

Our Lady of Good Hope Roman Catholic Church

P. O. Box 159 – 671 Water Ave. : Hope, BC V0X 1L0
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Fifth Sunday of Easter – May 14, 2017

Weekday Masses

Tuesday to Saturday 9:00 AM

Sunday Masses

Saturday – 4:30 PM (anticipated Mass)
Sunday –9:00 AM

Confessions

Weekdays Tuesday to Saturday – 8:30 AM to 8:45 AM
Saturday - 3:30 PM to 4:00 PM
Always available upon request.

Please pray for our sick and shut in parishioners.

May Our Lord sustain, comfort and heal them through their faith.

Mimi LaBossiere, Ann Vinet, Don Appel, Lew and Dolores Hampton, Marilyn McKay, Galdino Berti, Yunha Kim, Gerard Born, George Stock, Jerzy and Irena Klimczek, Rita Rocan, Theresa Witjes, Dolores Azevedo, Amanda Paller.

Last Sunday Offering

\$General
\$Building and Maintenance
\$Average Weekly Expenses

Thank you for your generous support of your Parish.

Project Advance: Our appreciation goes out to all parishioners who have made a gift to Project Advance 2017. Remember that funds received over our Diocesan goal (\$5,000.) will be returned to the Parish. Please continue to respond in prayer and generosity. Our sharing reflects our caring. Thank you.

Happy Mother's Day to all our mothers and grandmothers in our community.

**We give thanks to God for our mothers and grandmothers, living and deceased.
We pray God will richly bestow His blessings upon all mothers and grandmothers.**

Pray

“Pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this the will of God in Christ Jesus for you” (1Thessalonians 5:16)

It is very exciting for parents when their child begins to use words to communicate. When a child starts to speak, the parents are not concerned about how simple the words are or how well they are pronounced. However, as a child grows, the parents do expect, as a normal part of growth, that the child's way of communicating will deepen and mature.

God loves it when we pray. Prayer is the language we use in our spiritual communication with Him. Through prayer we share our thoughts and desires, our needs and requests, and our love and appreciation. The more we grow in Christ, the deeper the words of our hearts will become.

One wonderful thing about our communication with God is that we can always talk with Him in prayer, because He is always present with us to hear and answer. Another wonderful thing about prayer is that we can pray about everything in our lives. There is not one area that is not of interest to God.

Congratulations to Colin King who received Jesus for the First time in the Holy Eucharist.

May your First Holy Communion Day be one of joy for you, enriching you with blessings that will last a lifetime through.

The Holy Eucharist

Saint Pope John Paul said: *“Once we have truly met the Risen One by partaking of His Body and Blood, we cannot keep to ourselves the joy we have experienced. The encounter with Christ constantly intensified and deepened in the Holy Eucharist. . .”* (L'Osservatore Romano, 2 Feb. 2005)

By receiving the Holy Eucharist more faithfully and reflecting more deeply on its meaning in our life we come to a deeper appreciation of the love of Jesus. When we are nourished, as we are in the Holy Eucharist, we have the energy and enthusiasm to proclaim the Good News “to the ends of the earth.”

Jesus says, “Whoever eats My Flesh and drinks My Blood has eternal life, and I will raise up him [or her] on the last day.” (John 6:54).

Our Cross to Bear

In Psalm 6, the psalmist is praying for deliverance from physical and mental suffering. Catholics often refer to the suffering or sacrifice that comes as part of life as their cross to bear, because they see it as connected to Jesus' own suffering on the cross. Indeed, we all have crosses to bear. Some crosses are heavier than others, and like the psalmist, we ask God to deliver us from them. But unlike the psalmist, Catholics also pray that God will transform their suffering and use it in some way for the good of others.

What are some of the crosses that you have had to bear? How were you saved from your suffering? How has someone else's suffering or sacrifice helped or inspired you?

Reflections on Sunday Gospel: John 14:1-12

In today's Gospel, the Apostles are now facing a crisis of faith. A few moments ago Jesus has said that one of them will betray Him. How do you think the Apostles might be feeling after hearing Jesus make that statement? Furthermore, Jesus says Simon Peter, their leader, is going to deny he ever knew Him. The Apostles are now frightened that Jesus will leave them orphaned. They have left everything to follow Jesus and, as well, some members of their families must have already begun to wonder about their mental stability. How does Jesus respond to the Apostles' crisis of faith? Jesus comforts His disciples and calms their fears by saying, *“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, and believe also in Me.”* In essence, Jesus is telling the Apostles that no matter how difficult things might get, they must *go on believing, go on trusting in Him and in His Father.*

What real faith does is assure us that God is with us in the midst of any crisis of faith. It is that feeling, that conviction that we are not alone, that we are not abandoned, which enables us to get through our crisis of faith. *It is not we who keep the faith; it is the faith that keeps us, that sustains us, that nourishes us.* So, when things are tough and you find yourself facing a crisis in your faith life, may you listen for and hear the gentle words of Jesus: *“Believe in God, and believe also in Me.”* This is the Good News. Let us not lose heart. The suffering of the present time is temporary; the joy and glory to come are for all eternity!