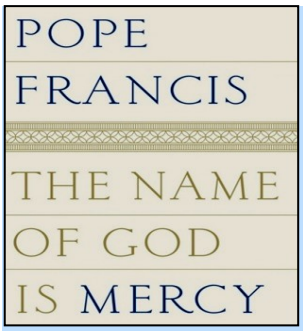


Spiritual Book Club Coming to Cathedral!

"The name of God is mercy. There are no situations we cannot get out of, we are not condemned to sink into quicksand."—Pope Francis

The Pro-Cathedral offers a Spiritual Book Club opportunity to read and share responses to Pope Francis's new book, "***The Name of God is Mercy" with guide Sister Mae Kierans, CSJ.***

Begins Tuesday after Easter, March 29 with gatherings following: April 5, April 12, & April 19 from 1:30 – 3:00 PM in the Parish Hall. Refreshments served at all gatherings.

Based on New York Times Best Seller! In his first book published as Pope, and in conjunction with the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, Pope Francis here invites all humanity to an intimate and personal dialogue on the subject closest to his heart—mercy—which has long been the cornerstone of his faith and is now the central teaching of his papacy.

In this conversation with Vatican reporter Andrea Tornielli, Francis explains—through memories from his youth and moving anecdotes from his experiences as a pastor—why "mercy is the first attribute of God." God "does not want anyone to be lost. His mercy is infinitely greater than our sins," he writes. As well, the Church cannot close the door on anyone, Francis asserts—on the contrary, its duty is to go out into the world to find its way into the consciousness of people so that they can assume responsibility for, and move away from, the bad things they have done.

Nervous? Don't Be!!

- *No knowledge of the book is needed.*
- *Gatherings are informal.*
- *Sr. Mae has broken down this small book into 4 manageable sections which she will introduce and give background on.*
- *Come together for only four weeks.*
- *Discuss what each section means and any questions it raises.*
- *Not academic—just a general sharing of learning and insight.*
- *Everyone can participate!*

The first Jesuit and the first South American to be elected Bishop of Rome, Pope Francis has traveled around the world spreading God's message of mercy to the largest crowds in papal history. Clear and profound, *The Name of God Is Mercy* resonates with this desire to reach all those who are looking for meaning in life, a road to peace and reconciliation, and the healing of physical and spiritual wounds.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED BY MONDAY, 21 MARCH

As Books Have to be Ordered

$20/Fee for Book Must be Received by 21 March - Refreshments Served at Gatherings

Please call the parish office at 472-3970, Ext. 0 or email cathedral@bellnet.ca NOW if you are interested. Thank you!

'Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. 'Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.'

LUKE 6: 36–40



Reflecting on the image

In this image Pope Francis embraces a blind woman. For Pope Francis 'Mercy' is one of the names of God. Mercy is a key to his spirituality, his papacy, his entire life. Many of the images we see of Pope Francis show him embracing God's little ones — the elderly, children, those with disabilities.

Spend some time with this image observing the tenderness of Pope Francis toward this blind woman. See how his hands hold her gently and with compassion. Observe his face and his own closed eyes, as he quietly prays for this young woman. See the radiant joy on her face as she receives his embrace, his mercy and his prayer.

Praying with the image

Pray the following from the official Prayer for the Year of Mercy:

Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with its anointing, so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord, and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed, and restore sight to the blind.

—POPE FRANCIS

Make this year's Share Lent a commitment to hope and mercy!

Join us at our

HUNGER MEAL

Pro-Cathedral Parish Hall
Friday, March 18 at 5:30 PM
Following Stations of the Cross in Cathedral at 5:00 PM



Come out and share solidarity with those who try to survive each day without the basic necessities of life. Proceeds of Voluntary Donations to Development & Peace Share Lent Collection which is collected at the Good Friday Liturgies on March 25. Please be generous!

Everyone Welcome!

"Create a Climate of Change" is this year's theme for the share Lent Campaign of the Catholic Organization for Development and Peace (Caritas Canada).



Confirmation Preparation will once again involve candidates from the entire North Bay region. This is a great opportunity for you to meet other young people who are also preparing for their Confirmation and who will be celebrating the Sacrament along with you.

A Confirmation Information Night will be held on Wednesday, April 6 at 6:30 PM at St. Peter's Parish Hall. This meeting is mandatory as you will receive an overview of the preparation program. Candidates, parents, and sponsors are asked to attend.

Confirmation is a special time for a young person to commit to their faith and experience the Holy Spirit in their life. It is a sacrament that continues the welcoming and the belonging that began with Baptism and which continues with the celebration of Eucharist.

Registration forms with all the preparation dates are available in the Cathedral. Please complete a registration form as soon as possible and drop the completed form off to the parish office or place it in the collection basket. Thank you!

Confirmation Preparation 2016