



"The End Is Everywhere in the Story"

Aristotle

This week, at our Clergy Study Week, I was given the opportunity to present a film to my brother priests. I chose a French film by Robert Bresson, made in 1950, called "*Diary of a Country Priest*".

It is the story of a young priest in a village in France who arrives at his first parish and realizes he is facing an uncaring, indifferent congregation who don't want him around. It is a rather bleak situation and a bleak film. On top of everything else, the priest is very sick. The only food his stomach will tolerate is red wine mixed with hard bread. Perhaps you can see where this is going: yes, he is very much a Christ figure.... He suffers, he is mistreated and misunderstood, he directly saves at least one soul because of his holiness and his faith and understanding of God. In the end, he dies, and his last words are, "*All is grace.*"

I tell you this because it fits into a theme that I was able to discern through the talks that were given at the Study Week. The idea that "...the end is found everywhere in the story", an idea that may be understood at several layers of meaning. In the case of our young country priest, his death was inevitable and yet he was not aware that that he was dying. All through the film, he was dying.

But the film and the novel from which it was taken would not be authentic

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Daniel 12.1-3
2nd Reading: Hebrews 10.11-14, 18
Gospel: Mark 13.24-32

if he suddenly got well at the end and lived happily ever after with his parishioners. That would have been a cheap trick, a falsity, a lie. But it is a work of art, and he finds his true happiness and redemption in Christ. It is a moving and sad ending and yet so gratifying because he did find his happiness in his true end – in Jesus Christ, of course.

In the Old Testament, you will find Christ, in some way, in every book of the Bible. The entire salvation story is pointing to the END – to Jesus Christ. Jesus tells us he is the Alpha and the Omega: the beginning and the end and that he is with us always until the end of time.

God is our true end, the end being the purpose for which we were made. In Psalm 139, The psalmist makes us keenly aware of God's all-knowing gaze:

Where can I hide from your spirit?

From your presence, where can I flee?

If I ascend to the heavens, you are there;

If I lie down in Shoel, you are there too.

...Your eyes foresaw my actions;

In your book, all are written down;

My days were shaped before one came to be.

God is there in our story, in everyone's story. And God is revealed in the Gospels. "*No one has ever seen God. The only Son, God, who is at the Father's side, has revealed him.*"

John 1: 18

This means that God is telling his story through my life, through your life. Christ is everywhere in your story because Christ is the end of your story. When you know that, you can think of yourself as a walking bible because you are carrying God and his Word with you. You may be the only bible that someone will have read. Give thanks and praise for that.

Peace, Father Larry

NOVEMBER 17, 2024

BULLETIN



OUR LADY OF LOURDES
COQUITLAM

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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

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 llynn@rcav.org

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PROJECT ADVANCE 2024 **Building our Parish Community**

Did you know that Project Advance has helped fund important parish projects, social justice initiatives, Catholic schools, prison ministry, chaplaincy at our hospitals and more for over 40 years? Many services the Church provides are not in the forefront of our mind until we need them, having a hospital chaplain, for example, when our loved is near death. Of course, Project Advance also helps fund our projects at Our Lady of Lourdes. We are so grateful for all the donations which will help fund new windows as part of our basement renovation. You can donate online through our website at ourladyoflourdescoquitlam.ca/donate, drop your well-marked envelope in the collection basket or at the parish office, mail your donation directly to the archdiocesan Project Advance Office or call the archdiocese at 604-683-0281.



Proposed Restored Windows
Similar on the building North side

New Church Doors

We are getting new church doors. Beautiful solid red oak doors. Doors that look like church doors. The doors are a precious gift, a bequest from Mrs. Margaret Finnegan, a long-time parishioner. We plan to bless the doors at the start a new liturgical year on **December 1**. All are welcome to come to this special blessing ceremony **before the 9 am Mass**.

Christmas in the Square

You are warmly invited to a community gathering to reflect on the miracle of the First Christmas. There will be live music, cookies and hot chocolate, a craft, and a movie in the Upper Hall, followed by the lighting of the Church and sing-along Christmas carols.

St. Nicholas will also be making a special visit, bringing gifts for the children. **Sunday, December 1 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**



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
Adoration: 9:00am – 10:00am and 5:45pm – 6:45pm

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 6:00pm.

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 Parish Office.



The Knights of Columbus are holding a recycling bottle drive to fund our church basement improvements. Please drop off your recyclables in clear plastic bags before each Sunday mass on mark bins **"K of C Bottle Drive"** at the church basement. Here are the list of recyclables that are **accepted** for the bottle drive:

- **Aluminum cans**
- **Plastic and Paper Drink containers**
- **Glass bottles**
- **Dairy and Non Dairy Milk Containers and Wine Bottles.**

Please LEAVE LABELS ON, RINSE RECYCLABLES and **do not include garbage** in the bags.



For more info please check out www.return-it.ca or scan the QR code. **Please keep them coming!**

THIS WEEK'S MASS INTENTIONS

16-Nov	Saturday	5:00 PM	✝	David Lee
17-Nov	Sunday	9:00 AM	INT	Our Lady of Lourdes Parishioners
17-Nov	Sunday	11:00 AM	INT	Katie & family
18-Nov	Monday	8:30 AM	✝	Esperanza Romo-Solis
19-Nov	Tuesday	8:30 AM	INT	Beatification of Mother Eugenia
20-Nov	Wednesday	8:30 AM	INT	John & Nette
21-Nov	Thursday	8:30 AM	✝	Vinzeni family
22-Nov	Friday	8:30 AM	✝	Luckhart family & friends
23-Nov	Saturday	8:30 AM	✝	Rosina Bertani

To book Mass Intentions please connect with the parish office to request an intention.

Ember of Hope: An Advent Retreat for the Divorced and Separated

Join us as we explore Christ's love during the season of Advent, the season of anticipation and hope. Adoration and the sacrament of Reconciliation will be available. **Saturday, December 14, 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** at the St. John Paul II Pastoral Centre in Vancouver. Learn more and **register by December 9** at beholdvancouver.org/events.

Date Night

Join us for our 6th annual Date Night. This is open to all married couples and is also a great opportunity for mentor and mentee couples to join us for a joy-filled dinner of celebration and encouragement. **Thursday, December 5, 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.** at St Clare of Assisi Parish in Coquitlam. Learn more and register at beholdvancouver.org/events.

Birthright Volunteers Needed

Would you like to help women in crisis pregnancy situations?

Birthright Vancouver is currently looking for volunteers who can commit three hours a week on a weekday morning or afternoon to this mission. Training provided.

Contact: 604-687-7223 or birthrightvancouver@gmail.com.

Pray for Holy Souls This November

The entire month of November is dedicated to praying for the dead and relieving the sufferings of the souls in purgatory. A short and effective prayer is Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE SICK

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

Dr. Erb, Kathleen Lauzon, Ralph Roberts, René & Gilberte Collette, the Quek Family, Father Lucien Larré and Teresita Cunningham.

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.

PARISH MINISTRIES

Alpha Anthony Marroquin & Alex Lim
Altar Servers Alex Lim
ACRSS Rep Irenaeus Lim
CWL Josephine (Dollie) Basa
Choir Roger De Villa & Agnes Wan
Couples for Christ Alejandro & Stella Delos Santos
K of C Anthony Marroquin
Lector Suzanne Tkach
Prayer Group Alex & Nancy Lim
PREP Marilyn Sarte
Project Advance Kathy Gorkoff & Francis Gutierrez
Sacristan Alex Lim
Ushers Robert Tang & Terry Charbonneau

Contact parish office for info.

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Please Remember Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Your Will. Thank you!