

Saint Anthony of Padua Parish Bulletin

SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

JUNE 24th, 2018

Do you know your RIM?

I once read about a kind of depression called “Sunday neurosis.” It’s when we’re completely busy during the week, and then, when we quiet down on Sunday, we feel this immense void within ourselves (Viktor Frankl, *Man’s Search for Meaning*). Have you ever felt this emptiness? It can happen also during Christmas time. We’re so busy shopping and seeing people, and, after the rush, we feel lonely.

The biggest sign of this emptiness is boredom. I remember during my teen years looking forward to playing my favourite video games, but when I was done, I felt depressed. I also see this typically in high-powered, successful adults, usually in their 40s and above: We work so hard to achieve what we want in life and, when we get what we want, we’re not satisfied; there’s got to be more.

The Holy Spirit is speaking through this emptiness! St. Augustine said: “You have made us for Yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in You.” God designed us to be perfectly happy. That’s why we buy more stuff, because we think that having more will give more happiness; that’s why we turn up the music louder, because it’ll be more beautiful. But, we’re really searching for God.

The First Reading tells us of the source of our meaning in life: The prophet Isaiah says, “The Lord called me before I was born, while I was in my mother’s womb he named me. He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me... And the Lord said to me, ‘You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified’” (Is 49:3). These words are applied to St. John the Baptist (whose birth we celebrate today), and they tell us about three things: Our relationship with God, our identity, and our mission.

1. Relationship: Isaiah says, “The Lord called me before I was born, while I was in my mother’s womb he named me.” The fundamental fact of our life is that we’re loved by God in a personal way. He’s not just an idea but a person who loves me in a particular way. The fact that we’re loved gives life and existence meaning.

2. Identity: If I have a relationship with God the Father, then who am I? A son or daughter of God. Isaiah says that we’re servants, not in the sense of slaves, but in the sense of Jesus, who’s a son and servant of the Father.

3. Mission flows from these two above. Our life isn’t meaningless! We have a mission to love like God. When Isaiah says, “He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me,” he’s saying that St. John’s mission was to speak God’s truth.

The way to remember this is RIM: Relationship, Identity, and Mission. When we have these three things in our life, we won’t feel that emptiness. [...]

Let’s apply RIM to the Church and our parish. What’s the mission of the Catholic Church? ... Isn’t that interesting? We don’t have a ready answer. What’s the mission of Apple? To make



Richard Wang: living out his RIM; shown here with his family on his son’s First Communion Day, 2018.

great computers. What’s the mission of the Canucks? To win the Stanley Cup. [...] But we don’t know the Church’s mission because we’ve forgotten our identity. That’s why most parishes are dying.

To know the Church’s mission, we have to start with her relationship, not to us and the world, but to Jesus—that’s her primary relationship. Her identity flows from this: She’s the bride of Christ. And her mission is to receive His love and pass it on to the world. Jesus specified this mission when He said, “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you” (Mt 28:19-20). What would happen to MacDonald’s if it forgot its mission, if its CEO said, “What do we sell here? How about vacuum cleaners?” It would die. Most parishes don’t know the mission, and so they don’t grow.

Pope Paul VI said in 1975: “Evangelizing is... the... vocation proper to the Church, her deepest identity. She exists in order to evangelize, that is to say... to preach and teach, to be the channel of the gift of grace, to reconcile sinners with God, and to perpetuate Christ’s sacrifice in the Mass.”

Here at the parish level, we phrase it more simply: We exist to make disciples for Christ and lead them to heaven. This is why we talk all the time about our relationship with Jesus and evangelization. Now I’d like to invite someone to speak about his growing relationship with God. He’s discovered his deepest identity, and I’m going to let him take part in the Church’s mission: He’s going to invite us to take one concrete step to live our RIM.

“For those that don’t know me, my name is Richard Wang and I’m here to tell you a short story about me and my faith journey.

...continued on inside page

Weekday Masses & Intentions

Day	Feast or Memorial	Missal Page	Intention
Monday, June 25	Ferial	998	Larry Lara
Tuesday, June 26	Ferial	1000	Sep & Dorothy Stout †
Wednesday, June 27	Ferial	1002	Ladislao Urrutia †
Thursday, June 28	St. Irenaeus	1004	Allen Lara
Friday, June 29	St. Peter & St. Paul Apostles	1567	Gaspare Leone †
Saturday, June 30	Ferial	1008	Juliet Saclayan

Pastor: Fr. Justin Huang

Blog thejustmeasure.ca
Office 8891 Montcalm Street
Vancouver BC V6P 4R4

Mailing Address: 1345 West 73rd Ave., Van., BC V6P 3E9

Tel 604.266.6131

Hours Tuesday—Friday
9:00 am—12:00 noon
1:00 pm—3:00 pm

In case of emergencies,
please call the office anytime.

Web: stanthonyvan.com

Email: office@stanthonysvancouver.org

Parish Registration

Our parish family warmly welcomes new parishioners. Please register at your earliest convenience by filling out a registration form located in the vestibule or by stopping by the parish office during office hours. If you are registered and moving, please advise the parish office.

Sunday Masses

Saturday 5:00 pm
Sunday 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 pm

Weekday Masses

Monday 8:15 am
Tuesday 7:30 pm
Wednesday-Friday 8:15 am
Saturday 9:00 am

Confession

Weekday 8:00 to 8:10 am *except Tuesday*
Saturday 9:45 am & 3:45 pm to 4:45 pm
1st Saturday each month 9:45 am to 1:00 pm;
1:30 pm to 4:30 pm;
7:00 pm to 9:45 pm

Eucharistic Adoration

(1365 West 73rd Avenue) Tuesday to Friday: 9:00 am to 10:00 pm in the chapel

First Friday of each month: 8:45 am to 10:00 am in the church followed by **Benediction**.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

Please call the parish office for more information on RCIA classes and other Sacraments.

St. Anthony of Padua School

Kindergarten to Grade 7

1370 West 73rd Avenue,
Vancouver, BC V6P 3E9

Principal: Darren Yanko

Telephone: 604.261.4043

Website: stanthonyofpaduaschool.ca

School Email: office@stanthonyofpaduaschool.ca

Prayers for the Sick At Holy Mass we remember the sick including: Nita Carvajal, Nung Chum, Isobel Clancy, Nick De Vos, Elaine dos Remedios, Teresa Gaio, Cecile Hernandez, Andrew Jablczynski, Yvonne Kharoubeh, Molly Loui-Ying, Huguette Piché, Barney Rousseau, Therese Rozario, Christina Sayo, Filomena Sison, Liliana Taylor, Fernando Tiago and Theresa Yoshioka.

Upcoming Homily themes:

July 14 & 15: *God's Vision for our Parish*

July 21 & 22: *When Things Don't Go as You Planned*

July 28 & 29: *Jesus Wants to Feed Us (The Mass, Part I)*

August 18 & 19: *Jesus is Contained in the Eucharist (The Mass, Part II)*

August 25 & 26: *The Transforming Power of the Eucharist (The Mass, Part III)*



I was never baptised but was a student at a Catholic school from Grade 4 to 12 and as a result, I thought I knew everything there was to know about “being Catholic”. “I know the Our Father by heart, I can recite the Apostles’ Creed” I used to say. I even got an ‘A’ in religion class!

Then I met a lovely young Catholic girl named Astrid. We got engaged, married and had three kids of our own. She wanted to raise them Catholic. I said “sure, I can help with that, after all, I’m an expert”. One by one the kids were baptised. One by one, they received the sacrament of reconciliation. One by one, they received their First Holy Communion.

The story diverges a bit here. A couple years ago, I was experiencing some personal and professional things in my life that I was having some difficulty coping with. My ever-loving wife suggested I pray. I’ve never really prayed in my life. I didn’t know how or what to do. But I tried it and it felt... awkward. So I tried it again, and again, and again and then something interesting happened. I felt some comfort come over me, I felt loved, I felt heard. And so I continued to travel down this new path, to learn, to understand, with an open heart and an open mind, what this all meant. This path led me to Faith Studies.

My kids attend St. Anthony of Padua School and I’ve been a parishioner here for 8 years. I joined my first Faith Studies session earlier this year. It has made such a difference in my faith journey. I was in a small group of 5 like-minded individuals, all with much more religious experience than I. There was no pressure put on us and sometimes we had different opinions on certain topics, but the lessons and the discussions were very insightful. It has broadened my mind, enlightened my views and confirmed my beliefs. I now recite the Apostles’ Creed and actually mean what I say.

Last Sunday during Father Justin’s homily, he asked “why do you want to be Catholic?” Coincidentally this past week during my Faith Studies session we discussed docility to the Holy Spirit. I truly believe I have been called by the Holy Spirit which is what has led me on this journey to find my faith. Jesus was outside my door which I am now opening to let him into my life. I understand this now through my discussions during Faith Studies.

I have enjoyed my experience so much that I haven’t stopped, I am just finishing up the second level of Faith Studies now and in two weeks time, I will start the third. I truly recommend it and I invite you all to sign up and try it. You will not be disappointed if you’re trying to rediscover your faith or even if Jesus is already in the centre of your life. .

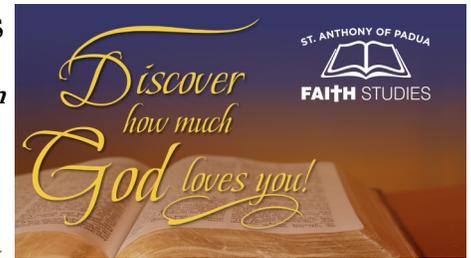
I’ll finish by telling the end of this chapter of my story. My youngest, my son Nolan, just received first Holy Communion a couple weeks ago. For me personally, it was a different feeling this time around than when my two daughters received theirs. I cannot express to you how much emotion I felt and how proud I was when he was filled with the Holy Spirit upon receiving the body of Christ for the first time. It is not something I would have understood fully if not for Faith Studies. Truly understanding the significance of Jesus saving us from our sins through his passion, death and resurrection, is a gift of salvation. The lessons have helped me better understand God’s love for me and for all of us, which in turn made me the proudest father when I got to witness it with Nolan.

Thank you for listening to my story. I hope to see you all in two weeks’ time at the next Faith Studies session.

- Excerpt from Fr. Justin’s homily, June 24, 2018
and from Richard Wang’s testimony

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FAITH STUDIES
start July 3!
Note: Registration
deadline is
Sunday, June 24.



The 12th round of Faith Studies will start up again, Tuesday nights from **July 3rd - August 7th**. All five levels of studies will be offered: **Discovery, Source, Growth, Obedience and Commission**. Anyone can join, as the studies are designed to meet you where you are in your faith. For more information, or to register, call Angel José at the Parish Office, 604.266.6131 ext. 204 or email: stanthonyaithstudies@gmail.com.

Works of Mercy Ministry: Food Drive for The Door is Open

Donations of the following food items are gratefully appreciated:

- canned tuna
- mayonnaise
- condensed tomato soup
- mushroom soup
- pasta sauce
- boxed cookies
- juices
- jam



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Our Works of Mercy volunteers will be collecting the above items this week, from June 24 to July 1. Please leave donated items in the boxes marked “Works of Mercy” at the back of the church. Thanks for your generosity!

A live-in weekend at Seminary of Christ the King in

Mission will take place July 6th to 8th. The weekend is for young men and boys who are interested in the priesthood or religious life. High school aged boys can pick-up an application from at the Welcome Booth or the Parish Office, or email frpeterosb@gmail.com. Young men in Grade 12 and those who have graduated high school are asked to contact the Rector, 604.826.8715 or rector.majors@yahoo.ca. For more information, please visit vocationsvancouver.ca/events/pray-and-play/ .



Registration for St. Anthony’s Parish Religious Education Program (PREP) will be on Tuesday, June 26th



at 6:00 pm in the church vestibule. Children attending public school should enroll in the program. Registration forms are available at the Welcome Booth or at the back of the church. N.B. Registrations received after June 30th will be subject to a surcharge of \$10.00.

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SERVING WITH FAITH AND JOY
 We would like to invite the ladies of the parish to become members of the CWL. Meetings are normally held the 1st Saturday of the month at 10:00A.M. For more information, please email Ai-Lin aleng@shaw.ca



Kids Soccer School: Mahingkeung
 Ages: 6 to 16, Co-ed, (conducted in English & Chinese), April 1 to Sept 30, **Sundays, 9:00 am - 10:30 am** at Prince of Wales Secondary, 2250 Eddington Drive, Van.
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