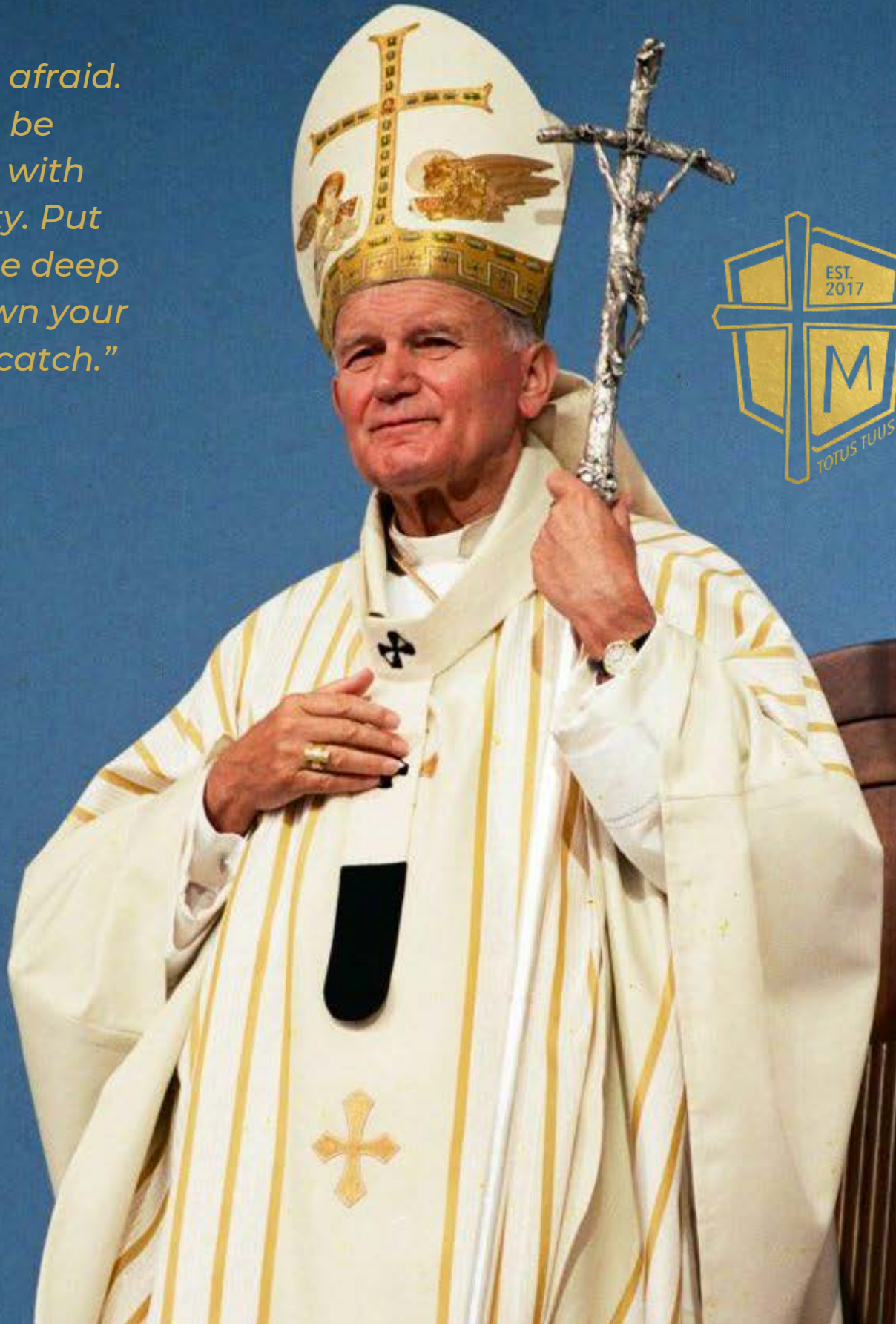


SAINT JOHN PAUL II FOUNDATION

SPRING 2025 EDITION

*"Do not be afraid.
Do not be
satisfied with
mediocrity. Put
out into the deep
and let down your
nets for a catch."*



WITH GRATITUDE FOR THE SAINT JOHN PAUL II ACADEMY

J. Michael Miller, CSB

Dear Friends,

Saint John Paul II Academy is a magnificent gift to Catholic education in the Archdiocese of Vancouver. It stands as a unique beacon that offers a distinct educational experience, firmly rooted in the beauty and truth Catholic faith, to the young men and women of our families. Parents can rest assured that the Academy's administrators, teachers, staff, and curriculum draw their inspiration and strength from the Master Teacher, Jesus Christ.

As a lay-led initiative but executed in full cooperation with the Archdiocese of Vancouver and the Catholic Independent Schools of the Vancouver Archdiocese (CISVA), the Academy was boldly conceived and carried forward with passion by its founders. They understand a core Catholic principle: the parents are the first educators of their children, not the government. The role as parents is not just acknowledged, but celebrated. I am extraordinarily grateful to have played a small part in this exciting endeavour.

The new and splendid school building will soon open its doors. It will be opening them first of all to Christ himself. He is the One who will welcome the community into an experience of education founded on His Gospel and His understanding of the dignity of the human person. The Academy is preparing our young people for a future of service in society and the Church. They are being formed in the truths of the Catholic faith. Above all, the Academy aims to develop in its students a personal relationship with Jesus Christ in the family of the Church for the service of their brothers and sisters.

My prayers are with all of you as you continue this exciting venture of ensuring independent Catholic secondary education in South Surrey. May the good Lord bless and guide your endeavours, bringing to fruition the good work you have begun. Let the prophetic words of Saint John Paul II, "Do not be afraid. Open wide the doors for Christ," continue to inspire and guide you for generations to come.

✙ J. Michael Miller, CSB
Archbishop Emeritus of Vancouver



A GRATEFUL FAREWELL TO ARCHBISHOP MICHAEL MILLER AND A WARM WELCOME TO ARCHBISHOP RICHARD SMITH

As the Archdiocese of Vancouver embarks on a new chapter, we take a moment to express our deep gratitude for the faithful leadership of Archbishop J. Michael Miller, CSB. His years of tireless dedication, pastoral care, and unwavering love for our Catholic community have left an indelible mark on our hearts and the future of our Archdiocese.

Thank You, Archbishop Miller. Archbishop Miller's legacy in Vancouver is both rich and inspiring. Appointed Archbishop in 2009 by Pope Benedict XVI, he brought to his ministry a strong academic background, profound theological insight, and a heart devoted to service. Prior to his time in Vancouver, he served as Secretary of the Congregation for Catholic Education in Rome and held positions as a professor and president at the University of St. Thomas in Houston. As a member of the Congregation of St. Basil (CSB), he is known for his commitment to education.

In Vancouver, his passion for Catholic education and courageous leadership have shaped countless lives. One of the most significant testaments to his vision is the founding of St. John Paul II Academy—the first new Catholic high school in the Archdiocese in over 30 years.

Without Archbishop Miller's steadfast belief in the necessity of Catholic secondary education in South Surrey, St. John Paul II Academy would not exist. From the outset, he supported the vision for this school with love, encouragement, and hands-on involvement.

He guided us with wisdom, uplifted us in prayer, and provided practical support when it mattered most. For that, we are eternally grateful.

Today, the school stands not only as a place of learning but also as a beacon of faith, community, and hope for future generations—thanks to His dedication. On behalf of all involved in the founding and flourishing of St. John Paul II Academy, I extend my heartfelt thank you to Archbishop Miller for his love, guidance, and support. He will always be a part of our school's foundation and story.

Beyond education, Archbishop Miller emphasized reconciliation with Indigenous communities, environmental stewardship inspired by "Laudato Si'", and a renewed focus on evangelization and synodality. Under his leadership, the Archdiocese pursued green initiatives, launched the Indigenous Reconciliation Fund, and recently signed a Sacred Covenant with the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc Nation—marking a profound commitment to truth, healing, and unity.

His pastoral letters have provided spiritual clarity and hope, particularly His recent letter on the Jubilee Year, which calls all of us to become "pilgrims of hope." His legacy is characterized by kindness, courage, and an unshakable trust in God's grace.

As He retires, we lift Him in prayer, asking God to bless him abundantly for all He has given—and continues to give—to the Church.



Welcome, Archbishop Smith

At the same time, we joyfully welcome Archbishop Richard Smith, who joins us from the Archdiocese of Edmonton, where he has served since 2007. Born in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Archbishop Smith was ordained in 1987 and later earned His Doctorate in Theology from the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. He is also the current president of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Known for his approachable and pastoral nature, Archbishop Smith has long been involved in national and international Church efforts, including the Synod on Synodality and recent pilgrimage initiatives toward reconciliation with Indigenous communities. His leadership is rooted in a desire for communion, mission, and listening to the people of God.

Many in our Catholic community are already familiar with Archbishop Smith from past encounters or collaborations, and we are thrilled to now call Him our Shepherd here in Vancouver. We welcome Him with open hearts and prayerful support, confident that the Holy Spirit has sent him to lead us with wisdom and love.

Heartfelt Blessings

As we express our gratitude to Archbishop Miller and extend a warm welcome to Archbishop Smith, we are reminded of the beautiful continuity of the Church, always led by God's Spirit. With hope, faith, and joy, we move forward—grateful for what has been and filled with promise for what is to come.

With heartfelt blessings,
Foundation Board



CELEBRATING THE SPIRIT OF GIVING AT SAINT JOHN PAUL II ACADEMY

As we approach the exciting opening of our new campus in September 2025, we are filled with gratitude for the incredible support we have received from our community. The journey to this moment has been marked by the generosity of individuals and families who have believed in our mission and invested in the future of our students. It is with great appreciation that we acknowledge these leaders whose contributions have made a significant impact on our school and its vision.

At Saint John Paul II Academy, we believe in the beauty of giving. Each donation, whether large or small, plays a vital role in shaping the educational experience we provide. Our new campus will not only enhance our facilities but also create an environment where students can thrive academically, spiritually, and socially. This transformation is a testament to the collective effort of our community, and we are deeply grateful for the commitment shown by our supporters.

As we prepare for the grand opening of our new campus, we want to take a moment to recognize those individuals and families who have given significantly to our capital campaign. Their generosity has allowed us to dream bigger and create a space that reflects our values and aspirations. We are proud to honor these leaders, whose contributions have helped lay the foundation for a brighter future for our students.

The new campus will feature state-of-the-art classrooms, innovative learning spaces, and facilities that promote collaboration and creativity. It will be a place where students can explore their passions, develop their talents, and grow in their faith.

This vision would not be possible without the unwavering support of our donors, who have stepped forward to invest in the next generation of leaders.

We invite you to join us in celebrating the spirit of giving that defines our community. As we recognize the individuals and families who have made significant contributions, we also encourage others to consider how they can support SJP2. Every gift, no matter the size, makes a difference and helps us continue to provide an exceptional education rooted in our Catholic values.

In the coming months, we will be sharing stories of our generous supporters in our magazine and newsletter. We hope to inspire others to join us in this important mission and to highlight the profound impact that giving can have on our school and its students. Together, we can create a legacy of generosity that will benefit generations to come.

As we look forward to the opening of our new campus, let us remember that the heart of Saint John Paul II Academy lies in the community that supports it. We are grateful for each and every one of you who has contributed to our mission, and we look forward to celebrating this new chapter together. Thank you for your continued support and for believing in the power of education and the importance of giving.

With heartfelt gratitude,
Troy Van Vliet



THE GRACE OF GOD ALONG OUR JOURNEY: REFLECTIONS FROM THE HEART OF OUR MISSION

In the spirit of deep gratitude and awe, I find myself reflecting on the incredible journey we have walked together as part of the St. John Paul II Foundation and Academy. At every step, the grace of God has guided our efforts, and the Holy Spirit has stirred hearts, opened doors, and called forth the gifts of so many faithful people. Ours is not just a story of vision and perseverance—it is a testimony to the gentle, powerful movement of God through His people.

From the earliest days of this mission, I have been privileged to work alongside exceptional individuals who have shaped and supported the Foundation's growth. I must acknowledge with heartfelt appreciation the Foundation Board: Troy Van Vliet, Dr. Joe King, Jeff Hector, Southridge founder, Dave Boulton, and historically, Ken Prout—whose legacy lives on—Dr. Paul Sahota and Mrs. Phung Pham. More recently, I have had the joy of collaborating with dedicated leaders like Andrew Garisto, Dr. Werner Spangehl, Brad Kielmann, and Pat Laroue. Each of these men and woman have brought unique gifts of wisdom, vision, and integrity to our work. Their presence reminds me daily that the Holy Spirit raises up stewards for His mission in every generation.

Our community has been profoundly blessed by the generosity and commitment of Troy and Lisa Van Vliet, Dr. Dave and Elizabeth Wilkie, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Van Vliet, Mrs. Willy Van Vliet, Dr. Joe and Holly King, whose dedication to Catholic education and to our mission has been unwavering.



Their hard work, quiet leadership, and profound generosity as donors have had a lasting impact on the Foundation and Academy. They are shining examples of faith expressed through action, and we are grateful beyond words for their continued support.

In our day-to-day journey, I continue to witness the grace of God in the vibrant and loving community that surrounds us. Julieanne Hein, Holly King, Michelle Ceniza, Ximena Jimenez, Jose Vargas, Maria King, Italia Prieto, Gabriella Nieto, Fern and Daniel Cole, Linda Prout, April Kennedy, Katrina Formosa, Lisa Van Vliet, Mr. Gordon and Linda Sanga, Tom Bryant, Ross Gulkison, and so many others live out a radiant faith that brings light and joy to our students, families, and colleagues. The amazing teachers and staff, with their steadfast dedication and joyful hearts, truly make our mission come alive. They don't simply educate—they form hearts and inspire souls. It is a blessing beyond words to walk this path with them.



This journey has also brought me into contact with remarkable individuals from across the broader Catholic and Christian world—each encounter an echo of God’s providence.

Interviewing and learning from people like Murray and Patricia Neilson, Dr. Tom Cooper with City in Focus, Dr. Gerry Turcotte and Dr. John Martens from Corpus Christi and St. Mark’s, and my dear mentor Angie Dee, has enriched my understanding of how faith is lived in diverse ways across our communities. Scott Roy with Catholic Pacific College, Bryana Russell with Sanctuary has been a true light.

Clay Llmoo, whose gifts in podcast editing and unwavering support have helped bring our conversations to life, has been a quiet but powerful force in our ministry. I have had the privilege of meeting Mr. Andy Szocs whose life mission is to bring people up. He is a mentor and inspiring leader.

We are also inspired by those who, with humility and purpose, have built lives of service for others—like Rick’s Heart Foundation, the work of John and Chawna Volken through the John Volken Academy, and the many initiatives that honor the dignity of retirement, recovery, and renewal.

Above all, I feel blessed to have encountered great educators, counselors, men and women of the cloth—each a living example of faith in action. Through their work, I see the hands and feet of Christ moving in our world today.

As we continue to build upon the legacy of St. John Paul II—who constantly reminded us, “Be not afraid”—I am filled with gratitude, not only for what we’ve accomplished but for who we’ve become together.

Thank you to every soul who has prayed, served, taught, supported, donated, and shared this vision with us. You are each part of a sacred story.

May God continue to bless you and your families, and may the Holy Spirit always guide the heart of our mission. Together, we go forward in faith, trusting always in the grace that sustains us. As my faith continues to grow “I am having the time of my life!”

God bless you all,

Silveria Roselli



GROWING THE NEXT GENERATION OF CATHOLIC WOMEN – WHO IS DOING IT?

We are witnessing a rediscovery of true womanhood emerging, where women are seeking happiness within their relationships, their families, and within themselves. Women are reaching out to new opportunities to grow their faith, whether it be online in group chats or in-person through small meetings or larger conventions. But we must also recognize women have struggled to find their footing in a changing secular society.

In 2023, Catholic author Carrie Gress wrote a book titled “The End of Women” (ISBN:978-1-68451-529-5). She shares the history and impact of feminism and how women are increasingly dissatisfied with their lives. Data shows 70% of all divorces are initiated by women. Suicide, depression, substance abuse, and other societal ills, have increased in the past 5 decades. For such negative trends, there is light in a complex ever changing world, especially for women of faith.

This begs the questions: Who can help grow the next generation of strong Catholic women in a post Christendom world? Where should Catholic women turn for guidance, relevant resources, leadership and a community of sisterhood? Let’s look at the options available in women ministries.

Women Ministries

Many ministry options are open to women and should be explored. However, one may find the current majority are online based with a narrow scope or focus, offer few in-

person community experiences, and lack the depth or consistency required to bolster and sustain a woman’s Catholic faith for a lifetime.

Also, many of the ministries available are headquartered in the USA and in Western Europe, where the cost to join is high (for Canadian women) due to fluctuating currency conversion rates and their events are typically located near their headquarters. In Canada, there is one which encompasses many of your expectations in one place: The Catholic Women’s League of Canada (CWL).

Do you really know CWL?

With a rich history of 100 + years of tradition and a voice for the marginalized through our resolution efforts in Ottawa, our value add proposition for members today is as strong as the women in the League.

Our focus is on 3 core purposes: Faith, Service, and Social Justice. Catholic women of all ages, show up for our purposes in different ways, backgrounds, and interests. Whether it is hosting a faith retreat or an online education webinar, or a social event like a Parish potluck or cleaning up a local beach, writing to our local MLA, we are present, eager to be involved and positively influencing our communities.

CWL value in a fractured western society

Recently, an article appeared in the New York Times (as part of a series, Believing) entitled “Believing and Belonging” by Lauren Jackson, May 4th, 2025. The author shared that religion offers people three B’s: Beliefs, behaviors, and Belonging (in a community or culture). Everyone wants to belong in rich, profound, and sustained ways she writes.



We often hear how people feel disconnected and alone in an increasingly “connected” virtual world and how they are now turning to faith based communities to support them

After the Pandemic, we have seen the societal impact of isolation and distancing ourselves from one another. Scripture tells us we are built for community – John 13: 34 and 35 “I give you a new commandment: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another. This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” There will always be a deep spiritual need for authentic human interaction.

Women find the true and genuine connection in the CWL. Our ladies support each other through heading to college, getting married, the birth of children and family life, and even when we lose our parents and our spouses. Mothers and daughters find shared faith, common ground and interests when participating in CWL. As you can see in action, CWL women are women supporting women throughout their lives.



Thinking about your future?

If you are a woman 16 years old and older, and you are not a CWL member, you owe it to yourself to check CWL out. If you are a mother with a teenage daughter, there are tons of benefits to having her involved in CWL – exposing her to Catholic women practicing their faith, access to bursaries, volunteering, networking, and growing a lifetime of beneficial skills.

Maybe next time you are in mass, ask the lady sitting next to you in the pew or at the social time after mass, if she is a member of CWL. You may be surprised to find you are surrounded by them. Or maybe the Holy Spirit is encouraging (or nudging you), it's time to grow and expand your faith journey with CWL.

Please visit our national website at www.cwl.ca OR any local Parish office for a membership form. 56 active Councils exist in the Arch Diocese of Vancouver and hundreds more across Canada. Join the CWL today.



CHARLOTTE MARY SEARS

Charlotte Mary Sears was born on October 19, 2011 in Lions Gate Hospital in North Vancouver to Ben and Camilla Sears.

At 3 days old she was diagnosed with profound hearing loss and was completely deaf.

We began work in audiology booths at BC Children's at 6 months old and she's been there for the last 13 years since.

At 3 years old, her mother Camilla was diagnosed with Breast Cancer and just over 2 years later she passed away after a single night in Marjorie Snowden Hospice in Kamloops BC.

I moved her back to south surrey and enrolled her at Star of the Sea Parish school for grades 1-7.

The IEP program there coordinated seamlessly with the Cochlear Implant and audiology department at BCCH and Charlotte was raised in a mainstream environment accessing sound through bilateral N8 cochlear implants. Her audio-verbal therapist Maureen Clarke was miraculously committed to Charlotte's progress and drove from North Vancouver to South Surrey to work with her at School.



Unfortunately, Charlotte herself was diagnosed with Acute lymphoblastic Leukemia barely a year after her own mother's death. Raised by a single father with the incredible support of her Parish School she endured over 2 years of intensive intrathecal chemotherapy. Her last year of treatment was the first year of the covid pandemic and much of 2020 was spent in the strange and difficult hospital environments that brought.



But in August of 2020 she received her last treatment and is looking forward to August of 2025 when she will no longer be under the care and treatment of the oncologists at BCCH and will be considered finally cancer free.

When the world opened up again in 2022 Charlotte joined Ocean Athletics Track and Field Club and found an early aptitude for the disciplines Discus and Hammer throw.

She worked one on one with her incredible coach David McDonald who helped her achieve a love of the sport and multiple personal bests throughout her Junior competitions. In her final year of elementary school she won Gold medal in discuss at the CISVA Track and Field meet and achieved a national top 10 ranking for her age.

She's in grade 8 now at her beloved high school which her family have supported since its inception. She loves playing volleyball, listening to K-pop, travelling (including her recent Make-a-wish trip to Orlando Florida).



BRINGING HOPE AND LIGHT: A CALL TO ACTION

FROM COLLEEN GIRVIN AT SJPII ACADEMY

As we navigate the challenges of life, it is essential to remember that resilience and determination can lead us to remarkable achievements. This sentiment is beautifully encapsulated in the words of Anthony Robles, a true champion who has faced adversity with unwavering strength.

“Although my competition days on the mat are over, I will continue to wrestle the opponent’s life brings my way, all the while believing that I am UNSTOPPABLE.”

On Friday, June 13, 2025, we have the unique opportunity to gather with political, religious, and community leaders for a morning of prayer and inspiration. This event promises to be a powerful reminder of the strength we can find in our faith and the support of our community. We will come together to pray for our Province and hear from Anthony Robles, the 2011 NCAA Wrestling Champion, whose story of triumph over adversity is sure to inspire us all.

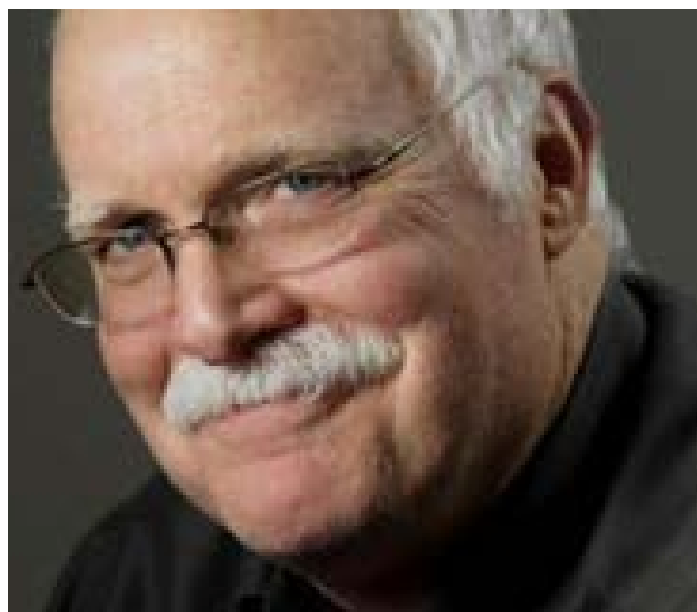
The event will begin at 7:00 AM, with doors opening to welcome attendees. At 7:15 AM, we will invite everyone to take their seats, and by 7:30 AM, a delicious breakfast will be served. The program will conclude at 9:00 AM, followed by a special Q & A session with Anthony Robles from 9:15 AM to 10:00 AM. This is a wonderful opportunity to engage with Anthony and gain insights from his incredible journey.

Anthony Robles was born with one leg, yet he has never allowed this challenge to define him. With the unwavering love and support of his devoted mother, Judy, and the encouragement of his coaches,

Anthony fought through adversity to earn a spot on the Arizona State Wrestling team. His ultimate quest culminated in becoming an NCAA Champion, a feat that many thought impossible.

Now, as a motivational speaker, author, coach, husband, and father, Anthony shares his passion for life and inspires others to overcome their challenges. His message resonates deeply, reminding us that we all have the power to rise above our circumstances and achieve greatness.

As we prepare for this inspiring event, I encourage everyone in our community to join us. Let us come together to celebrate resilience, faith, and the unbreakable spirit that resides within each of us. This gathering is not just about hearing a remarkable story; it is about fostering a sense of unity and hope in our Province.



Tom Cooper
City in Focus
Founder and President



I look forward to seeing you all there, ready to be inspired and uplifted by Anthony Robles and the incredible community we are a part of. Together, we can embrace the challenges life presents and emerge stronger, believing that we are indeed UNSTOPPABLE.

For more information and to reserve your spot, please contact [Your Contact Information].

Let us make this a morning to remember!

Tom Cooper
CEO, City in Focus

Join us **Friday, June 13, 2025** together with political, religious and community leaders to pray for the Province and hear an inspirational address by Anthony Robles, 2011 Winner of the NCAA

Championship.

7:00 Doors Open

7:15 Seating

7:30 Breakfast served

9:00 Program ends

9:15 to 10:00 Q & A with speaker Anthony Robles

58th Annual BC Leadership Prayer Breakfast (with Anthony Robles)



“God
made me
this way
for a
reason”

“Although my competition days on the mat are over, I will continue to wrestle the opponent’s life brings my way all the while believing that I am UNSTOPPABLE.”





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CATHOLIC EDUCATION MATTERS

With Troy Van Vliet

Welcome to "Catholic Education Matters," a podcast dedicated to exploring the vital role of Catholic education in shaping the minds and hearts of students. In each episode, we engage with educators, leaders, and thinkers who share insights on how Catholic education fosters academic excellence, spiritual growth, and a commitment to service.

Our discussions delve into the unique values and traditions that make Catholic education a transformative experience, preparing students to navigate the complexities of the modern world with faith and integrity. Join us as we uncover why Catholic education truly matters and how it continues to inspire and empower future generations.



On May 23, 2025

Equipping The Church To Support Mental Health And Wellbeing



On May 9, 2025

How Lives Are Being Transformed At Corpus Christi College And St. Mark's College



On April 25, 2025

Parent's Perspective: Finding Community At SJPII



On April 11, 2025

Enter To Learn. Leave To Serve: The Mission Behind The Motto With SJPII's Founding Principal...



On March 28, 2025

Faith, Generosity, And Community: A Conversation With Tom Cooper



On March 14, 2025

Beyond The Blueprint: The People And Process Behind Building St. John Paul II Academy



On February 28, 2025

Catholic Pacific College's Vision For Catholic Formation



On February 14, 2025

Catholic Values With MLA Brent Chapman



On February 7, 2025

From Baptisms To Bursaries: Revitalizing Catholic Education



Silveria Roselli
Creator and Producer



Clay Lmoo
Editor



On January 31, 2025

Why Catholic Education Matters: A Conversation With Archbishop Michael Miller



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear St. John Paul II Academy Community,
As we near the end of another school year, I write to you with deep gratitude for the blessing that has been bestowed upon our school community. This spring has been a time of reflection, celebration, and continued growth in faith, academics, and service.

Living Our Faith

At the heart of our mission is a deep commitment to Christ and His Church. During Lent, our students and staff entered fully into a season of prayer with weekly prayer services and stations of the cross. Whether through our Easter and Mother's Day Masses, our grade 8/9 retreat, Easter baskets for Ava Maria House, welcoming seminarians for an afternoon of basketball, or attending the March for Life in Victoria, our students and staff continue to embody the spirit of St. John Paul II, who urged us to be "the light of the world."

Academic Excellence

This spring, our students have demonstrated exceptional academic dedication. Our grade 11 class demonstrated their learning through creative expressions during our Gallery Walk. Our grade 12 students have received impressive university and college admissions offers. Our staff have been working toward a school wide rubric development to better guide our students in their learning and growth and further develop student reporting. Special thanks to our teachers, who continue to challenge and support students with excellence and care.

Arts, Athletics, and Student Life

We look forward to our Fine Arts night on June 2nd. Students in our band and drama classes will have an opportunity to display their talents and creativity for all to enjoy. In athletics, our Track and Field team showed excellence by having multiple relay teams advance to the South Fraser Championships.

Eleven of our athletes also advanced in individual events. Our Ultimate teams had a successful season and our varsity team has advanced to the Provincial championship after winning the South Fraser AA banner. Our student athletes have represented our school well and we give thanks to our staff who have coached and given their time to make all this possible. Beyond the field, our Student Council leaders have also done outstanding work in organizing the Mother's Day Tea and the Spring Formal dance. Our grade 10 students supported the CISVA elementary schools again this year as volunteers at the annual Knights of Columbus track meet.

Looking Ahead

We are now preparing for the Class of 2025's graduation, which will take place on June 20th at Star of the Sea Church. This is a cherished moment for our school community, and we look forward to celebrating with our students and their families for one last time in our temporary school building. June 25th is our final school bbq and report card distribution. A celebration of our school's past and future. Our summer is filled with the excitement of making the move to our new school building. We will welcome our new grade 8 students along with students in grades 9-12. Four new teachers; Mr. Marc Addison, Ms Shenette Salgadoe, Ms Dayle De Guzman and

Ms. Ester Todo will join our teaching team. With Mrs. Malette off on her maternity leave, we welcome Ms. Christine Ciresi to our learning resource team as an educational assistant.

With Gratitude

Thank you for your continued prayers and support of our school. It is a blessing to walk this journey with you. May the words of our patron, St. John Paul II, guide us in these final weeks: "Do not be afraid. Open wide the doors to Christ."

With every blessing,
Mrs. Andrea Prout-Bernett
Principal
St. John Paul II Academy



OUR FACULTY AND STAFF

COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE IN ALL AREAS



Andrea Bernett
Principal



Susan Kelly
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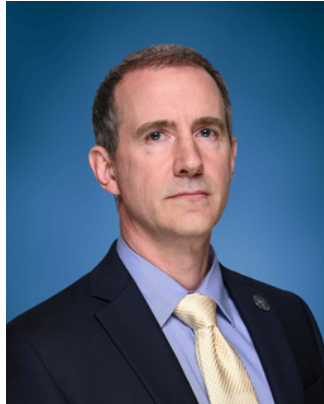
Anne Boyle
Modern Languages



Ellen McCadden
Education Assistant



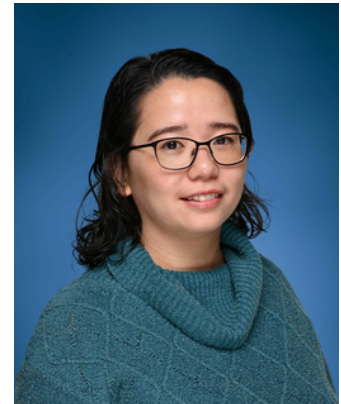
Mark Wilkie
Science



Dr. Vincent Tighe
Science/Math



Alfred Dela Cruz
Mathematics + Physical Education



Bernadette Yuson
Humanities



Colleen Girvin
Educational Assistant



Rita Hernandez
Educational Assistant



Morgan O'Flynn
Educational Assistant



Manuela Heleno
Educational Assistant



Jessica Kelly
*Humanities/Fine &
Performing Arts*



Cindy Akyuz
*Science, Math
Athletic Director*



Aleli Perez
*Learning Support
Services Coordinator*



Anthony Walters
*Humanities/Career
Education*



CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2025

Saint John Paul II Academy celebrates its third graduating class



Andrea Bennett
Principal



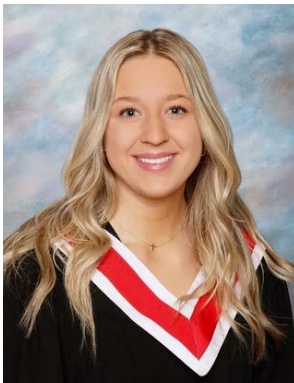
Matthias Dee



Colin Fung



Anna Gerard



Lucie King



Daniel Lushi



Alberto Prieto



Issa Roa-Cole



Mary Ruvalcaba



Oliver Watt

THE NIGHT OF THE EASTER VIGIL

“On the night of the Easter Vigil, 27 adults (and 1 baby) from our parish, along with untold numbers of men, women and children across the globe were baptized into Jesus’ death and rise to new life with Him. These adults (along with 8 others who were received into full communion with the Church through the Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation) have been preparing for many months were on that night transferred from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of God’s beloved Son (see Col 1:13)

This is no mere ceremony. Something really happens to a person when he gets baptized, because before the waters of the baptismal font is poured over them, they are asked a series of questions, to which they must answer in the affirmative out loud: “Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth? Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried, rose from the dead, ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty? Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting?”



Then, right after the baptismal celebrations at the Vigil (and on Easter Sunday for those who didn’t attend the Vigil), all those present are invited to renew their baptismal promises. The same questions are posed to them and they, too, are invited to respond “I do!” The key word there is “invited.” Only if they are willing should they say, “I do!” And only if they mean it.



This ceremony traces many of its origins back to the Roman Legion. A man became a Legionary in a formal ceremony. By means of this ceremony the man’s status changed; he was no longer a civilian but a member of the Legion. At the center of the ceremony was a solemn oath. The oath was one of fidelity – allegiance – unto death to the Emperor, and was sworn before the “standard” (or flag) of the Legion. It was renewed each year, usually on the occasion of the accession of the Emperor, that is, on the anniversary of his coming into power.



The ceremony was called a sacramentum. Sound familiar? When the early Church was looking for a word that best encapsulated what happened at baptism it drew on this ceremony of the Roman Legion. Because indeed, what happens in baptism is truly a change of identity – one that is far more than the transition from civilian to Legionary. What we started at the Easter Vigil night, we continue to celebrate every Sunday of the year—that is, Resurrection Day—the day that changed everything for all mankind: the coming into power of the true Emperor, the true King and only Lord of heaven and earth, the Conqueror of Sin, Death and Satan: Jesus



This is why at Easter, just as in the days of old in the Roman Empire, we are invited to renew our pledge of allegiance to Him before the “standard” of the cross. But only if we want to. It cannot be forced. No one can become Christian by birth. Nor can we become Christian because our parents were. Nor can we become Christian by baptism alone, without a declaration of faith.



Each of us can only become Christian by a free choice—a personal decision that nobody else can make for us. Part and parcel of this choice is the acknowledgement that all we profess in the Creed at every Mass is true. Involved also in this decision is a promise of loyalty to the King—a public profession of Jesus as Lord, which means if He is Lord, no one else is.



Finally, it is a commitment to cooperate with the grace of the Holy Spirit in our bodies to live faithfully to all that Jesus has commanded. Does that mean we won't struggle and fall from time to time? Of course we will!



JANICE HAMANISHI

But there's a big difference between struggling and remaining defiantly opposed to how the Lord calls us to live. And as Monsignor Shea from the University of Mary is fond of saying: so long as we never give up, so long as we never quit, so long as we always keep trying and ask the Lord's forgiveness, we always win! Because we know the end of the story already.

As we enter in this Eastertide (50 days starting on Easter Sunday and ending on Pentecost Sunday), let us do so fully aware of what we're celebrating: Jesus has triumphed over Death, Sin and Satan. And let us take seriously the questions we were asked at Easter, and the pledge of allegiance we made to Jesus, our Lord."



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Saint John Paul II Academy Foundation

CELEBRATING SUCCESS: A HEARTFELT THANK YOU FROM THE SAINT JOHN PAUL II FOUNDATION

Dear Sponsors, Donors, and Participants,

I hope this message finds you well. On behalf of the Saint John Paul Alumni Golf Tournament organizing committee, I want to extend our heartfelt gratitude for your generous support and participation in this year's event.

Thanks to your unwavering support, dedication, and contributions, we are thrilled to announce that we have raised over \$160,000 towards our Bursary Program and Capital Campaign. This incredible achievement would not have been possible without each and every one of you who played a part in making this event a success.

Your generosity and commitment to our cause are truly commendable, and we are deeply grateful for your continued support. The impact of your contributions will be felt by those who benefit from our Bursary Program and the ongoing success of our Capital Campaign.

Once again, thank you to all our sponsors, donors, and participants for your invaluable support. Your involvement has made a significant difference, and we are truly appreciative of your dedication to our mission.

We look forward to your continued support in the future and to the opportunity to work together towards our shared goals. Together, we can make a lasting impact and create positive change in our community.

Thank you all for your generosity and commitment. Your support means the world to us.

With gratitude,
Silveria Roselli



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Chair of the Golf Committee



Mr. Troy Van Vliet
Chair Foundation Board SJPII



Ms. Silveria Roselli
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Ms. Holly King
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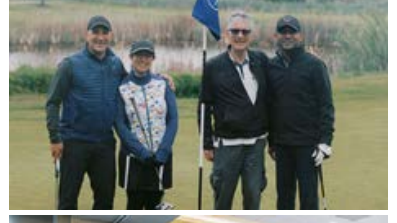
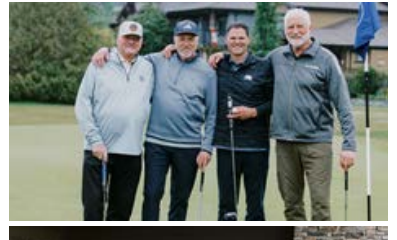


Oliver Watt
Golf Committee Member



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS!





A HEARTFELT THANK YOU TO BILL DEBIUK, OUR VOLUNTEERS, AND SPONSORS FOR A FANTASTIC PUTTING CONTEST

We extend our sincere gratitude to Bill Debiuk for his exceptional leadership in organizing this year's Putting Contest at the Charity Golf Tournament. With creativity, precision, and a touch of challenge, Bill transformed the putting green into a highlight of the day. His thoughtful design—including the placement of the iconic “Mouse Hole” target and strategic positioning of the downhill hole—created a memorable experience that tested skill and brought joy to everyone who participated.

Thanks to Bill's early morning setup, detailed signage, and steady coordination, the contest ran smoothly from 11 AM to 4 PM—weather and spirits holding up beautifully. His dedication, organization, and presence on the green helped make the event a truly special part of the tournament.

We also offer our heartfelt thanks to the students and volunteers from St. John Paul II Academy, who showed up with enthusiasm, hospitality, and hard work throughout the day. From setup to scorekeeping, welcoming guests, and keeping the contest running smoothly, your presence was felt and deeply appreciated. You truly embodied the spirit of service and helped make the event a success in every way.

Finally, a special thank you goes out to all of our sponsors. Your generosity and continued support not only made this contest possible, but played a vital role in the success of the entire tournament. We are deeply grateful for your partnership in helping us build community and raise funds for a worthy cause.

Together—with Bill's leadership, the tireless help of our students and volunteers, and the backing of our incredible sponsors—we created a day to remember. Thank you all!



SJP2 ATHLETICS

We have 2 Ultimate teams this year! Our JR team of students from Grade 9-10 is coached by Mr Vincent Tighe, and our SR Team of Grades 11-12 is coached by Mrs Mallette. We wish them all the best of luck when our SR Team competes at BC Catholics on May 12 at Swanguard Stadium!

The Track and Field team is committed this year to overall excellence. We have students in all grades completing in various events including distance, hurdle, sprinters, and throwing (think discus, shot put, javelin)! We are very excited for the upcoming Surrey Secondary Track Championships on April 29, 30 and May 2. The South Fraser Track Championships are happening on May 20-21 at the South Surrey Track. We would love to have everyone come out and cheer us on!

UBC Physics Olympics

Every year, teams from high schools across British Columbia compete in six physics events at UBC. This year there were a record breaking 81 schools participating including our team of students from SJP2!

The day started out AMAZING as we finished first in our pool, while testing the lightbox pre-build. When the final results were posted, we placed 7th overall in the Solar Powered Boat (shout out to Ava Watt and Logan McCadden!) and 14th overall in the Lightbox (shout out to Gareth Kwan and Oliver Watt). Mr Walters and Mrs Akyuz are incredibly proud of our students as we placed higher than almost all other South Surrey schools! We can't wait for next year!

University of Waterloo Math Competition

In a couple weeks, we will have several Gr 8 students complete in our final University of Waterloo Math Competition, called Gauss. Good luck to all participants!



BRINGING HOPE AND LIGHT: A CALL TO ACTION FROM COLLEEN GIRVIN AT SJPII ACADEMY

In the spirit of compassion and service, the advocacy and outreach team at Saint John Paul II Academy has been hard at work over the past few weeks, creating heartfelt cards for our street ministry. These cards, filled with inspiring words of love and hope, will be mailed to our coordinator on April 30th. They are intended for individuals who are experiencing challenging times in their lives, reminding them that they are not alone and that we are thinking of them and praying for them. As Jesus said in Matthew 25:40, "Just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." This powerful message drives our mission to reach out to those in need, offering them comfort and support.

Our outreach efforts extend beyond the street ministry. We are also preparing special Easter cards and baskets for mothers and their children who are staying at Eva House, a safe haven for families who have experienced domestic violence. At Our Lady of Good Counsel, Eva House provides a nurturing environment where these mothers and children can find refuge and healing. As we approach the Easter season, we are reminded of the hope and renewal that this time represents. Our goal is to bring the light and joy of Christ into the lives of these families, helping them to feel loved and valued during a time that can be particularly difficult.

The act of creating these cards and baskets is not just about the physical items we are making; it is about the love and intention behind them.



Each card is a reminder that someone cares, that they are being thought of, and that they are included in our prayers. In a world that can often feel isolating and overwhelming, these small gestures can have a profound impact. They serve as a beacon of hope, showing that even in the darkest times, there is light and love to be found.

As we engage in these outreach activities, we invite our community to join us in this mission. Whether through prayer, volunteering, or simply spreading the word about our efforts, every contribution makes a difference. Together, we can create a ripple effect of kindness and compassion that reaches far beyond our immediate community.



At Saint John Paul II Academy, we believe in the importance of nurturing not only the minds of our students but also their hearts. By participating in outreach initiatives, we are instilling values of empathy, service, and love in our young people. We are teaching them that they have the power to make a difference in the lives of others, and that their actions, no matter how small, can bring about meaningful change.

As we move forward with our plans for the street ministry and the Easter outreach at Eva House, let us remember the words of Saint Teresa of Calcutta: "Not all of us can do great things.

But we can do small things with great love." It is through these small acts of kindness that we can truly embody the spirit of Christ and make a lasting impact in the lives of those around us.

Saint John Paul II Academy

Thank you for your continued support and for being a part of this important work. Together, let us bring hope and light to those who need it most.

In Christ's love,
Colleen Girvin





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YOUR CATHOLIC COLLEGES AT UBC

Teacher, I will follow wherever you go.

Matthew: 8: 19

A Legacy of Purpose, A Future of Possibility

Corpus Christi College and St. Mark's College are the two Catholic colleges affiliated with the University of British Columbia (UBC). These two colleges—distinct yet deeply connected—offer a transformative academic and spiritual experience rooted in the Catholic intellectual tradition—an experience that empowers students to lead lives of purpose and build a better future.

Our Story

Founded in 1956 by the Basilian Fathers, St. Mark's College is our Graduate School of Theology and was established to offer theological education through an affiliation agreement with the University of British Columbia. That same year, the B.C. Legislature passed An Act Respecting St. Mark's College, authorizing the College to confer its theological degrees (B.A., M.A., Ph.D.).

In 1999, inspired by the Archdiocese of Vancouver's Synod Let Us Act (1998–2006), Corpus Christi College was established by lay leaders to bring the richness of the Catholic intellectual and liberal arts traditions into undergraduate education.

With the departure of the Basilians in 2005, both colleges came under the direct ecclesiastical sponsorship of the



Archdiocese of Vancouver and under the auspices of the Jesuits of Canada. Today, a shared Board of Directors governs both institutions, with the Archbishop of Vancouver serving as Chancellor and guarantor of their Catholic mission and identity.



Gerry Turcotte

Why Students Choose Us

Corpus Christi College offers the first two years of university through its Associate of Arts degree, with more than 100 fully transferable courses in Arts, Sciences, and Business. Students transition seamlessly to UBC, SFU, and other leading institutions in Canada and beyond. Whether pursuing a pathway to the UBC's Sauder School of Business, a career in Nursing, Healthcare, Science, Psychology, the Creative Arts or a future in Education, students receive the foundation and mentorship they need to succeed. We don't just prepare students academically—we help them grow as leaders, thinkers, and people of purpose. Others pursue our Bachelor of Arts in Theology and Culture—a program co-offered with St. Mark's—before transitioning to UBC's Bachelor of Education and becoming teachers in both public and Catholic schools.

St. Mark's College, our graduate school of theology, offers dynamic, largely online programs in Theological Studies, Pastoral Studies, Religious Education, and Catholic Educational Leadership.

These programs serve teachers, lay ministers, deacon candidates, and parish volunteers across British Columbia. With the support of scholarships—many funded by the Archdiocese—students deepen their understanding of the faith and apply it to their lives, professions, and ministries.



In a recent interview on the podcast Catholic Education Matters, Archbishop Miller noted that more needed to be done to help in the formation of teachers in the Catholic school system, and St. Mark's provides that support and formation.

An Experience Like No Other

When we say our students get “the best of both worlds,” we mean it. At Corpus Christi, our small class sizes foster personal relationships between faculty and students. Our 400 students benefit from a close-knit, values-driven community, enriched by daily Mass, Campus Ministry, and a strong culture of mentorship, volunteering, and service.

At the same time, thanks to our formal affiliation with UBC, our students enjoy full access to the resources of one of Canada's top research universities—from world-class libraries and lecture series to athletics, student clubs, and more. This dual experience is rare—and powerful.

Our students excel far beyond the classroom. Locally, our students volunteer weekly in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, support the unhoused, serve in parishes, and lead city-wide initiatives. From charitable startups to artistic contributions at Bard on the Beach and athletic events like UBC's Storm the Wall, or participating in the UBC football team, our students graduate with not just knowledge—but also compassion, courage, and character.

In the prestigious Map the System competition led by Oxford University, a team of our first- and second-year students won the Canadian national final, took home the Audience Choice award at the global finals, and were named the top undergraduate team out of 1,700 global entries including teams from McGill, Queen's, Harvard and UBC!



Supporting Accessibility

Unlike public institutions, our colleges do not receive direct government funding. Yet we remain deeply committed to affordability, accessibility, and academic excellence.

Thanks to generous donors, we award up to \$250,000 in scholarships each year, recognizing academic merit and supporting students in financial need. These funds change lives—ensuring that no student is turned away from a faith-filled, future-focused education because of financial barriers.

If you are a prospective student seeking a meaningful academic path grounded in faith and service—your university journey with us begins with us now.

Celebrating Milestones, Building the Future

As Corpus Christi College celebrates 25 years and St. Mark's College marks 70, we reflect on a shared legacy of academic distinction, spiritual formation, and community leadership. Together, we've educated generations of students who have gone on to lead with integrity in schools, parishes, businesses, and beyond.

We may still be one of Vancouver's best-kept secrets—but as you know, the best secrets are meant to be shared.

Join us—whether in the classroom or through our community events and activities. Let's build the future together.

Gerry Turcotte,
President, Corpus Christi College &
Principal, St. Mark's College





CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE
ST. MARK'S COLLEGE
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

ISABELLA

Corpus Christi College
Professor Georges Abi-Rached Scholarship

St. John Paul II Academy
Class of 2024

**YOUR UNIVERSITY
CAREER BEGINS HERE**

**WHAT ARE YOU
WAITING FOR?**



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NOW**



WHERE WOULD YOU BE IF YOU ALWAYS SUCCEEDED?

I for one would be a moral disaster: arrogant, ungrateful, unyielding. And very far from God.

When I was young, as an example, I was fascinated with money and the acquisition of wealth, assuming that it would make me very happy. Money was my god. And if I hadn't been knocked off course by the mercy of God, I'd be in a world of hurt. "What does it profit a man to gain the whole world, and forfeit his soul?"

In life and in work it's tempting to begrudge failures and unmet hopes. These experiences can be painful, to be sure. But I've noticed that they can also be deeply fruitful, even essential. Here are some of the positive results I've experienced:

Humility

Humility can be defined as living in the truth about yourself—not more nor less. Failure can remind us of our "creatureliness", that we aren't perfect, that we have needs, that we must depend on God and others. And that God and others can be depended upon! This is really good for us. Humble people are happy people.

Appreciation

For what you have that you took for granted when all was going well. Challenges invite us to recognize past successes. For example, perhaps revenue is down. Was it up before, and do you have savings from it? Be grateful for that.

Also be grateful for the people in your life willing to help you. I'm always amazed by this. People like to help!

Learning

1. What you can do differently or better
 2. How you can be better
- Good stuff!

Resilience

Discomfort amidst challenges isn't the worst thing. And getting more familiar with it, and not being crushed by it, builds strength of character. The process isn't fun, but the outcome is very useful

Hope

"In all things God works for the good of those who love Him," including business challenges and failures. Seeing that work itself in time strengthens one's confidence in God. Things could be worse!

So my invitation: welcome challenges and failures. They may be the best thing to happen to you.

Reprinted with permission from Kyle Neilson's Substack publication. Kyle is principal and founder of Teem Work Consulting, a firm dedicated to "making good work great and great work known." Specialists in mission-driven organizations, Kyle and his team equip leaders to overcome common team dysfunctions such as silos, politics, confusion, and ineffective meetings; and effectively communicate with their target market in digital spaces. You can learn more at www.teemwork.ca.



Kyle Neilson



THE CCE OVERVIEW

The Centre for Christian Engagement is grounded in a basic principle of our Catholic faith: that every person is a beloved creation of God. We also share the belief of St. Augustine that “you have formed us for yourself, and our hearts are restless till they find rest in you” (St. Augustine of Hippo, Confessions, 1,1.5). The Centre was created in order to express God’s love for each person and to explore why people were often dis-engaging from the Church and the joy of the Gospel when we believe that the answers they are seeking can be found within the Church. It was founded in order to listen to people’s needs and desires and hear their most profound questions.

More than fifty years after the close of the Second Vatican Council, Pope Francis led a renewal of the Church that was deeply embedded within the Catholic intellectual tradition, which emphasizes that learning means discovering and growing in the truth. It builds on his formation in the Argentinian “Theology of the People”, which understands “the honest and sincere love of God practiced by people at the local level might inform the theological understanding and religious behaviour of the global church.” Francis’ first Apostolic Exhortation, *Evangelii Gaudium* (2013), represented his blueprint for this renewal. It calls for the creation of a “culture of encounter”, and for the Church to become “a place of mercy freely given, where everyone can feel welcome, loved, forgiven and encouraged to live the good life of the Gospel.”

Established with founding donations from the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Vancouver, Peter Bull, Angus Reid, and Andy Szocs in 2019, St. Mark’s College at UBC launched the Centre for Christian Engagement to

- Build a culture of encounter and dialogue for Christians and the Catholic Church locally and globally;
- Bridge and create engagement between the Academy with the wider society and those interested in faith;
- Create relevant resources to encourage faith journeys;
- Provide forums via public lectures, retreats, panel discussions, podcasts, debates, conferences, and online material to address the issues and challenges that have led to disengagement and to build and encourage Christian engagement in culture;
- Encourage “prophetic voices of the age” to bring the message of Jesus to the Church and the world;
- Highlight the unique and important experiences, voices, and narratives of those who have been marginalized in the Church or the world which includes women, those who are disabled, First Nations/Indigenous peoples, migrants, refugees, and those living in poverty;
- Speak to the degradation of the environmental and spiritual environment to which Pope Francis spoke in his 2015 encyclical *Laudato Si’*;
- Provide safe learning spaces for ecumenical and interfaith dialogue.



John W. Martens



I began as the inaugural Director of the Centre for Christian Engagement in September 2021. Since I began directing the Centre in 2021, our work has brought Pope Francis's vision of building a culture of encounter and dialogue for Christians and the Catholic Church locally and globally to life. The Centre has represented Canada at CELAM in Bogota, Columbia to discuss theology on the peripheries with Latin American theologians, and I just returned from Rio de Janeiro and the Vatican sponsored conference on Laudato Si' called "10 years of Laudato Si': Ecological Debt and Public Hope." At this conference representatives of over 200 universities gathered in Rio de Janeiro at PUC (Pontifical Catholic University) to discuss climate change and the 10th anniversary of Laudato Si'. Organized by Emilce Cuda of the Pontifical Commission on Latin America, this meeting had the blessing of the late Pope Francis and our new Pope Leo XIV. Pope Leo sent his first ever video greeting to the conference attendees.

The Centre for Christian Engagement at St. Mark's College at UBC was the only Canadian representative at this important meeting. Attendees all gave various short talks throughout the conference representing their region of the world and the concerns of their own country. These were not lectures but talks designed to create discussion. These synodal discussions took place in small working groups over four days where attendees produced ideas and suggestions for action. I spoke on the need to learn from indigenous people on the care for creation in Canada.

The conference created not just plans for action by various Catholic and public universities throughout the Americas, Portugal, and Spain, but numerous international connections that will allow the work of Laudato Si' to move forward. The CCE looks forward to working with

many new international partners on bringing the hope of Laudato Si' to the world and we have already connected with partners in Brazil, Portugal, and Spain.

We have also hosted amazing scholars such as Cathy Clifford, Massimo Faggioli, and Sr. Damien Marie Savino and brought in First Nations speakers such as Nigiian Sinclair and Ray Aldred to speak about the work of reconciliation and indigenous care for creation here at home. Due to the generosity of donors, we established a *Laudato Si'* endowment to explore the spiritual and environmental concerns of Pope Francis outlined in his 2015 encyclical. Our goal is bridge and create engagement between the Academy with the wider society and those interested in faith, including ecumenical and interfaith partners in dialogue and events. All of our lectures are available free to the public and they stream on the St. Mark's College You Tube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/@st.markscollegeatubc9587/videos>).

The Centre for Christian Engagement has also hosted two major international conferences. The first, from May 4-6, 2023, was focused on Pope Francis and the second, just completed May 1-3, 2025, was on the Promise of Christian Education. These conferences attracted over 40 presenters from around the world and locally. We had presenters from Africa, Asia, Europe, and all throughout North America discuss the most significant Catholic topics of the day. These conferences have brought us not just international attention, but allowed our faculty and students to connect with scholars all over the world. In addition, at our most recent conference on education, four of our St. Mark's theology graduate students, all teachers in local Catholic school systems, presented original research on what it means to be Catholic educators today.



Through public lectures, retreats, panel discussions, podcasts, conferences, and webinars we address the issues and challenges that have led to disengagement and to build and encourage Christian engagement in culture. We have done this on a bi-weekly basis through our podcast What Matters Most in which expert guests from Vancouver, Canada, and throughout the world explore Catholic, Christian, and interfaith spirituality. What Matters Most is focused on listening to people and what is on their minds, particularly dealing with the big questions of religion and spirituality. Our programming is intended for all interested parties, Catholic or not. In the What Matters Most podcast, we talk to people, some well-known, some not so well-known, some Catholic, some Christian, some not affiliated with any religion, some affiliated with other faiths (Muslims, Sikhs) to find out what matters to them. It is a podcast focused on spirituality and faith, but truly focused on listening to others, to learning from those connected to the Church and to those who are not.

It is grounded in personal conversations that ask guests to talk about what has motivated their vocations or their work and what gives their lives meaning and purpose. The format can best be described as a conversation that allows us to get to know our guests.

We want to engage with people on questions of meaning, purpose, and hope. We want to bring Catholic intellectual tradition to bear on the most important questions and challenges of our age. Please keep in touch with us because we want to hear from you and let your voice be heard. What would you like the Centre for Christian Engagement do next? Come to our website and drop us a note or just look around: <https://engagement.stmarkscollege.ca/>. You can find everything you need there!

Peace,

Dr. John W. Martens

By the Numbers: May 2023-May 2025

18 Public Events, including two major international conferences

2,000 + Event attendees

36 Podcast Episodes

4,000 + views of Event Recordings

7,000+ Podcast Downloads





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GOLF TOURNAMENT

SURREY GOLF CLUB

FRIDAY, JUNE 6TH

SHAPE OF THE DAY

9:00 AM	JUNIOR REGISTRATION
12:00 PM	JUNIOR LUNCH
12:06 PM	ADULT TEE TIMES BEGIN
1:00 PM	JUNIORS PICKED UP
1:52 PM	LAST ADULTS TEE OFF
5:30 PM	LIVE MUSIC & HAPPY HOUR
7:00 PM	BUFFET DINNER
8:00 PM	PRIZES AWARDED



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ABOUT DARRELL HALL

Darrell Hall is the former Principal of St. Thomas More Collegiate School in Burnaby, British Columbia. Backed by years of research on atheist, agnostic, deistic, and theistic scholars, he has taught Christian Education classes for over four decades. Mr. Hall is also an outstanding public speaker who has engaged audiences at conferences, in parishes, and in schools on various topics of Christian Apologetics.

Darrell Hall is a passionate communicator and educator specializing in Christian Apologetics. With a unique blend of engaging storytelling, profound insights, and a deep commitment to truth, Darrell captivates audiences as he explores complex topics related to faith, reason, and the Christian worldview.

Drawing from years of study, reflection, and personal experience, Darrell has honed his ability to tackle challenging subjects with clarity and compassion. His expertise spans a wide range of topics, including the thorny issues of suffering and evil, the divinity of Jesus Christ, and the historical evidence for his resurrection. Through thoughtfully crafted arguments, Darrell sheds light on these profound theological questions.

One of Darrell's key strengths lies in his adeptness at bridging the gap between science and faith. Central to Darrell's message is the idea that faith and reason are not mutually exclusive, but rather complementary aspects of a holistic worldview, demonstrating how scientific discoveries can actually strengthen and affirm the Christian understanding of the universe.

He explores how scientific discoveries in cosmology, biology and physics not only affirm the existence of a creator God, but also demonstrate the beauty and intricacy of the divine design.

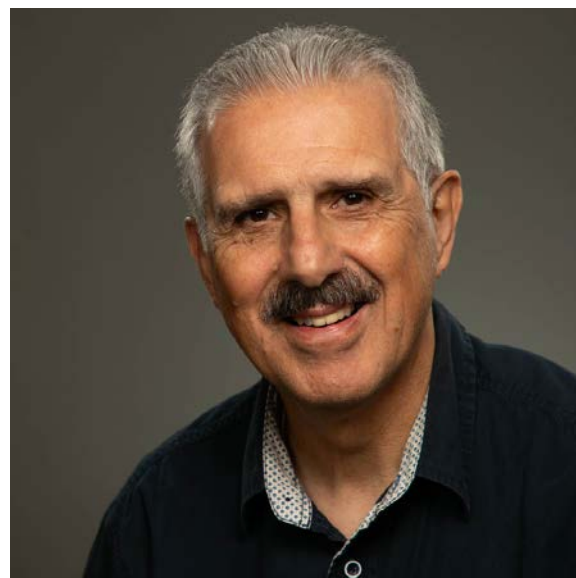
Three of His Signature Talks Are:

- **"How Science Has Discovered God"**, an exploration of the intersection between science and faith, demonstrating how modern scientific discoveries point toward the existence of a divine creator.
- **"Risen Savior: Investigating the Historical Evidence for Jesus' Divine Claims and His Resurrection"**, an examination of the historical and evidential basis for the resurrection of Jesus and His claims of divinity.
- **"Divine Dilemma: The Challenge of Suffering and Evil in a World Created by God"**, exploring the question of why a good and loving God would allow for suffering and evil.

About His Book

His most recent book, "How Science has Discovered God: Physics, Metaphysics and Beyond" is a must read for practical strategies and arguments to defend the Christian faith. Through meticulous research and analysis, Darrell skillfully conveys scientific concepts and theories—from the origins of the universe to the origins of life—all the while displaying the fingerprints of an intelligent Creator.

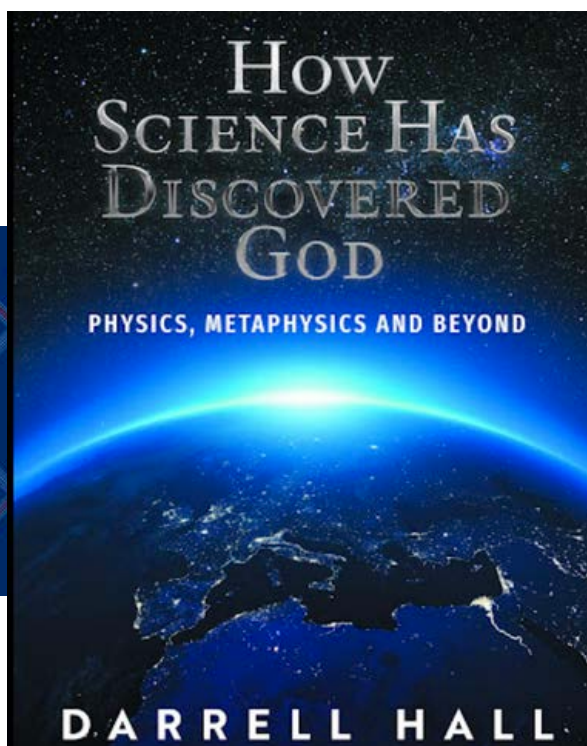
Hall bridges the perceived gap between reason and belief, offering compelling scientific, philosophical, historical, and theological arguments for the existence of God.



How Science Has Discovered God is not just another book on the relationship between science and religion. It is a quest for the truth about reality and the meaning and purpose of life. It engages the reader in a thought-provoking exploration of Christian.

Apologetics, revealing the existence of a loving and purposeful Creator. Explore with the author: why God is the best explanation for the big bang, the fine-tuning of the universe, the mathematical intelligibility of the universe, the existence of mind, consciousness, and free will, and much more. Unearth the evidence for the claims of Jesus and his resurrection, and see how suffering and evil are best explained through a loving God. This authoritative and comprehensive study is sure to provide material for thought and inspiration.

Darrell's expertise in Christian apologetics stems from years of dedicated study and engagement with both believers and skeptics alike. Drawing from his extensive research and personal experiences, Darrell brings a unique perspective to these challenging subjects, seamlessly weaving together profound insights with relatable anecdotes.



Through his thought-provoking presentations, he seeks to equip individuals with the knowledge and confidence to navigate the complexities of their faith in today's world. Over two thousand years ago, Jesus assured us that God is real, that God does care, and that everything we do does matter. With a willingness to follow where the evidence leads, join Darrell in a search for truth. Open your mind and heart, and listen to the voice of God, as He speaks through His Creation, and His Son, Jesus Christ.

Links to His Book, Website, Podcast and TEDx Talk

(1)How Science Has Discovered God: Physics, Metaphysics and Beyond - Available on Amazon.

Friesen Book link.

<https://books.friesenpress.com/store/title/119734000392149918>

(2)Website: www.darrellhall.ca includes video reels, testimonials, his signature talks and blog articles.

(3)Podcast link: <https://youtu.be/zyrkJvVX3n8>
Hosted by Sharad Khare on Human Biography. Sharad interviewed Darrell about his book.

Darrell's TEDx Talk

What if overcoming life's toughest moments was just one question away?

In my recent TEDx talk, Transforming Pain Into Purpose: The What Now Approach, I explore a powerful shift in perspective—moving from “Why me?” to “What now?” This simple yet profound question has the power to transform pain into purpose, struggles into strength, and setbacks into stepping stones.

I'd love for you to watch, reflect, and, if it resonates with you, share it with others. And if you find it valuable, please like and comment, your support helps it reach more people who need this message.

Watch here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EL9VOJwX_sU

The world—and your life—are waiting for your “What now?”

With gratitude,
Darrell Hall



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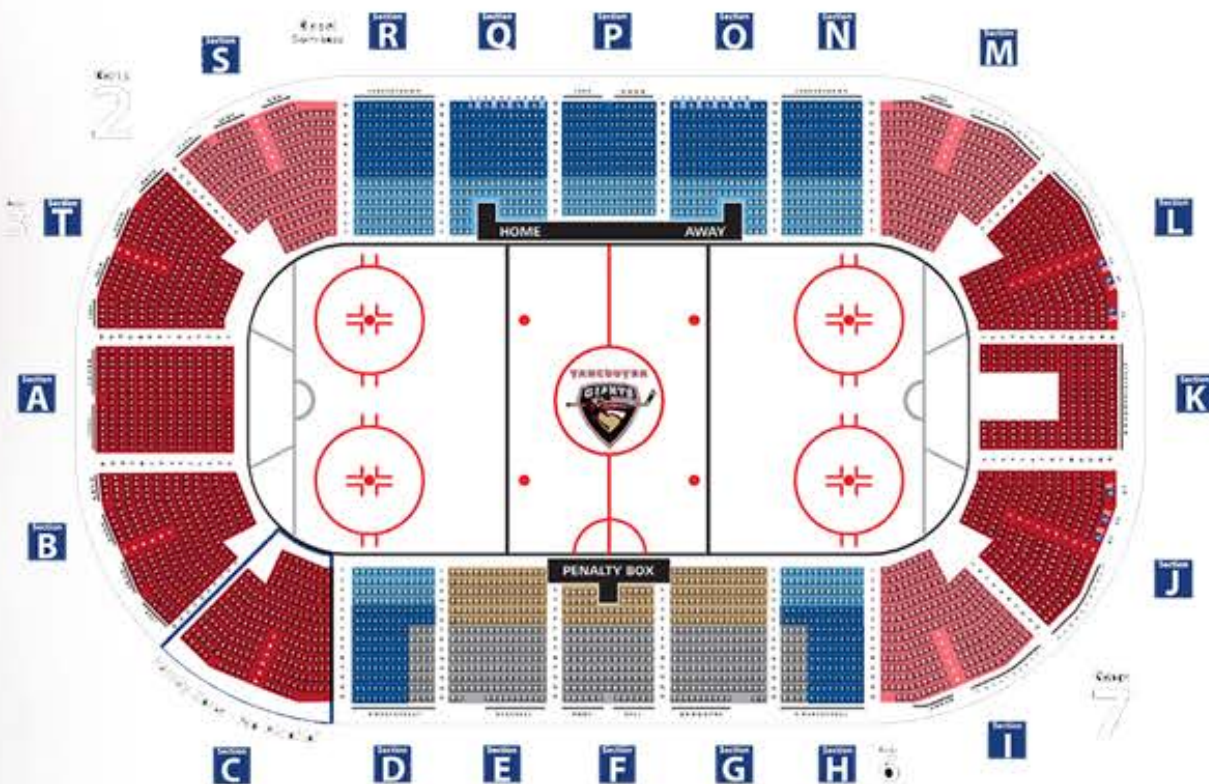
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THE JUBILEE YEAR 2025

A TIME OF RENEWAL AND CELEBRATION

By Matthew Furtado, Archdiocese of Vancouver

Archbishop Miller stated, "Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, The Jubilee Year of Hope is a profoundly significant and grace-filled year for our Archdiocese. It offers us unique opportunities to deepen our relationship with God and one another. Pope Francis encourages us to be 'pilgrims of hope' on our journey to the Father's House (cf. John 14:2). In this Pastoral Letter, I wish to share with you the blessings of this Jubilee Year and inspire you to strengthen your hope in Christ."

As we celebrate the year 2025, the Catholic Church is currently engaged in a significant event: the Jubilee Year. This year holds profound meaning for Catholics around the world, representing a time of grace, renewal, and reconciliation. The Jubilee Year is a special occasion that occurs every 25 years, inviting the faithful to reflect on their spiritual lives, seek forgiveness, and engage in acts of charity and service.

What is a Jubilee Year?

The concept of a Jubilee Year has its roots in the Old Testament, where it is established as a time of liberation and restoration. According to Leviticus 25, every 50th year is a Jubilee, during which debts are forgiven, slaves are freed, and land is returned to its original owners. This tradition emphasizes the importance of mercy, justice, and community, reminding us of our responsibility to care for one another.

In the modern Church, Jubilee Years are declared by the Pope to mark significant anniversaries or events. The most recent Jubilee Year occurred in 2015, commemorating the 50th anniversary of the closing of the Second Vatican Council.

The current Jubilee Year in 2025 marks the 2000th anniversary of the birth of Jesus Christ, a momentous occasion that calls for a deepened understanding of our faith and a renewed commitment to living out the Gospel.

The Significance of the 25-Year Cycle

The 25-year cycle of the Jubilee Year is significant for several reasons. First, it reflects the biblical tradition of the Jubilee, which was originally celebrated every 50 years. However, the Church adapts this concept to create a more frequent opportunity for renewal and reflection. By establishing a 25-year cycle, the Church encourages the faithful to engage in regular spiritual renewal, fostering a culture of mercy and reconciliation.

This cycle also serves as a reminder of the importance of community and the collective journey of the Church. Every 25 years, Catholics around the world are called to come together, reflecting on their shared faith and the mission of the Church. This unity is essential, especially in a time when divisions and challenges can often overshadow the message of the Gospel.

Dates and Celebrations

The Jubilee Year 2025 officially begins on December 8, 2024, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, and concludes on November 25, 2025, the Feast of Christ the King. This period is filled with various events, liturgical celebrations, and opportunities for the faithful to engage in acts of penance, prayer, and service. Throughout the year, dioceses around the world organize special events, including pilgrimages, retreats, and community service projects.

The Vatican announces specific themes and initiatives that guide the celebrations, encouraging Catholics to reflect on the significance of Christ's birth and the call to live out His teachings in their daily lives.



Impact on Catholics Around the World

The Jubilee Year has a profound impact on Catholics globally, serving as a unifying force that transcends cultural and geographical boundaries. It invites the faithful to engage in a shared experience of renewal, fostering a sense of belonging to the universal Church. This collective journey encourages Catholics to reflect on their faith, seek forgiveness, and extend mercy to others, reinforcing the core values of Christianity.

Moreover, the Jubilee Year provides an opportunity for the Church to address pressing social issues and promote justice and peace. As Catholics engage in acts of charity and service during this time, they are reminded of their responsibility to care for the marginalized and vulnerable in society. This emphasis on social justice aligns with the teachings of Christ and the Church's mission to serve those in need.

The Jubilee Year also encourages interfaith dialogue and collaboration, as Catholics work alongside individuals of other faiths in promoting peace and understanding. This spirit of cooperation is essential in a world that often faces division and conflict, and the Jubilee Year serves as a reminder of the importance of building bridges and fostering relationships based on mutual respect and compassion.

A Call to Unity

As we celebrate the Jubilee Year 2025, it is essential to recognize the importance of unity within the Church. This year is an opportunity for Catholics to come together, transcending differences and celebrating our shared faith. The Jubilee invites us to foster a spirit of collaboration and understanding, working together to build a vibrant and inclusive community. In the Archdiocese of Vancouver, we embrace the Jubilee Year and all that it represents.

We encourage parishes, schools, and individuals to participate in the celebrations and contribute to the spirit of renewal and reconciliation.

Catholics in the Archdiocese of Vancouver can receive a plenary indulgence during the 2025 Jubilee Year by visiting one of three designated pilgrimage sites: Holy Rosary Cathedral (Vancouver), St. Jude's Parish and Shrine (Vancouver), or St. Anthony of Padua Parish and Shrine of Santo Niño de Cebu (Agassiz).

To obtain the indulgence, pilgrims must:

- Be detached from sin (even venial)
- Visit a designated pilgrimage site
- Participate in Mass or another prayer (e.g., Rosary, Way of the Cross)
- Go to Confession (within about 20 days)
- Pray for the Pope's intentions

The indulgence is available through December 28, 2025.

Conclusion

The Jubilee Year 2025 is a momentous occasion that invites us to reflect on our faith, seek forgiveness, and engage in acts of service. As we celebrate this year of grace, let us open our hearts to the transformative power of God's love and commit ourselves to living out the Gospel in our daily lives. Together, we make this Jubilee a time of profound renewal and celebration for the entire Church.

For a more comprehensive understanding of the Jubilee of Hope, we encourage readers to explore Archbishop Miller's Pastoral Letter in full. This letter provides a detailed explanation of the Jubilee and offers practical and local ways to participate. You can read it here:

Archbishop Miller's Pastoral Letter:

<https://rcav.org/announcements/archbishop-miller-s-pastoral-letter-on-the-jubilee-of-hope>.

As we look forward to the celebrations ahead, may we be inspired by the message of hope and mercy that the Jubilee Year brings, and may we strive to be instruments of peace and love in our communities and beyond.



COMING TO KNOW A GREAT SAINT FOR ORDINARY LIFE

~INTRODUCTION TO OPUS DEI~

The saints are the permanent Catechesis given to us by God over the course of history. The saints, in fact, are the ever-new translation of the Word of God into human life; in the saints, the Word becomes life, flesh, and blood... (Pope Benedict XVI).

I am ever grateful for these treasures of the Church, the Communion of Saints. These friends of ours in heaven lived a life of heroic virtue that was proven by miracles and meticulous study of their lives. We can ask them to intercede for us here on earth, and teach us by their example how to live as other Christs.

St. Josemaria Escriva Balaguer, the founder of Opus Dei, was canonized October 6, 2002, by Pope John Paul II before a crowd of nearly half a million people. He is a saint for the modern world. St. Josemaria Escriva dedicated his life to spreading the message that all people are called to holiness - regardless of their profession, social status or life circumstances.

In Pope John Paul II homily at the canonization Mass, St. Josemaria is described as "the saint of ordinary life." The Pope emphasized that Escriva's message was profoundly relevant in the modern era: that everyday work and the ordinary duties of a lay person could be sanctified and offered to God. The Pope underscored that this message resonated with the Second Vatican Council's universal call to holiness, which Escriva had anticipated decades earlier. His teachings offered a path of spiritual growth for lay people who often struggled to reconcile faith and professional life.



Julia Dee

In Escriva's vision, work was not merely a means to make a living - it was a place for encountering God. This message resonated with lay people (fathers and mothers, single, young and older, professionals, farm workers, taxi drivers, students...) who yearn to live meaningful, faith-filled lives without withdrawing from the world. He said, "Understand this well: there is something holy, something divine, hidden in the most ordinary situation, and it is up to each one of you to discover it."

The teachings of St. Josemaria are condensed into short points in three small books called *The Way*, *The Furrow* and *The Forge*. These books greatly assist our personal prayer as they deal with everyday topics we are all concerned about: living the virtues better, developing a deeper sacramental life, growing in our relationship as children of God, and sharing our faith in friendship.



An example from The Way, point 659, “The cheerfulness you should have is not the kind we might call physiological good spirits - the happiness of a healthy animal. You must seek something more: the supernatural happiness that comes from abandoning everything, including your own self, into the loving arms of our Father-God.”

There are two other books containing Escriva’s homilies, Friends of God and Christ is Passing By and two reflection books: Holy Rosary and The Way of the Cross. These are wonderful sources to help anyone who wants to develop a more intimate spiritual life. See www.escrivaworks.org for a full text of all the books.

Activities are organized separately for men (Glenwood) and women (Headford (Crestwell)) as men and women have different roles in life. Some of these initiatives are clubs, seminars, courses and camps.

Opus Dei offers spiritual recollections once a month to men, women, senior highschool students, university students,

O young professionals throughout the Lower Mainland. Monthly recollections are like a mini retreat - two hours out of the busyness of our daily lives. It is a time to renew our relationship with God and learn more about how to love others. Recollections are composed of a meditation by a priest, a talk on some aspect of living a Christian life, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and time for confession. Retreats, workshops and seminars are held at Copper Ridge Conference Centre (Copper Ridge Conference Centre) in beautiful Britannia Beach, overlooking the Sea to Sky mountains and glaciers.

Much help for deepening your spiritual life—rooted in the everyday experiences of ordinary life—can be found at www.opusdei.ca

We are given many treasures in our faith. Saint Josemaria will intercede for us if we go to him and ask him to guide us on the route to holiness that God has designed for us. Saint Josemaria would advise us to return to Jesus through Mary his Mother.



Save the date

THE ROYALS BALL 2025

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Elegance is the beauty that never fades ... that
and most of all kindness.

An eagerly anticipated sophisticated social
gathering in the Autumn season, as both ladies
and gentlemen embrace the opportunity to don
their most stunning outfits for a supremely good
cause ... Secure our children's future with
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OCTOBER 25TH, 2025

NORTHVIEW GOLF COURSE



CELEBRATE THE SPIRIT OF THE SEASON AT CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK

Dear Brothers in Faith,

Are you ready to take action and make a lasting impact in our community? The Knights of Columbus is calling on Catholic men like you to join our ranks and become part of a worldwide brotherhood dedicated to faith, charity, and service.

As a member of the Knights of Columbus, you will have the opportunity to provide financial aid and assistance to the sick, disabled, and needy members of our community and their families. Together, we can help men, their families, and our parish grow closer to Christ through our shared mission of service and support.

Our local Knights group is actively involved in various initiatives, including tree-chipping, flea markets, charity appeals, and shopping card sales. These fundraisers not only benefit those in need but also foster a strong sense of fellowship among our members. By joining us, you will connect with like-minded men who recognize their duty to God, family, and neighbors.

We believe in the transformative power of Jesus Christ, who came to reconcile us with the Father and offer us everlasting life. His message of hope and salvation is at the heart of our mission, and we invite you to be a part of this incredible journey.

The Catholic Church is a universal family of over 1.2 billion people, united in our mission to love God and serve others. By becoming a Knight of Columbus, you will join a legacy of faith and service that spans over 2,000 years.

If you are ready to embrace this opportunity and make a difference, please reach out to Garry Deaust at garydeaust@hotmail.com. Together, let us live out our faith and bring hope to those around us.

Join us today and be a part of something greater!

In Christ,
Knights of Columbus
White Rock, BC



Knights of Columbus®



PARENT ASSOCIATION

Dear Parents,

As we come to a close of the school year, we want to thank you all for all of the amazing support you have given your children and the school over the course of this school year. It's been an amazing final year in our current campus and now we look forward to growing into our brand new campus in the Fall.

One of the things that we have developed that we are so proud of over the past 7 years in our current campus is a strong, interconnected parent community. There are lots of ways to get involved, make new friends, and contribute to our positive family-focused school culture in our new campus.

The current Parent Association was formed 4 years ago in an effort to support the families and school. We have done this through obtaining an annual gaming grant for the school (\$2000 per year), additional fundraising efforts, and planning and hosting special events that bring our community together. The Parent Association is a link between parents and the school. Concerns may be brought forward as well as initiatives that build our school culture. As our school is growing, taking an active role in the Parent Association gives you an opportunity to help shape the experience of our school.

This year although our PA executive team has been small with only 3 members, we managed to achieve a lot!

In the Fall we held a Welcome Back pot luck dinner; thank you for the delicious dishes and attendance.

In December, Italia Prieto along with Mr Walters and many helping hands put on a super fun family celebration for Our Lady of Guadalupe. In February we held a parent social Pub Night at the Bennet Craft Kitchen which included karaoke. We are looking forward to this becoming an annual event. We contributed a dynamic speaker for our senior and junior retreats.

Still to come, we are sponsoring an Athletic Banquet and Mother's Day tea; events run by Mrs Akyuz and Student Council, and we are looking forward to our final social gathering of the year being a Spring BBQ.

We would like to especially thank Jenn Andrews, who organized all of the students' hot lunches this year. We would also especially like to thank Susan Kelly for always being so accommodating and tirelessly facilitating all of our requests to coordinate signing of cheques, send emails to the parent community, and help facilitate our fundraising efforts.

Going into Fall 2025, we will require 14+ parents to fill roles for a new and broader vision for our school's Parent Association. As Mrs Bernett says, we are hoping for an "army of parents" to help us fulfill our vision for the new school to make it a huge success.

Aside from the roles we have typically filled for President, Treasurer, and Secretary



(these 3 roles are essential to run a PA and apply for the gaming grant), we are hoping to fill the following positions:

Vice President, Parent Participation Coordinator, Grad. Coordinator, Parking Coordinator, Fundraising Coordinator, Parent Education Coordinator, Grade Reps Coordinator and parents to represent each grade. Through creating such a structure, we are hoping to have all the bases covered for parent leadership to support our faculty and administration in all of the tasks that fall outside of the main school programming. This will really go a long way to supporting an enriched school culture and positive environment for our kids to thrive in.

Please attend our annual AGM on June 4, where we will sign up and vote for these positions, officially close out the current year, and discuss our plans for the coming year. Finally, thank you for all of your support this year, congratulations to all the grads, and best wishes to everyone for a fantastic summer break!

Yours truly,
Sylvia Cardenas, President
Piotr Majnusz, Treasurer
Sam Watt, Secretary





NAPA INSTITUTE™

ANNUAL SUMMER CONFERENCE

Dear Friends of our Catholic Community,

I am excited to share that Andy Szocs, a dedicated philanthropist and advocate for our faith, has invited me to organize a group of like-minded Catholics who would appreciate the beauty and mission of the Napa Institute. Having attended the Napa Institute four times, Andy has profound thanks for the personal and spiritual growth it fosters. He believes that this experience can profoundly enrich our faith and strengthen our community.

Having attended the Napa Institute four times himself, Andy has witnessed firsthand the transformative impact of its gatherings. Alongside Father Justine, who has attended twice, he has experienced how these events provide a unique opportunity to engage with fellow Catholics, deepen our understanding of the faith, and explore the challenges we face in an increasingly secular society.

About the Napa Institute:

- Founded in 2010, the Napa Institute is dedicated to equipping Catholic leaders to navigate the challenges of our time and deepen their faith.
- The annual summer conference, held in Napa Valley, California, brings together individuals from around the globe for a spiritually enriching experience.

This Year's Conference Highlights:

- Over 700 attendees, including more than 10 bishops and 50 priests and religious.
- Daily Masses, inspirational speakers, and Rosary.
- Sessions led by renowned speakers addressing a wide range of topics relevant to the Catholic faith.
- Breakfast, lunch, dinners with incredible networking that enriches one's life journey.

To give you a better sense of what the Napa Institute offers, I encourage you to view the enclosed video, which beautifully captures the essence of this remarkable initiative: [Napa Institute Video](<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RqUUxI3xqec>).

We warmly invite you to be part of this incredible initiative and to join us in our mission to inspire and equip Catholic leaders for the challenges ahead.



Andy Szocs

The Napa Institute Summer Conference Experience

JUL 23

2025
TO

JUL 27

- Registration Cost: \$2,900 per person (includes all meals and programming)
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www.napa-institute.org



JOIN US FOR THE EXCITING PICKLEBALL CHARITY CHALLENGE: CELEBRITY EDITION 2025 – JUNE 7TH!

Vancouver, BC – Get Ready for the Pickleball Charity Challenge: Celebrity EdiGon 2025!



Mark your calendars for June 7th, as the highly anticipated Pickleball Charity Challenge: Celebrity EdiGon 2025 is set to take place at the prestigious Richmond Country Club! This exciting event will bring together athletes and celebrities to raise funds for local charities through the engaging sport of pickleball.

ROSTER

Mike Crumb	Geroy Simon	Sean Graham
Shea Emry	Sean Millington	Tanya Henderson
Dean Moore	Ed Hatoum	Nathan LaFayette
John Craighead	BJ MacDonald	

ROSTER

Armaan Mawji	Brett Forsythe	Casey Rodgers
Kelsey German	Nathan Choi	Robin D'Abreo
Bobby Lenarduzzi	Carl Valentine	Paul Dolan
Martin Nash	Tosaint Ricketts	Sinead King

We are excited to announce a unique opportunity for attendees of the Pickleball Charity Challenge: Celebrity Edison 2025. Not only will participants have the chance to watch professional athletes in action, but they also can bid to play alongside their favourite celebrities. This engagement is a key focus of our fundraising efforts, as bidding to play will significantly contribute to our charitable goals. We encourage everyone to place their bids on our website for a chance to participate—bid now at [hVps://www.pickleballcharitychallenge.com](https://www.pickleballcharitychallenge.com).

Before the main event, we invite you to join us for a promotional shoot on Tuesday, May 13th, at 12:00 PM on the field level at BC Place Stadium. This shoot will feature a dynamic lineup of athletes from various sports, including professional pickleball players and local celebrities, showcasing their enthusiasm for the upcoming challenge.



PARTICIPATING IN THE PROMOTIONAL SHOOT WILL BE:

BC Lions Alumni:

- Sean Graham
- Sean Millington
- Tanya Henderson
- Shea Emry

Vancouver Canucks Alumni:

- John Craighead
- Dean Moore

Vancouver Whitecaps Alumni:

- Bob Lendarduzzi
- Carl ValenFne
- Sinead King
- Paul Dolan

Professional Pickleball Players:

- Armaan Mawji
- Robin D'Abreo
- Nathan Choi
- BreO Forsythe

Special Guest:

- Crazy P

This promotional shoot is a fantastic opportunity for the media to capture the excitement and spirit of this unique collaboration leading up to the main event on June 7th. We encourage you to join us and witness the camaraderie and compeGGve spirit that will define the Pickleball Charity Challenge. Reserve your Tickets now!!
[hVps://www.pickleballcharitychallenge.com](https://www.pickleballcharitychallenge.com).

We look forward to seeing you there!

-END-

For more information contact:

Sean Graham
President, BC Lions Alumni
Email: sgraham88@aol.com
Phone: 604-644-9439

Silveria Roselli
Communications, Pickleball Charity Challenge
Email: silveria@sjp2foundaFon.com
Phone: 604-722-7569





Ricks Heart

FOUNDATION



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CANUCKS ALUMNI GAME ROSTER

MARCH 22, 2025

G SHAZ HEMANI

G TERRY BINGLEY

F MATT KEITH
41 YO DRAFT: 2001

F NEIL EISENHUT
58 YO DRAFT: 1987

F GARRY VALK
57 YO DRAFT: 1987

F JOHN CRAIGHEAD
53 YO NHL/EIHL/AHL ALUMNI

F ANDY WILLIGAR
37 YO SPHL/GERMANY4 ALUMNI

F DOUG LYNCH
41 YO DRAFT: 2001

F DEAN MOORE
51 YO ECHL ALUMNI

F DAVE TOMLINSON
55 YO DRAFT: 1989

D PHIL VON STEFENELLI
55 YO DRAFT: 1988

D JYRKI LUMME
58 YO DRAFT: 1986

D JIM VANDERMEER
45 YO NHL DEBUT: 2003

D DAVE BABYCH
63 YO DRAFT: 1980 (2ND OVERALL)

D SEAN CROWTHER
54 YO WHL/BCHL ALUMNI

F MARK LOFTHOUSE
67 YO DRAFT: 1977

F BJ MACDONALD
55 YO DRAFT: 1988

F CLIFF RONNING
58 YO DRAFT: 1986

F GREG MUELLER
53 YO DEL ALUMNI

COACHES

C DARCY ROTA
72 YO DRAFT: 1973

C MIKE BROWN
45 YO DRAFT: 1997

C GARY NYLUND
61 YO DRAFT: 1982

C ALEC TIDEY
70 YO DRAFT: 1975





SURREY EAGLES TAKE ON VANCOUVER CANUCKS ALUMNI AT RICKS HEART FOUNDATION EVENT

Surrey, BC – The Ricks Heart Foundation, in collaboration with the Surrey Eagles and the Vancouver Canucks Alumni, hosted an incredible fundraising event that brought the community together for a night of hockey and heart. We are thrilled to announce that the event was a resounding success, with all proceeds going to support the Mentorship Program.

A heartfelt thank you to the Ricks Heart Foundation for their unwavering commitment to making a difference in our community. Their dedication to supporting youth and fostering mentorship is truly inspiring. We also extend our gratitude to the Surrey Eagles and the Vancouver Canucks Alumni for their participation and support, which helped create an unforgettable experience for all attendees.

The arena was sold out, and the energy was palpable as fans rallied together for a common cause. The funds raised will significantly impact the Mentorship Program, providing essential resources and support for our youth.



We would also like to express our sincere appreciation to the Saint John Paul II Academy community. Your enthusiasm and support were instrumental in making this event a success. A special shoutout to our amazing students who volunteered their time and efforts, and to Sophia Hessle, who beautifully sang the national anthem, creating a proud moment for our Academy.

Thank you once again to everyone who attended and contributed to this remarkable evening. Together, we are making a difference in the lives of our youth and fostering a spirit of mentorship that will resonate throughout our community.



Silveria Roselli

Foundation Board Member
Director of Advancement

15262 Pacific Ave. Surrey, BC V4B 1P7

T: 604.722.7569 silveria@sjp2foundation.com www.sjp2academy.com

K2 VISION



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IN VANCOUVER, WA

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Schedule My FREE Consult

K2 Vision is proud to be the Pacific Northwest's home for vision correction surgery, and a provider of two of the most advanced procedures offered today — Refractive Lens Exchange (RLE) and Implanted Collamer Lens (ICL). When we decided to start a practice specializing in ONLY two procedures, it was because we believed in their ability to give every one of our patients the clear vision they deserve.

Sometimes, patients need vision correction options besides LASIK and standard cataract surgery, options that meet their complex needs when they've been told they may not be good fits for those types of procedures. At K2 Vision, we've dedicated ourselves to delivering you the highest quality vision correction solutions, no matter how complex your issues.

CATHOLIC PACIFIC COLLEGE

Catholic Pacific College (CPC) exists to cultivate wonder in the minds and hearts of our students, inspiring them to become faithful, fearless co-labourers with Christ in today's increasingly complex and interconnected world.

"Get ready to have your mind transformed, changed in the light of truth... If CPC is successful in fulfilling its mission, you will become someone who has a capacity for exercising judgement, for bringing insights and arguments from a variety of disciplines to bear on the complex issues that are facing society and the Church."

– Archbishop J. Michael Miller, CSB of the Archdiocese of Vancouver.

At CPC, education goes beyond intellectual growth. Guided by wonder, we focus on whole-person formation that nurtures not only the mind but also the soul and spirit. Rooted in the Person of Jesus Christ, as revealed through the rich Catholic spiritual and intellectual tradition, our students grow in wisdom to discern truth, honour goodness, and pursue beauty in all aspects of life.

Located on the campus of Canada's largest Christian university, Trinity Western University, CPC uniquely prepares students to thrive as leaders in diverse environments. Through this ecumenical partnership, we foster an education that is not only academically rigorous but also spiritually enriching. Our graduates are equipped to bring about life-giving change in their communities and professions, contributing to a better and more compassionate world. When students are driven by curiosity and wonder, they become innovators and problem-solvers —leaders who can engage the challenges of our world with grace, wisdom, and love.

All TWU students engage in interdisciplinary studies through completing a core liberal arts curriculum alongside their chosen program. Students at CPC, a Catholic educational institution with demonstrated academic and theological excellence, have the option of taking the Catholic Formation Track, which consists of 11 courses that count towards the TWU core curriculum.

"Before being in the CFT, I found myself not knowing what I wanted to do because I didn't know who I was and what God wanted me to dedicate my time to. The CFT is designed to have you probe the question of who you are and how to lead a meaningful life in Christ."
Lucas Smith, Alumni - CPC/TWU Athletics

"I did not expect the CFT to be as impactful on my education and my faith as much as it has been this last year. Each course has challenged me to think differently, to see the world through the cracks of reality that ordinary life tries to cover up."
Jeremy Joosten, Alumni - CPC/TWU Business Major

If you are a student and you want to learn more about us, visit catholicpacific.ca/start. If you want to be part of our community of patronage by donating, visit catholicpacific.ca/give



Scott Roy







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MENTAL HEALTH AND FAITH

Recently, at St. Anne's Catholic Church in Saskatoon, 151 high school students gathered to hear me speak on mental health and faith. Equipped with terminology from my own teens, I began.

"Hey Sigmas, let's take a second to stop mewing, bet? Tone down the rizz, and hear from me, a cringe not-so-Karen who cares about you and your mental health, because God cares about you and your mental health. This conversation is fire. No ick. No cap"

Indeed, my ridiculous attempt to use their language, which due to technology and social media evolves more quickly and widely than any previous generation's slang, caught their attention and invited them into conversation. For the next 45 minutes, a pin drop could be heard, as together we addressed questions today's youth are asking about their struggles, their identity, and God's presence in their lives.

Did you know that, according to the World Health Organization, half of all lifetime mental health conditions begin by age 14, and three-quarters by age 24? These are formative years when faith, identity, and belonging are also being shaped. Young people are increasingly in need of sanctuaries, places where they can find both spiritual nurture and mental health support.

According to The Open Generation Report, today's youth seek churches and faith communities that engage openly with mental health, recognizing it as one of their primary concerns. Yet recent research reveals that only 34% of young people talk to adults about their mental health, even as they discuss it among themselves. Two-thirds of young people shared that the trusted adults in their lives don't know the full extent of the mental health suffering they are experiencing.

Although this generation is more mental health literate than any generation before them, they want for skills, practices, and understanding which build connection and resilience.

Undeniably, youth are talking about mental health amongst themselves, but have we equipped them to reflect well, assured them of our desire to walk alongside them, and helped them to infuse experiences of languishing with hope?

As members of the Body of Christ, we are called to care for the whole person—mind, body, and soul. The Church holds a unique role in responding to the mental health crisis. Whilst clinical settings focus primarily on symptom management, our faith communities can offer what is desperately needed: belonging, purpose, connection, and hope. We can present a framework for understanding experiences of languishing within a larger narrative of redemption. Yes, anxiety, depression, and mental ill-health exist at higher statistical rates than ever before, but young people's identity cannot be not defined by their symptoms. Our Sigma youth are beloved children of our compassionate God. Mental health challenges are not spiritual failures. Through tradition and scripture, our Lord reveals deep concern for both emotional well-being and our spiritual state.

In seeking to equip churches for this unique role, our Vancouver-based team at Sanctuary Mental Health Ministries has launched The Sanctuary Youth Series—a free, groundbreaking resource to support the mental, emotional, and spiritual well-being of young Christians.



Designed for youth ages 11 to 15, it is suitable for Catholic schools, parish youth groups, and sacramental preparation programs. This series brings the wisdom of the faith into dialogue with the realities of mental health. In doing so, it offers youth not only the freedom to seek help, but the reassurance that they are never alone—God is with them, whether they are flourishing or struggling.

This resource is built around the three pillars of theology, psychology and lived experience. It includes:

- Eight short films featuring stories of young Christians who have experienced mental health challenges
- A facilitation guide for youth leaders and catechists
- Interactive exercises and downloadable activities for youth
- A guide for parents and caregivers to support their young person's journey
- Opportunities for prayer, reflection, and Scripture on key themes related to mental health

The Sanctuary Youth Series will can be found on the Sanctuary resource portal:

portal.sanctuarymentalhealth.org/the-sanctuary-youth-series

Following my time with the St. Anne's youth, a young man approached me. A quiet, well-spoken, hockey enthusiast, he shared that his youth group had just finished The Sanctuary Youth Series. When I inquired how it had gone, his grin widened, and he said, "They were the best conversations our youth group ever had... God really does care." We've seen a consistent response from youth; there is a profound sense of relief when given permission to discuss mental health in the context of faith. What a gift it is to witness young people recognize that their mental health struggles do not separate them from God, but can, in fact, be spaces where Divine compassion and connection are experienced most deeply.

O merciful and loving God, grant us the grace to walk with our youth in their joys and struggles, showing them that their lives matter deeply—to us and to you. Bet.



TIMOTHY SCHMALZ

Timothy Schmalz is a world-renowned Canadian sculptor known for his deeply moving and spiritually profound religious artwork. His sculptures, often large in scale and rich in symbolism, are designed to inspire reflection, compassion, and faith. Tim's most famous work, Homeless Jesus, has been installed in cities around the globe, including at the Vatican. His art powerfully communicates Gospel values without the need for words—inviting contemplation through visual storytelling.

He has created sculptures honoring the lives of saints, scenes from the Passion, and other sacred moments in Christian history. Many of his works are used in schools, churches, and public spaces to elevate the imagination and soul toward God. Tim has had the unique privilege of meeting Pope John Paul II, and his art has been blessed by multiple pontiffs.

His upcoming installation at SJP2 in Vancouver presents a timely opportunity to explore the intersection of art, education, and spiritual formation—making him a meaningful and unique guest for Catholic Education Matters.







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