future life and therefore that the relative or friend is to turn into dust in the grave, never to be met with again. The thought that every day that passes is bringing him too nearer to that same sad fate, death, which will be the end of all his ambitions, all his enjoyments, the end of everything he thought he was or had, must be something hard to live with.

Thank God, we have the good fortune to know, and reason and faith convince us of this truth, that death is not the end of man. It is rather the real beginning. Today's feast—the Ascension of our Lord in his human nature—to his Father's and our Father's home, is the confirmation and the guarantee of this doctrine of our faith. We shall all rise from the grave with new, glorified bodies and ascend to heaven, as Christ did. There we'll begin our true life of eternal happiness.

While it is true that even for good Christians the death of a beloved one is a cause of sorrow and tears, this is natural as we still are of the earth earthly. Yet the certitude that our beloved one has gone to his true life and will be there to meet us when our turn comes, is always at the back of our minds to console and comfort us. What all human beings want is to live on forever with our dear ones. Death breaks that continuity but only for a little while. That break is necessary for the new life to begin.

It is only in heaven that this natural desire of an unending life with all those we love can be realized and death on earth is the door to that eternal life.

Look up to heaven today. See Christ ascending to his Father and our Father. Say : Thank you, God, for creating me, and for giving me, through the Incarnation of your beloved Son, the possibility and the assurance that if I do my part here, when death comes it will not be an enemy but a friend, to speed me on my way to the true, supernatural life which you have, in your love, planned and prepared for me.

It was written, and foretold, that Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory. The servant is not above the Master. I too must suffer. I too must accept the hardships and the trials of this life, if I want, and I do, to enter into the life of glory. Christ, who was sinless, suffered hardship and pain. I have earned many, if not all of my hardships, by my own sins. I should be glad of the opportunity to make some atonement for my past offenses, by willingly accepting the crosses he sends me. These crosses are signs of God's interest in my true welfare. Through him he is giving me a chance to prepare myself for the day of reckoning, for the moment of my death which will decide my eternal future. For every prayer I say for success in life, I should say three for a successful death, a death free from sin and at peace with God.



Building Fund

We are moving forward with having our own Parish Centre, this massive project will take the efforts of many people to support. If you can please consider giving to the Building Fund, every cent of the Building Fund will go towards the Parish Goal.

A big Thank You to all parishioners for their support in this effort!

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:

An update on our New Parish Centre Project to be built on the west side of the Church: (1450 W 38th and 1449 W 39th and the lane in between these): Virtually, the city has given necessary approval to move ahead. Our challenge now is to finance this. The total construction cost is estimated at 14.5 Million. We have an offer to purchase Cartier Hall for 8.5 Million. This means that we still need to raise 6.5 Million to pay for this project. Our present parish cash flow only covers operating expenses. Extra donations are required; including by contributions to the Parish Building Fund & Project Advance. An overview of the entire New Centre Building (one long one going from 38th to 39th); the 38th side (2 stories) would be the Great Parish Hall (named after Sts. Peter & Paul) with a connecting kitchen (named after St. Andrew the hospitality apostle). Nearby (on the Church side) would be the Conference Hall (named after St. James the Great) towards 39th would be the Adoration Chapel (named after St. John the Beloved). West of these (towards the neighbour: 1459 W 39th) would be the Office Wing (named after St. Matthew the tax collector). Upstairs on the 39th side would be more meeting rooms (named after all the other Apostles). Below all this would be underground parking and elevators throughout. These 12 rooms would be dedicated by the donor as they so pleased. If you might be interested in doing this, please let me know. I can't help but to remember that this Centre was Fr. John Horgan's dream; thus the Chapel of Adoration will be named after his patron. In the meantime, also, our Project Advance campaign for 2024 continues to assist this project, pledge forms for this are next to the bulletin. Our gratitude for your kind consideration in these matters that can bring about the needed growth to our parish life.

Blessings to you and yours!
Fr. Ron Thompson, Pastor



Archdiocese of Vancouver
Archbishop: Most Rev.J.
Michael Miller, CSB

SAINTS PETER & PAUL PARISH

PASTOR: FATHER RON THOMPSON

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ADMIN ASSIST: ELIZABETH WONG PARISH WEBSITE: SSPETERPAUL.CA



ASCENSION OF THE LORD MAY 12th - 18th 2024

Holy Mass :Saturday: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 9:00 am, 11:00 am

(Vespers and Benediction: 3:30pm), 4:00pm

Weekdays: Monday 8:00am; Tuesday 4:00pm; Wednesday-Friday 8:00am

First Fridays: Adoration 12:00noon-6:45pm; Benediction 6:45pm; Second Mass 7:00pm

Saturdays and Civic Holidays: 9:00am

Confessions: Wednesday-Friday; 8:30am Saturday: 9:30am and 4:00-4:30pm

Office Schedule: Tuesday- Friday: 9:00am-3:00pm

By Appointment; Marriage: Notify 8 Months in Advance

Sunday Reading, Ascension of the Lord

(Jesus appeared to the Eleven and) said to them: "Go into the whole world and proclaim the good news to all creation. The man who believes in it and accepts baptism will be saved; the man who refused to believe in it will be condemned. Signs like these will accompany those who have professed their faith: they will use my name to expel demons, they will speak entirely new languages, tjeu will be able to handle serpents, they will be able to drink deadly poison without harm, and the sick upon whom they lay their hands will recover." Then, after speaking to them, the Lord Jesus was taken up into heaven & took his seat at God's right hand. The Eleven went forth & preached everywhere. The Lord continued to work with them throughout & confirm the message through the signs which accompany them.

Mother's Day - May 12th 2024

Fr. Ron wishes a blessed Mother's Day to all Mothers of our parish.

May Mary, the mother of us all, inspire and pray for you, in your vocation in her image.

At Mass we also remember in a special way to pray for our mothers who have gone before us.



Welcome visitors! / New Parishioner! We are pleased to have you pray with us at Saints Peter and Paul. We hope you enjoy your visit to our beautiful Church. Please introduce yourself after Mass to Father Ron and parishioners; we would like to meet you!



Fr Ron Thompson
Please Note:

All request of the Pastor are kindly asked to be made by phone during Office Hours not by Email. Thank -You

ST. MICHAEL'S PRAYER
Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle . Be our defence against the wickedness and snares of the Devil ; May God rebuke him, we humbly pray;
And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, May 12TH - Ascension of the Lord

9:00AM; 11:00AM; 4:00PM -Parishioners

MONDAY, May 13th Easter Ferial

8:00AM - Sandra Young

TUESDAY, May 14th - Easter Ferial

4:00PM - Ava De Felipe

WEDNESDAY - May 15th Easter Ferial

8:00AM - James Edward Bain+

THURSDAY, May 16th - Easter Ferial

8:00AM - Ethan Wong

FRIDAY, May 17th - Easter Ferial

8:00am - E. Prest

Saturday, May 18th - Easter Ferial

9:00am - Sara Yap+

5:00pm - Luis Yap, Sr+

(Pentecost Sunday)

PARISH ONGOING

FOR QUIET CONTEMPLATION TIME

Church is open for prayers
Wed.—Fri.
12 noon 3pm

LEAVE A LEGACY

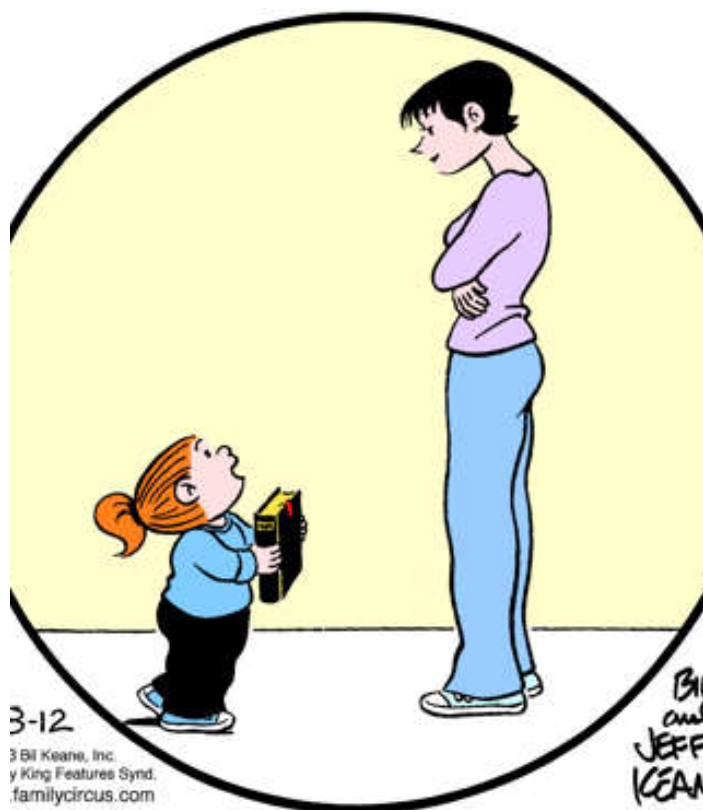
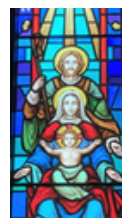
By remembering Sts. Peter & Paul Parish in your Will; by this you leave a legacy in a place you love. Consider a bequest to the Parish Building Fund. This will enhance the Church's mandate to sanctify & teach as we enter into our 2nd 100 years of service. May our Lord reward you in this life and in the next.

Solemn Sung Vesper & Benediction at 3:30pm on Sundays.

Project Advance & Parish Tax Receipts
are now available for pick up at the
vestibule.

2024 Sunday Offering Made Easy by Direct Deposit or Credit Card

Thank you for your interest in Sts. Peter & Paul Parish's Sunday Offering Plan. This plan allows you to give your Sunday Offering on a monthly basis by direct deposit or credit card. It is the most convenient way to make your Sunday Offering. Your commitment to give this way also ensures that your Sunday Offering reach us even if you are away or not able to come to our Parish in person. Instead of giving weekly, your Sunday Offerings would be simplified to one monthly donation. For more information, take this brochure.



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Bill
and
JEFF
KEANE

**'Did God write the Bible Himself?
Or did He have some Holy
Ghost writers?'**

Meditation: I Go to the Father

As we all know well, the Resurrection, Ascension and gift of the Holy Spirit are all one mystery looked at from different angles. The great mystery of reconciliation, the marriage between God and His creation, is split up for us in liturgical time to enable us to cope with it. The Ascension is not different from the Resurrection, rather we are asked to dwell on a partial aspect of the Resurrection.

The Ascension means essentially that Jesus is with His Father, "I go to the Father"; and this is His supreme joy, His goal, His reward. "If you loved me you would be full of joy because I am with my Father." Are we? With a joy that can supersede all subjective states of trouble and grief?

The first aspect of the Ascension is unalloyed joy that no man can take away from us. The Father at last has all He wants—an open heart into which He can pour His love without hindrance. Jesus is the recipient of that blissful love, and we rejoice in Him and for Him.

Secondly, Jesus has entered heaven as our pioneer. He has blazed a trail. More, He is our representative; in a real way we are there with Him. The great work of reconciliation has been accomplished. The massive dam walls that human beings, through their wrong choices, had built up against the love of God have been demolished. We have only to stand in the way of these flood waters and not fly from them as though fleeing from death.

"Abide in my love." How do we abide in His love? He tells: "If you keep my commandments you will abide in my love, as it is by keeping my Father's commandments that abide in His love." What we have seen Jesus doing in relation to the Father, we must do. Jesus has shown us the Father and what the Father wants of us; has shown us how we must live to be in truth His children. We have to be living embodiments of Jesus as He is of His Father. And this, says Jesus, is my joy which you must share.

How the thought of the Ascension should lift our lives above our petty, selfish concerns, to live with Jesus where He is now—in the glory of the Father! That we are able to do this, able to enter into the mystery of Jesus, to receive His life and live by it, is the mystery of Pentecost.

Just as in Advent the Church invites us to assume the attitude of those to whom the Lord has not yet come, and to yearn for that coming, so now in the time between Ascension and Pentecost. We are invited to put ourselves with the waiting disciples. Our ardent willing must hasten the coming of the Spirit, the Power from on high, who will enable us to live the very life of Jesus.

**PROJECT
ADVANCE** 2024 Building our
Parish Community

Project Advance 2024
The parish office will mail
out this year's Project
Advance pledge forms on
Wed. May 15th.

On weekend of May
18/19th we will show a
short video before Mass
about this year's
campaign.

Volunteers will then be
available after Mass that
weekend and also the
weekend of May 25/26th &
June 1st/2nd to assist with
your pledge. The Pastor's
letter will accompany the
mail out & will also be
printed in the bulletin
May 18/19th onward, to
share our needs here at
Sts. Peter & Paul.

It is our prayer that both
past contributors & new
ones will consider a
pledge this year to
support the Archdiocese &
our Parish with these
important needs. Thank
you for your prayerful
consideration in this
matter!