

September 9th, 2018 Twenty-Third Sunday of Ordinary Time

In the musical, *Man of LaMancha*, Don Quixote sings about his quest for “the impossible dream.”

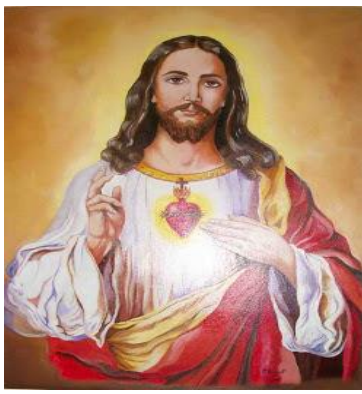
That song became a hit—in part I believe—because all of us have some kind of dream, some vision of a hope-filled future that keeps us going. Christians believe that Jesus Christ fulfills humanity’s dreams of a world at peace, in harmony, with all of our human imperfections made whole.

Today’s first reading is an Old Testament prophecy of such a dream coming true. Isaiah has a vision of a time when those who cannot hear or cannot see will be given hearing and sight; and when the lifeless deserts will become fertile.

Mark, the author of today’s *Gospel*, believed that Jesus would fulfill that Isaiah vision. He incorporated some of Isaiah’s visionary language into his account of Jesus giving the powers of hearing and speech to a man. That scene is portrayed in great detail by Mark, with Jesus using gestures, groans, and even spitting as he carries out this power-filled sign.

For me, the scene captures both Jesus’ humanity and divinity. And it communicates what Mark and his community of faith are witnessing to in this *Gospel*: That Jesus is the one who will fulfill all our dreams for healing, wholeness, and peace. What are you hoping for this week!

Fr. Greg Friedman, O.F.M



MINISTRY SIGNUP SEPT. 16th

Please consider signing up for one or more of the following ministries:

The thankful heart is the only door that opens to God.

Joe Orton

MINISTRY SIGNUP SEPT. 16th

Please consider signing up for one or more of the following ministries:

Coffee Sunday: 9 & 11 am Mass – once a month.-We have no one signed up for the 11am Mass on the 2nd (and 5th) Sunday of the month. To set up the hall, make goodies, and Coffee and Tea.

Children’s Liturgy: 11 am Mass – once a month per team, must be 19 years old or older. Some training will be offered and a completion of a Criminal Record Check is required.

Lectors: 9 & 11 am Mass – workshop to be held for new people.

Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Communion: 9 am & 11am Mass – workshop to be held for new people.

Altar Linen: wash and iron – depending on the number of volunteers, it will be one month or more per person.

Offertory Family: Bring up the gifts at Mass – 9 & 11 am Mass.

Volunteers for Seniors Christmas Luncheon: Once a year in December.

Volunteers for School Activity Day: The school is looking for people to share their gifts and talents with our students. We are looking for volunteers on Friday afternoons to lead small groups in a variety of activities. These may include knitting, crafts, cross stitching, sport activities, etc. Come and be a part of our vibrant community! If you would like to volunteer, you can sign up on Ministry Sign up Day.

Immaculate Conception School

The theme for the year is

“What do you want of me Lord?”

The *playground grand opening* is on **Thursday** at **5:45 pm** followed by an Open House at 6:30 pm.

Our first **school Mass** is on **Friday** at **9am**.

Catechesis for Children

Children who are not registered in a Catholic School and wish to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion will join the Family Faith Formation Program at St. Mary's. The program will begin on **Sunday, Sept. 23rd** from **2:30 pm – 4 pm** in the St. Mary's School Gym. All inquiries to Claudia Betz at 250-564-4097 or email cloudy1@hotmail.com

RCIA/Come and See

If you are one of the many non-Catholics who are part of Immaculate Conception and feel at home here, maybe you are considering becoming a full member of our Roman Catholic community, or you might just want to learn more about the Catholic Church, consider joining the RCIA program at **St. Mary's beginning October 4th 7pm** – entrance on Freeman St., off 10th Ave. ***Please register with Fr. Chris.***

Monthly Adoration

Emmanuel Hermitage invites you to silent adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on **Tuesday** at the Domano Chapel. Mass will be celebrated at **7:30 am** and the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed from **8 am – 8 pm**.

St. Vincent de Paul Soup/Sandwich Preparation

Tuesday, Sept. 18th at **9:40 am** preparing sandwich and soup ingredients and **Wednesday, Sept. 19th** at **9:40 am** making soup and sandwiches in the Church hall.

If you are Hospitalized

Just a reminder that if you are being admitted to the hospital and would like a visit from those whose ministry is visiting the sick, tell the admissions clerk that you are a Roman Catholic. They will then provide your name to those visiting the sick. **There is also a full time Catholic Priest, Fr. Mike Rabino and a religious sister, Sr. Vinda, who visit the hospital on a regular basis.** Due to the Privacy Act, a patient cannot be asked what religious affiliation they have, but can volunteer the information.

Youth Retreat

All young adults from ages 19-35 are invited to this retreat on **Friday, Sept. 28th- Sun. Sept. 30th** at Francois Lake. Cost is \$50 per person. Register at lvfarrell@pgdiocese.bc.ca

Diocesan Annual Appeal – "Called Together"

Along with all other parishes and missions throughout the diocese, today we kick-off the Annual Diocesan Appeal: **"Called Together – Giving, Sharing, and Serving."**

Called Together supports the mission of our local Church across our diocese. Your gift to Called Together is one way that you can practice stewardship and participate in the mission of the Church.

You are invited to participate in this task in providing for the needs of our Diocesan Church.

Our Parish Goal is: \$42,328

Please make cheques payable to:

RCEC - Diocesan Appeal

Diocesan Goal: \$400,000

Last year our goal was \$44,336.00 we received \$42,704.00.

Thank you for your generosity.

Catholicism: Journey Around the World and Deep into the Faith by Bishop Robert Barron

In this journey with acclaimed theologian, Bishop Robert Barron, we will travel to more than 50 locations throughout 15 countries.

This will take place at Monday from noon until 1:30 pm at St. Mary's Church in the St. Eugene Room located at 1088 Gillett St. – Episode 1

: Amazed and Afraid: The Revelation of God Become Man – As we journey to the mysterious and sacred sites of the Holy Land, Bishop Barron illuminates the Catholic Faith's conviction that Jesus of Nazareth is the promised Messiah and the revelation of God become man in Christ.

Movies with Meaning

The series will begin in Sept. and end in Dec. They will be shown in the St. Eugene Room at St. Mary's Parish on **Sunday afternoons from 1:30 pm – 4 pm**. Facilitators are Sisters Irene Baker and Dorothy Ryan. Suggested donation: \$5/movie. Popcorn and drinks are provided!

The following are the list of movies and dates:

Shack – Sept. 16th

Wonder – Oct. 21st

Temple Grandin – Nov. 18th

Gifted - Dec. 16th
