



# NOVEMBER 16, 2025

## Thirti-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

# BULLETIN

## The Paradox of Christianity II

In last week's reflection, I brought the idea forward that the difficulty and the simplicity of Christianity present us with a paradox that requires some out-of-the-box thinking to begin to appreciate.

Jesus often says things that, from a natural perspective, might seem unnatural. Things like, "You have heard it said that *'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.'* But I say to you, *love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you.'*" (Matthew 5: 43-44)

Before Jesus, hatred of evil persons was assumed to be the correct attitude. You would never pray for your persecutor. It's only natural, right? It's totally unnatural for us to pray for our enemies and to love the person who hurt us. This is the effect of the Fall. It's the effect of original sin that has been carried in humanity throughout time. We have lost the sense of solidarity that we had in the garden, the sense that we are made in the image of God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Jesus came to set us straight, to get us to see the reality of existence through him, to get us back to the garden. If we can persevere in listening to his word and studying what he means, we will be able to see reality in a new and different light. The worldly way of thinking will be shattered and exposed for what it is: a dead end, a downward spiral of unhappiness and disappointment.

But I suppose the great paradox of Christianity is the cross. The King of Kings, the Messiah, the one who has come to redeem the world is arrested,

falsely accused, tortured, put on a Roman cross and dies an ignominious death in abject humiliation, with nary a friend in sight. It couldn't be worse. But wait! What's this? He rises from the dead on the third day, just as he said? He defeats death? Not just for himself but for you? Yes!

If it's true, then why do not all people get on board with him and live a life of Christian joy? Jesus gives us the answer in his nocturnal (secret) conversation with Nicodemus, the great teacher of Israel, *"And this is the verdict, that the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light, because their works were evil."* (John 3:19)

It's sad to think that we reject the author of life and all he offers us because we prefer the darkness to the light. I'm afraid it's true. It's easier to wallow in the comfort of our error than to try to correct it. It requires diligence and perseverance to continue toward the light. To our eternal detriment, we turn away from what is good for us, to what is ruinous for our souls because we can not believe the truth. G.K. Chesterton wrote, *"... whenever we feel there is something odd in Christian theology, we shall generally find that there is something odd about the truth."*

That's because the truth is most often surprising. And that is a paradox.

Peace,

*Father Larry*



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## WELCOME


We welcome all visitors. If you are new to the Parish, please fill out the registration form available at the entrance to the Church. And please introduce yourself to our pastor, Father Larry.

## Our Lady Of Lourdes Parish | Paroisse Notre-Dame de Lourdes

Pastor: **Fr. Larry Lynn**

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## Project Advance 2025: Building Our Parish Community

Thank you so much for responding to Project Advance. In the past few weeks our participation rate has jumped from 4% to 12%, a growth we are very happy to see! Included with this week's bulletin is a flyer showing a mock up of our basement, complete and with furniture. It looks amazing! We are so eager to have the space finished and furnished and in use. If you have not contributed to Project Advance yet or you would like to make an additional donation, please go to our website at [olol.ca](http://olol.ca) or drop an envelope (well marked as "Project Advance" in the collection basket). Thank you for your continued support!

**Raised To Date**  
**\$25,638**



Down significantly from last year

**Parish Participation**  
**12.3%**

**Parish:**

Our Lady of Lourdes  
Coquitlam

**Report Date:**

November 13, 2025

Archdiocese Allotment

**\$10,700**

**Hope  
Thrives  
Here**

PROJECT  
ADVANCE  
2025

Archdiocese of Vancouver  
Project Advance Parish  
Progress Report

## Coming Up in the Parish

**DEC 6**

Les Echos du Pacifique  
Concert, an evening of  
beautiful music.



**DEC 7**

Christmas in the Square –  
a fun family day with a visit  
from St. Nicholas.

**DEC 12**

Our Lady of Guadalupe  
Mass and celebration.



**DEC 15-23**

Simbang Gabi – a special  
Christmas Novena of Masses.

## Special Pilgrimage to St. Jude's for a Plenary Indulgence

Father Larry will be accompanying the parishioners of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish on a special Jubilee Pilgrimage to St. Jude's Parish and Shrine (3078 Renfrew Street, Vancouver) on **Saturday, November 22, 2025**. St. Jude's is approved by the Archbishop of Vancouver as one of the holy sites to gain a plenary indulgence in this Jubilee year. **Pilgrimage Schedule:**

- 8:30 am Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish
- 9:15 am Depart from Our Lady of Lourdes Parish
- 10:00 am Prayers at St. Jude's Parish and Shrine
- 11:00 am Depart from St. Jude's Parish and Shrine
- 11:30 am Arrive at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

To encourage parishioners to take advantage of this Jubilee Year as an outpouring of mercy and forgiveness, Father Larry will be hearing Confessions at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish after the pilgrimage. There will be sign-up sheets at the entrances of the church. Please register for the pilgrimage, and indicate if you will need a ride from Our Lady of Lourdes Parish and back. More information is available in a pamphlet at the church entrance.

### WEEKDAY MASS

Mon. to Sat.: Rosary at 7:55am and Mass at 8:30am  
There is no morning Mass, Confession or Adoration on the  
First Saturday of the Month.

### SUNDAY MASS

English: Sat.: 5:00pm and Sun.: 9:00am  
English/French: Sun.: 11:00am

### FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH

Masses: 8:30am and 7:00pm

### CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Tues. to Fri. at 8:00am until 8:25am  
Sat.: 4:00 – 4:45 pm. Or by appointment.

### ADORATION

Tues. to Sat. starting at 9:00am (following Mass). The  
Church will remain open until 6:00 pm.

### HOLY COMMUNION

Anyone who is not able to attend Mass and wishes to  
receive the Eucharist, please contact the parish office.

### BAPTISM

By appointment only.

### MARRIAGE

All couples planning to be married in this Parish should  
contact the pastor at least 6 months in advance. Non-  
parishioners must obtain written permission from your  
parish.

### FUNERAL

Contact Parish Priest before making arrangements.

### SACRAMENTALS

For blessing of cars, religious articles and house blessings,  
please contact the Parish Office.



**Praying for the Dead**

Eternal rest grant unto them,  
O Lord, and let Your perpetual  
light shine upon them.  
May their souls and the souls of  
all the faithful departed rest in  
peace. Amen

15-Nov	Saturday	5:00 PM	✝	Walter Gutierrez
16-Nov	Sunday	9:00 AM	INT	Our Lady of Lourdes Parishioners
16-Nov	Sunday	11:00 AM	✝	Julie & Joseph Morris
17-Nov	Monday	8:30 AM	✝	Macli-Ing family
No Masses				
22-Nov	Saturday	8:30 AM		Olan family

**Clergy Study Week**

Father Larry, together with all the priests in the archdiocese, will be away at the Clergy Study Week next week. There will no be weekday Masses from Tuesday, **Nov 18 to Friday, Nov 21**; instead, there will be a Communion Service at the regular time of 8:30 am. There will also be no Exposition from Monday to Saturday and the church will be closed. Masses will resume Saturday morning, Nov 22, and Exposition will resume on Tuesday. Let us keep all the priests at Clergy Study Week in our prayers.

**CONSTRUCTION CORNER**

**Things are starting to move quickly**

**Ignatian Spiritual Exercises for Men**

The Ignatian Spiritual Exercises provide us with the necessary tools to discern spirits and recognize God's will for our sanctification in our everyday lives. The Ignatian Weekend Silent Retreat is a modified version of the Spiritual Exercises following St. Ignatius' 18th Annotation guidelines. All are welcome! On Friday, December 5 through Sunday December 7, at Westminster Abbey in Mission. Learn more and register at [beholdvancouver.org/events](http://beholdvancouver.org/events).

**PRAYER FOR THE SICK**

Please remember in your prayers our parishioners who are ill, especially:

**Kathleen Lauzon, Gilberte Collette, Father Lucien Larré, Fernand Finnigan, Ozina Finnigan, Father Alan Boisclair, Jose (JoJo) Alonco, Ralph & Marguerite Roberts and Sister Claire Marie.**

Through the intercession of St. John Paul II we ask that you heal them O Lord. Give them love and strength, we pray, through Christ our Lord.

**COFFEE & DONUTS AFTER MASS**

Come and join us for coffee after the 9:00am and 11:00am Masses on Sundays. Celebrate with each other and get to know your fellow parishioners. This weekend we thank the **Couples for Christ** for sponsoring.

**Free online screening of new Catholic film "Permission"**

A new Catholic docudrama, "Permission: is now streaming for free online at [permissionthefilm.com](http://permissionthefilm.com). The film looks at the full and incredible life of Canadian Fr. Robert Bedard, affectionately known around the globe as "Fr. Bob". His life of holiness and passion has inspired many, and his cause for canonization might soon be opened. The film offers a timely invitation to life lived in openness to the Holy Spirit. Watch Permission online with family, friends, or parish groups. Reflect and discuss how God might be calling you to give Him permission in your life and/or ministry. For more information, contact [production.dunnmedia@gmail.com](mailto:production.dunnmedia@gmail.com).

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