

Saint Anthony of Padua Parish

With the Eucharist at the centre, we are a community desiring to be saints, sent out to love like Jesus and proclaim Him in every circumstance.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 22, 2020

Hitting the Wall: Overcoming Suffering

All of us hit walls in life and faith. Some of us are hitting one right now during this crisis, some of us aren't, but we will. God allows us to hit the wall not to block us. He wants us to climb over it so that we experience a resurrection. I'm sorry to say that most people and Catholics don't make it: They will hit the wall, go through a crisis, turn away from it, and merely survive. And it's because they can't understand the suffering.

Here are three truths from the Gospel that will help us climb over:

1) Jesus' "disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?' Jesus answered, 'Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him'" (Jn 9:1-3). When we hit a wall, it's not necessarily because we've sinned and certainly not because God doesn't love us. Most people don't get this: They think, when something goes wrong in their life, that it can't be part of God's plan, something's wrong with His plan—that's not necessarily true. So, they think they have to get away from the suffering, because this isn't the way to grow—no. This wall isn't designed to stop you from moving forward; it's designed to help you climb higher. **The first truth is that suffering is part of the plan of God and He does it because He loves us.**

God is a good father. When he has a newborn child, he gives the child pabulum, in order to get the child to eat. But soon he takes it away and starts giving solid food, which doesn't taste as good. The child can either accept or refuse it. If he refuses, the child will never grow.

The key that helped me get through an experience of death in my life and still helps me today was that God still loved me, and that I knew it was part of the plan. If you know that God loves you when you're in pain and is allowing it for your good, you'll make it! I want this for all of you.

2) There's a second truth in Jesus' words: the man "was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him." Jesus heals the man born blind but God's works aren't simply about giving physical sight; they're about giving spiritual sight (Daniel Mueggenborg, *Come Follow Me*, Year A, 68-69). **Whenever we're suffering, God's trying to give us spiritual insight.**

Imagine there's a man whose relationship with his children is terrible. He hurt them when they were young by emotional abuse, rarely being affectionate, and never



Photo by Vishnu Prasad

apologizing. When the children grew up, they hated him. Then he gets terminal cancer. Now, which would be the greater healing: healing the cancer or healing their relationship? If knowing that their father was going to die was the only way to get him and his children to talk, forgive, and make peace, then the cancer would be an occasion of spiritual insight.

When we hit a wall, it usually reveals that something's wrong here (the heart), at the level of the spirit: We don't love enough, we lack humility, courage, patience, etc. This past week, a lot of us have been having spiritual insight: There's so much love flowing right now, people saying, "I love you," people realizing how much they need the Mass, how precious the Eucharist is, how blessed we are to live in a country where we have the freedom to worship, freedom to get health care, etc. God's works are being revealed in us.

3) **Suffering caused the blind man to recognize progressively Jesus' true identity and worship Him** (Francis Martin & William Wright, *The Gospel of John*, in *Catholic Commentary on Sacred Scripture*, 183). He called Jesus a 'man,' then 'prophet,' then 'from God,' then 'Lord' and, at the end, worships Him. The recognition comes through the pressure put on the man by the Pharisees; during his interrogation, he realizes Who Jesus is. In the same way, suffering will eliminate our previously held notions about what's important in life.

...continued inside

Pastor: Fr. Justin Huang Blog: thejustmeasure.ca
Deacon: Andrew Kung deaconandrewrcav@gmail.com
Priest in Residence: Fr. Pierre Leblond plb.op272@gmail.com

Address: 8891 Montcalm St., Vancouver BC V6P 4R4
 Mailing Address: 1345 West 73rd Ave., Van., BC V6P 3E9
 Tel 604.266.6131
 Hours Tuesday—Friday
 9:00 am—12:00 noon
 1:00 pm—3:00 pm
 In case of emergencies,
 please call the office anytime.
Web: stanthonysvan.com
Email: office@stanthonysvancouver.org

St. Anthony of Padua School

Kindergarten to Grade 7
 1370 West 73rd Avenue,
 Vancouver, BC V6P 3E9
 Principal: Mr. Michael Perry
 Telephone: 604.261.4043
 Website: stanthonypaduaschool.ca
 School Email: office@stanthonypaduaschool.ca

Parish Registration

Our parish family warmly welcomes new parishioners.
 Please register by filling out a registration form located in the
 vestibule or the Parish Office. If you are registered and moving,
 please advise the parish office.

Sunday Masses

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

Weekdays	Masses	Confessions
Monday	8:15 am	8:00 to 8:10 am
Tuesday	7:30 pm	
Wednesday & Thursday	8:15 am	8:00 to 8:10 am
Friday (school months)	8:00 am	7:45 to 7:55 am
Saturday	9:00 am	9:45 am

Confession

Saturday afternoon 3:45 pm to 4:45 pm
 1st Saturday each month 9:45 am to 1:00 pm;
 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm;
 7:00 pm to 9:45 pm

Eucharistic Adoration enter at 1365 West 73rd Avenue
 Daily: 6:00 am to Midnight

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

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) Please call the parish office for more information on RCIA classes and other Sacraments.

Weekday Masses & Intentions

Monday, March 23	Ferial	Marcelino Nocom †
Tuesday, March 24	Ferial	Ang Chai Noan †
Wednesday, March 25	Ferial	Thelma & Matthew Stewart
Thursday, March 26	<i>Solemnity</i> The Annunciation of the Lord	Tim Fish †
Friday, March 27	Ferial	Nefriti Coronel
Saturday, March 28	Ferial	Fr. Justin Huang

Prayers for the Sick At Holy Mass we remember the sick including:
 Nita Carvajal, Nung Chum, Isobel Clancy, Elaine dos Remedios, Kathleen Francis, Feli Hempl, Yvonne Kharoubeh, Philomina Mayer, Susan Panlican, Huguette Piché, Christina Sayo, Teresa Tche, Cynthia Wing.

Policy for booking Mass Intentions

In order to give more people a chance to book Masses for loved ones and deceased individuals, Mass intentions are now booked in two phases:
 1) January to June and 2) July to December. **Bookings for phase 2, started on Tuesday, March 3.** All bookings must be made in person at the Parish Office. Please call Annie at 604.266.6131 ext. 203 for more information.

Upcoming Homily Themes

March 28 & 29

*From Fear to Hope For Our Children:
 A Request for Sacrificial Giving*

April 4 & 5

Did You Know That Jesus Sang?



April 11 & 12

Capacity to Suffer = Capacity to Love = Capacity to Rejoice

April 18 & 19

Do You Have Evidence For Your Faith?

April 25 & 26

7 Ways Jesus Acts in Our Lives

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2019 Income Tax Receipts are now available in the church foyer throughout the weekend, or at the Parish Office during the week from Tuesday to Friday, 9:00 AM—3:00 PM, tel. 604.266.6131.

Online giving to our parish. Many have asked how they can continue to support St. Anthony's during this health crisis, particularly now, since Masses have been cancelled. Thank you to those of you who have reached out to us! Donations are gratefully accepted in these ways: **online** at <https://stanthonyvan.com/giving>, by **mail** at 1345 West 73rd Ave., Vancouver, V6P 3E9, or **dropping your envelope** in our parish mail slot at 8891 Montcalm St. Your generosity, especially during this challenging time is very much appreciated!

Email Fraud Warning: The Archdiocese has received multiple reports from parishioners and priests who have fallen victim to a recent internet email phishing scam. Imposters, posing as priests and using email addresses that are similar to those of our priests, have been emailing people asking for personal donations, gift cards and other forms of financial assistance. Never respond to emails requesting Google Play cards, iTunes cards or any other form of personal financial assistance, even if it appears to be from a priest, deacon, religious or parish staff. If you have any doubt, please contact the "sender" by other means to verify any requests.

Does your ministry or parish group have a notice for the Bulletin? Please send it to the Parish Office by email at catherine.sapv@gmail.com. Deadline for submission is 2:00 pm every Wednesday, for the upcoming weekend.

Stations of the Cross on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm are cancelled.

We apologize for any disappointment. However, the church is open throughout the week from 6:00 AM to 12 midnight if you would like to pray the Stations of the Cross on your own.



Do you know someone who needs assistance during this COVID-19 crisis? The **Works of Mercy Ministry** has volunteers ready to help with picking up and delivering groceries and prepared meals. They're also happy to "check-in" with shut-ins by phone. Please contact Annie at the Parish Office to refer these individuals to us, 604.266.6131 ext. 203.

An advertisement for the 'Man of the Shroud Exhibition'. It features a central image of a shroud with a face, set against a dark, textured background. Below the image, the text reads 'MAN OF THE SHROUD EXHIBITION' in large, bold, black letters. A prominent red banner with white text says 'EVENT CANCELLED'. Below the banner, the dates 'April 15 - 20, 2020' and the location 'St. Anthony of Padua Parish, 8891 Montcalm St, Vancouver, BC' are listed. The entire advertisement is framed by a thin gold border.

...continued from the cover

No one ever asks why God allows suffering when they get a bruise on their arm—why? Because it doesn't call into question what's most important to them. Notice when we all start questioning why suffering is allowed: There's a threshold when we start to question, and that's when what we worship is taken away from us.

When someone's whole identity is based on their attempt to get into medical school, then, as soon as they fail, they start questioning why suffering exists. So, suffering reveals what we worship. If our relatively easy life has been taken away from us, and now we question God, it's because we worship having a relatively easy life. But it's designed to push us to something better: Jesus. Suffering strips away things that don't last, and so we're forced to look for that

which lasts, and that's Jesus. This is not easy. When we climb over the wall, it hurts, because we're letting go of: 1) the idea of our plan for our lives; 2) we're letting go of our sole focus on the physical, and opening ourselves up to the spiritual; 3) we're letting go of what we worship.

A number of us are getting these three truths. I know because some have told me how you've chosen to love when it was hard; you did the right thing when you felt nothing. There's so much freedom and release when we do this! Don't run away from the wall or keep hitting it; climb over it.

- Text of Fr. Justin's homily, March 22, 2020.

Please support these advertisers; they support us.



THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE
ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA PARISH

SERVING WITH FAITH AND JOY
Life is a series of new beginnings; come join us! We invite you to join the League sisters. Drop-in during our meetings, held every first Saturday of the month or email: cwlpresap@gmail.com for more info.

Welcome po ang mga Filipino!



604-336-5000

- We carry wide selection of branded frames and sunglasses
- Direct billing for many private insurance plans.
- Independent Optometrist available for eye exams
- EYE EXAMINATION by appointment.



8269 Granville Street, Vancouver, BC V6P 4Z6

GRANVILLE DENTAL WELLNESS GROUP
604-261-8164
8357 Granville Street, Vancouver, BC

SUPPORT THE ST. ANTHONY'S BUILDING FUND

Family Dentistry - Cosmetic Dentistry - Implant Dentistry - Children's Dentistry - Orthodontics - Wisdom Teeth - Dentures - St. Anthony's Parishioner Promotions

HAVE A NEW PATIENT EXAMINATION AND HYGIENE APPOINTMENT DONE AND HAVE \$50 DONATED TO ST. ANTHONY'S PARISH CENTRE FUND IN YOUR NAME!!

- Open weekday evenings and Saturdays
- Comfortable treatment in a modern facility
- Serving Marpole for over 25 years
- Dr. Gianni Pisanu, Owner & St. Anthony's Parishioner

Advertising space available!

\$30/month or \$300/year

*Please contact the Parish Office for details.
Thank you to all our advertisers*

Advertising space available!

\$30/month or \$300/year

*Please contact the Parish Office for details.
Thank you to all our advertisers*



For St. Anthony's Parishioners,

I will donate 15% of my commission on your transaction to the St. Anthony's Parish Centre Fund.

Let's support the parish through our business together.

www.MichaelDee.ca 604-767-1583 mdee@sutton.com

MICHAEL DEE

This communication is not intended to cause or induce breach of any existing agency agreement.

Licensed & Insured Communications Data/Voice Cabling



Edmond Kung
Certified Electrician
Red Seal # 74603

C: 604.788.6188 | 604.760.3983
E: edmond@netekcanada.com
www.netekcanada.com

Electrical Security Cameras Monitoring Access Control

INVISIONATION PHOTOGRAPHY INC.

Weddings
Head Shots
Family Portraits

Vincent L. Chan
Photographer

invisionation.com
604.253.4568



Raincoast Funeral and Cremation Services Ltd.

Independently Owned and Operated


Arrangements in your home
24 hours a day
604-326-1454

Compassionate - Professional - Affordable

www.raincoastfs.com
116-618 E. Kent Avenue South
Vancouver, BC



Michelle J. Vizena
Co-Owner, Licensed Funeral Director
Star of the Sea Church Parishioner



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA COUNCIL 14925

We are men of faith and men of action.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE EMAIL
Hadi Susanto, Grand Knight
cjsanto8i@yahoo.com

Emmery Leung
604.728.7170
Licensed REALTOR



樓房買賣. 物業管理. 生意轉讓

Residential | Rental Management | Commercial



19545 Langley Bypass
Surrey
604.534.7431



Audi
Langley

5955 Collection Dr
Langley
604.539.0255

www.goldkey.ca
Sales. Service. Parts. Body Shop. Fleet and Lease.

Serving Our Catholic Community Since 1908




Vancouver Chapel
450 West 2nd Ave.
604-736-0268

"We believe locally-based, Family owned funeral homes are an important part of any community. We are honoured to carry forward our more than 110 year legacy of care. Serving the Lower Mainland from four convenient locations."

Mike Crean
Funeral Director/Owner

www.KearneyFS.com

Crean Holdings D.B.A.

Cedargreen Painting



- Residential & Commercial
- Condos & Townhouses
- Interior & Exterior
- Fences & Garages
- Free Estimates
- 10% Seniors Discount



Call Joseph at 604.263.7502

GARDENS OF
Gethsemani



Catholic Cemeteries
Archdiocese of Vancouver

Peace starts with an appointment

604-531-2141 / rccav.org
15694 32nd Avenue,
Surrey, BC, V3Z 9V1

