

PARISH OFFICE:

2250 – 150th Street, Surrey, BC V4A 9J3

Phone: 604-531-5739

Email: parish@starofthesea.ca

Website: starofthesea.ca

OPEN: Monday – Friday

8:30am- 4:30pm (*closed over*

lunch hour Noon-1pm)

FOR AFTER HOURS EMERGENCIES: 604-831-1162 or 604-541-8036







GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH

2250 - 150th Street, Surrey, BC V4A 9J3

Weekday Mass

Monday—Saturday 9AM First Friday 6:30PM

Weekend Mass

Saturday 5PM Sunday 9AM 11AM 7PM



LIVE LIVESTREAM Mass 11AM

Confessions

Wednesday 6:30PM Saturday 10AM

STAR OF THE SEA CHURCH

1153 Fir Street, White Rock, BC V4B 4A8

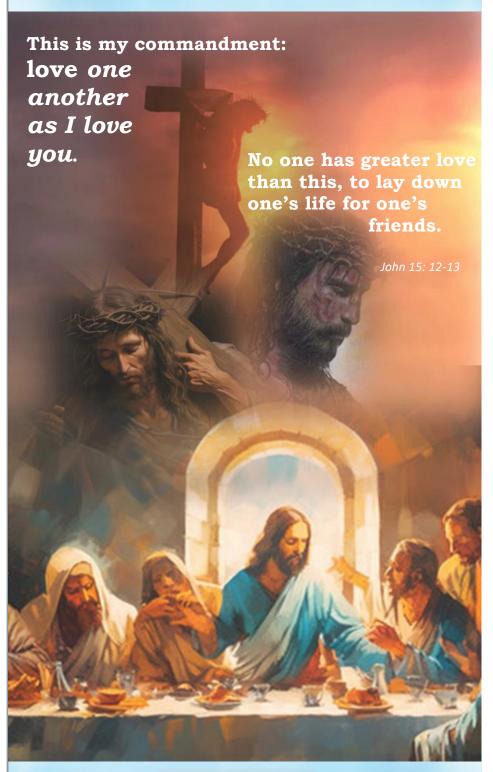
Weekend Mass

Saturday 4PM Sunday 10:30AM

STAR OF THE SEA PARISH

Welcome

Sixth Sunday of Easter — May 5, 2024



MISSION STATEMENT:

To follow Jesus Christ and to invite others to do the same.

PARISH STAFF:

PASTOR:

Fr. Augustine Obiwumma aobiwumma@rcav.org

ASSOCIATE PASTOR:

Fr. Francis Mallya, ALCP/OSS fmallya@rcav.org

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR:

Anne-Marie D'Mello parish@starofthesea.ca

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Janice Hamanishi janiceh@starofthesea.ca

PREP:

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MUSIC MINISTRY:

Trudi Stammer stammertrudi7@gmail.com

FACILITIES MANAGER:

Tom Cremer tomc@starofthesea.ca

Our Lady, Star of the Sea, Pray for us! My dear Parishioners,

How quickly the weeks fly by! Already it's May, the month in which the air warms, the earth springs into bloom and we start thinking about planting gardens, family picnics and making vacation plans. For us Catholics, it is the Month of Mary.

On **Thursday, May 16th**, I invite you, especially those with children/grandchildren in our PREP program to join us in a Marian procession and crowning of our Blessed Mother. The children will be asked to bring flowers in her honour and our Legion of Mary will be leading the rosary and procession. Come to Good Shepherd Church on May 16th, 6:15pm to participate in this devotion.

Here are some other upcoming dates to note:

- Mass on Tuesday, May 7th at 6:30pm in Good Shepherd Church for the installation of the new CWL Executive leadership team—all are invited to attend this special Mass
- I am away on Priest's Retreat during the week of May 13-17. Fr. Francis will be here for Mass and Confessions.
- Baptism class for parents preparing to have their child(ren) baptized is on **Saturday, May 18th**, 10am, Good Shepherd Church. Next baptism class won't be for another 3 months, so please sign up for this class if you are planning for a Spring or Summer baptism.
- Psalm98 Music Ministry will be back at Good Shepherd Church to lead our Youth (in Grades 7, 8, 9) in a Retreat on **Sunday, May 19th**, 5pm.

Finally, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks once again to all those who helped put together the beautiful celebration we had last Sunday, when Archbishop Michael was here in Good Shepherd Church to help us celebrate 100 years of Star of the Sea Parish. What a beautiful day it was! I especially mention members of the CWL, Knights, my office staff who organized the event, and all those who worked hard setting up and cleaning up. It was truly a great day for our parish.

To all those who attended, I hope you can all see how this parish has grown through the grace of God— how God has moved in this community in the last 100 years, in spite of difficulties and obstacles (some of which we created on our own through in-fighting and short-sightedness), in spite of all this opposition, all the ways we went astray....God's merciful Love is greater than all of that! Remember last week's Gospel—Jesus says, "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in me, and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing." The good fruits that this parish community has borne over the last 100 years is God Himself working in us and through

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us—it is Him bearing fruit in us—for *His own* purposes. And HE HAS NO EQUAL! Let us draw strength and confidence from this truth.

Archbishop Michael gave such a beautiful homily—and I want to share it here. Not only for those who missed it, but for everyone because his words warrant a deeper reflection:

TRANSCRIPT OF HOMILY OF ARCHBISHOP J. MICHAEL MILLER, CSB AT THE CENTENARY MASS AT GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH ON APRIL 28, 2024

Dear Father Augustine, joined by Father Galvon, former Pastor, beloved, as is Father Augustine, Deacon Raul, brothers and sisters in Christ, all of whom are together this morning celebrating the joyous occasion marking the Centenary of Star of the Sea Parish.

By contemporary standards, at least in Canada, a 100 years is a relatively long time. In the Church, however, whose history goes back nearly 2000 years since the death and resurrection of Jesus, and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost, 100 years is quite short. And certainly, for our Indigenous brothers and sisters, a century is but a passing moment in time.

Nevertheless, as we commemorate the 100th anniversary when the first church erected to honor Mary, Star of the Sea, was dedicated by then Archbishop Timothy Casey on the 4th of May 1924, we rightly look to our past with enormous gratitude.

God is truly great and has done marvelous deeds over the long history in this parish for you and with you. For this we give him thanks and praise.

From its very humble beginnings of a few Catholic families who wanted, and indeed built, the first church in White Rock, and subsequently, over the years, other churches — this beautiful one — an extraordinary Catholic school, this parish has grown into a large and a vibrant community of faith. Indeed, what has taken place here in South Surrey recalls what happened in the Church after Pentecost.

What we heard in today's First Reading from the Book of Acts can be applied, at least by analogy, to the history of Star of the Sea Parish. Acts records the church throughout Judea, Galilee and Samaria (and South Surrey) had peace and was built up. Living in the fear of the Lord and the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it increased in numbers.

Recalling your parish's history with thanksgiving is essential for preserving your strong identity as a place of Christ's presence, especially in the Eucharist, and for strengthening your unity as a family united in worship, community, and outreach to others.

More than an exercise in nostalgia, although it is a bit of that, celebrating a centenary looks to following in the footsteps of past generations in order to continue to implement the mission, the vision and the values which inspired them, all of which, of course, were founded in the Gospel. Down through the years, you, this parish, have done this relentlessly despite not insignificant challenges that you have also had to confront as a parish, as every family does.

In particular, today we give thanks to the good Lord for this precious inheritance of 100 years, when the life-giving power of the Holy Spirit has animated, over the years, the zealous pastors and priests who have served you. And certainly, here I recall especially most recent pastors whom, you know, Father Jim Fagan, Father Stan Galvon, who is with us today, Father Glenn Dion, previous pastor, and of course now Father Augustine Obiwumma. We should also recall the earlier days the committed religious sisters.

But above all, the lay faithful, too numerous to mention, who have dedicated themselves so generously to building up the parish community. They did so, and you continue to do so, as we heard in this morning's Second Reading from Saint John, having done so, not just in word and speech, "but in truth and in action."

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Today it's fitting then, that we acknowledge and express our gratitude for the many men and women who have gathered in the various churches that make up this parish to pray and worship, to be fed and nourished by the Lord in the Word of God preached over the years with integrity and conviction.

Let's also acknowledge the faith of those couples who brought their children to be baptized here and later prepared them and strengthened them in their Christian witness by the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Let's also acknowledge those who have pledged their love for one another before God in the Sacrament of Marriage, some of you might be here in the church this morning.

But many more have received God's forgiveness here and in Star of the Sea, and over the years in Holy Cross, been forgiven your sins, and also been healed through the Sacrament of the Sick.

But let's also commend to the Lord all the faithful departed, the faithful departed parishioners of Star of the Sea who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith. Today is an occasion to remember them.

Grateful remembrance of your past heritage should lead you, all of us, to live the present, to live the present with passion. As you listen attentively to what the Holy Spirit is saying to your parish today, I urge you to put into practice ever more fully the plans that God has – that God has – for your community of faith. At the outset, I think a reflection on the stark but freeing truth is necessary.

The Gospel is demanding. It demands that it be lived radically and sincerely. Jesus asks us to practice it, to put his words into real effect in our lives. Your Parish Mission statement – I saw it on the web – commits you to being a community who follows Jesus Christ and invites others to do the same – missionary disciples.

For Star of the Sea Parish to live the present with passion means that its parishioners should stand out as exemplary witnesses in furthering God's plan of drawing all people to himself in unity.

In our increasingly polarized Canadian society where different cultures and people with different ideas often experience difficulty in living alongside one another, and where inequality abounds, you are called to a particular mission – to offer a concrete model of community, which by acknowledging the dignity of every person, makes it possible for everyone to live as truly brothers and sisters loving one another as Jesus himself has commanded us.

And today's Gospel tells us something about what it means for each parishioner to live the present with commitment. During the Last Supper, Jesus tells his disciples, as we heard in the Gospel, "Abide in me," – stay with me, remain with me – "as I abide in you." And to explain to them this beautiful reality, Jesus uses the simple and easily understood image of a vine and its branches.

The expression "abide in me" or "remain with me, in me" describes the kind of intimate relationship that exists between Jesus, who is the true vine, and us, his disciples, as branches on that vine of Jesus.

At all times, the branches depend on the vine, and indeed they form one living organism with it. We are one body in Christ. "Apart from me", he says, "you can do nothing". Nothing. As branches, none of us is self-sufficient. We all depend totally on the vine.

At our baptism, indeed we are grafted – that's when it happens – we are grafted as branches on the vine who is Christ. And he must remain the centre, not just of each person's life, but the centre of parish life.

To abide with Jesus is not just a purely individualistic matter. All the baptized, all of us, are attached to the vine, to Jesus. In him, we belong together within this communion of the parish and the Church, it is he who supports us. "Without me, you can do nothing". At the same time, it necessarily follows that all parishioners are to support one another, especially in times of difficulty and even in times, perhaps especially, in times of disagreement.

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All life, all true life, all grace, flows from Jesus to us. And then through us, the little branches on the vine, we bear fruit by letting the sap run through the vine to others. That's what produces good fruit. To be a community that loves Jesus Christ and brings others to him.

The star of the century, the Star of the Sea rather, begins its 2nd century. The good Lord is calling you to embrace your future with hope. The difficulties which the whole Church are facing are all too well known to us:

- Unresolved matters and reconciling the Church and Indigenous Peoples;
- Unresolved matters regarding clerical sexual abuse;
- Decreasing vocations to the priesthood and the consecrated life;
- Growing social isolation;
- Economic problems making it difficult for young families, or young people to establish families;
- The threats posed by moral relativism;
- The increasing attacks on human life and its dignity, both early, from conception, and increasingly now, at its end.

But it is precisely amid these challenges, uncertainties, which we share with many of our contemporaries, that a parish is called to practice the great theological virtue of hope. Hope is the fruit of our faith that Jesus Christ is truly risen from the dead and lives and reigns forever with the Father, as we so frequently pray. He is the one who is guiding this parish. He is the one who is guiding the history of the world. Indeed, he drives that history. And he is the one who never ceases to tell us, "Do not be afraid. And remember I am with you until the close, until the end of the age".

This hope of ours is not based on statistics, or on parish building accomplishments, important as these might be. But our hope is based on the one in whom we place our trust, "The one for whom nothing is impossible", as Gabriel said to Mary at the Annunciation. Who is this? Jesus Christ. The same yesterday, today, and forever. He is the only hope, who does not, cannot disappoint us.

Dear parishioners, have trust that as the future unfolds, God will continue to do what he wants for this parish. We hope, of course, that it is great things, even as the world undergoes significant changes.

Above all, be people of hope. Not because you are naive or foolishly optimistic. But because you know that this parish, like the Church itself, belongs to God. It is not my church or our church. It is his church. And it is his Church, to that Church, that he is promised to be with us until the ages are no more.

And so, I urge you to look confidently, joyfully, to the future, praising Almighty God for what he has brought about in this parish over a century by the outpouring of his unfailing love and mercy.

We now continue our Eucharist, giving thanks. Giving thanks for the gift of Star of the Sea Parish. Giving thanks for the role that it's played in your own personal life. What it is meant to you. What it is meant to your family.

At this time, the celebration, our union with Jesus becomes especially intimate as we celebrate, make present even, his death and resurrection for us and for this community of faith, when he invites us to a Holy Communion with him.

This is ultimately what a parish is. Its people gathered in communion with Jesus Christ, their Lord.

Let us then also now entrust ourselves to the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, whom you love under her ancient title, Star of the Sea, that you will keep this precious parish dedicated to her, ever faithful to her Risen Son, and alive in the Holy Spirit.

AMEN! Fr. Augustine

PARISH EDUCATION COMMITTEE VACANCY





The Parish Education Committee (PEC) assists the Pastor in overseeing the operation of Star of the Sea Catholic School.

The PEC is an extension of the Board of Directors of the CISVA (Catholic Independent Schools of the Vancouver Archdiocese) <u>cisva.bc.ca</u> and is composed of the Pastor and 7 members - 5 elected and 2 appointed by the Pastor.

The PEC meets monthly to discuss and act upon the responsibilities and commitments established by the CISVA including:

- Cooperation with Archdiocesan programs
- Ensuring the CISVA's educational policy is followed
- Oversee day-to-day operation of the school, including collection of fees, payment of expenses, and maintenance.
- Support the Principal as chief administrator of the school
- Promote Catholic education, its values and benefits to the community

The PEC is an excellent opportunity for faithful parishioners who believe in Catholic Education and have the skills sets necessary to get involved and contribute to our parish school.

This year, there are **two vacancies** for the PEC for a 2-year term commencing **June 11, 2024**.

WHO CAN BE ON THE PEC?

(CISVA Policy 107 - 1.4)

Those eligible to hold office as a member of the PEC are <u>practicing Catholics</u>, <u>approved by the Pastor</u>, who are eligible to vote in that parish and have reached the age of twenty-one (21), with the following exceptions:

- **★** all employees of the CISVA or any CISVA Affiliate School;
- ★ anyone who is part of the governance structure of any other CISVA School or CISVA Affiliate School;
- ★ past employees of the CISVA or any CISVA affiliated school until 3 full calendar years have passed since the termination of employment;
- **★** Spouses, children, parents, brothers and sisters of persons covered above.

NOMINATIONS

Those eligible to hold office are also eligible to nominate. Nomination forms are available from the Parish office and School office. Completed forms must be submitted in a sealed envelope addressed to the Nominating Committee **by THURSDAY, MAY 2** (3:00pm at School office) and (4:30pm at the Parish office).

ELECTION WEEKEND

PEC elections will be held after Masses on the weekend of **MAY 25 & 26.** Advance Poll will be at the Parish Office on Thursday, May 23, 3:00–3:30pm, for those who will be away on election weekend.

WHO'S ELIGIBLE TO VOTE

Those eligible to vote are Catholics who have reached the age of 19, residing within parish boundaries and are registered members of the parish. It is the individual's responsibility to ensure that his/her name is placed on the Voter's List. A person may vote in only one parish. Also eligible to vote are non-Catholic spouses of all Catholics eligible to vote.

Congratulations to the 96 children receiving their **First Holy Communion** this Sunday:

Prida Abaquin Athalia Adomokai Juliana Alvarado Noyo Amorighoye Allegra Andreou Amadeo Andreou **Emily Baah** Benjamin Bazant Kevin Bergonsi Juniper Bocale Joseph Burgess AJ Calibo Brisie Chan Violet Charleston Grayson Christensen Avery Chu Isabella Ciccia Alexandria Cordeta Bella Corrigan Lucy Coupal-Quarto Jack Crockett Jane Dagenais Liam Echiverri Luciano Elacio Gonzalez Precious Elamparo Virnel Elamparo Austin Errani Rosario III Etrata Emilia Fata Annette Foli David Gac Phoebe Galang Adrien Gagnon

Sara Gebbie Angela Gjoka Juanito Guingab Gavin Hack Jack Hewitt Sennen Hillard Brooklynn Hodges Rory Huang Scarlett Ibarra-Zhang Maro Ighure Nina Imbroisi de Faro Mendes Aiden Isidro George Jack Bailey Jasmins-Douglas Tianna Kennedy Anthony Kielmann Javden Laio Mackenzie Lannon Skvelin Lee Xinyu (Amy) Li Xinyue (Nina) Li Gertrude Linder Daisy Liu Penelope Lochub Romy Loest Mischa Lukasik Maria Mathew Emilia McEwen Lucy McIntosh Jonathan Mills Joshua Mills Vanessa Molina Acedo

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OPEN Every Day
9AM - 9PM



You are made for intimacy with Christ, allowing Him to encounter you intimately. Where no one else can enter that part of your heart, allow Him. He can heal and free you from anything heavy that's on your life. Come to the Eucharist. Where Miracles begin!

Hours in need of a weekly adorer: Sunday, Noon-1pm Sunday, 3-4pm-Sunday, 5-6pm Sunday, 7-8:pm Monday, 9-10am Wednesday, 4-5pm Thursday, Noon-1pm Thursday, 2-3pm Friday, 1-2pm Friday, 3-4pm Saturday, 2-3pm Saturday, 3-4pm Saturday, 4-5pm Saturday, 5-6pm Saturday, 7-8pm

For more information or to schedule a Holy Hour of adoration please call: Donna Sali 604 542 3070

Our parish community prays for you and your family:

May you always know the peace of Jesus,

the light of His love,

and the joy of His life within you.

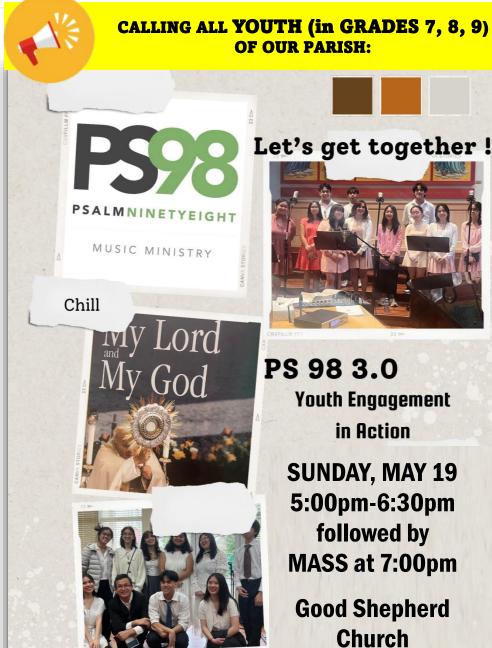
Malia Mroczek

Please pray for

Shirley Schlase, John Becher, Cathy Houldson, Christine Algard, Marin Robertson, Ivan Felipe Aragon, Jean Guy Tardif, Trudy Bishop, Theresa Desrochers. Margaret Benoit, Maria Lee, Rose Cruz, Byrne Turner, Bernie Karoway, Murray Carpenter, Patrick Hamilton, Marilyn Wolfe, Jason Eddleman, Julia Nadon, Delia Antunovich, Ken Prout, Mercedes Sandoval, Judy Nault, Maria Kasprzyk, Jola Melone, Brian Hickey, Jack Plain, Charles Lefaive, Anna Schott, Peter Kingsland, Nancy Murchison, Karine Tardif, Angus Heaps, Bob Keith, Stephanie Wideski, Edward Drabik, Rob McLellan, Glenn Brooks, Carmina Raponi, Susie Bencherif, Marci Nunez, Adria Tate, Wolf Mashohn, Guilherme & Isaura da Ponte, Amelia Solomon, Lydia McGrann, Theresa Kim, Manal Ibrahim, Marian Nadelko, Maureen McLaren

Please pray for the Repose of the Soul

of: Dirk Post





Next Meeting is on **Monday, May 13** in the Fireside Room after the 9am Mass.

For more info. contact Marlene Johnston -604 538 5899 Mimi Bower-604 535 6288

Next SENIORS & FRIENDS CAFÉ

is on **Friday**, **May 17** after 9am
Mass at Good Shepherd Church

Everyone welcome!



Please join us on **Tuesday, May 7 6:30pm**, Good Shepherd
Church for our May **CWL**

Council meeting. The Catholic Women's League has many programs and workshops that empower women in becoming confident leaders who journey together to build God's kingdom in the areas of faith, service, and social justice.

It's a special meeting tonight as we will beginning with **Mass at 6:30pm** then have installation of the new Executive leadership team. This will be followed by our usual light refreshments and some Council business. It is open to everyone (yes, men too!) and it would be lovely to have as many ladies as possible participating. Come walk with us.

Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting is on Saturday, May 18, 10AM in Good Shepherd Church Fireside Room.

"Prayer Shawls: made with the Love of God in every stitch"



Knitted and crocheted by a

dedicated group of parishioners, prayer shawls come in a variety of sizes, shapes and colours to give comfort to those suffering illness. Each prayer shawl has been blessed by a priest and has a holy medal attached.

Cost is BY DONATION.

Contact Rycarda rycarda@telus.net



"Iron sharpens iron; and one man sharpens another." Prov 27.17 RSV-CE

Meeting on the first and second Monday of the month

starting on <u>May 6th and 13th</u> in the Star of the Sea School Lobby from 7:00 - 8:30 PM.

For more info, please contact Mario Ylanan, the Group Facilitator, at mario.ylanan@gmail.com

Pregnancy, Infant and Child Loss Memorial Mass



Saturday, May 18th at **5pm** in the Good Shepherd Church

Join us for a special Mass as we remember our little ones in heaven. There will be candles lit in their honour and we will have light snacks and a chance to connect after Mass.

No RSVP necessary.

Contact: Brittany Garisto b.garisto@outlook.com

PARENTS/CAREGIVERS
COFFEE
MEET-UP

Mondays after school drop-off 9:30am-10:30am in the Welcoming Area at Good Shepherd Church CALLING ALL
SPANISHSPEAKING
PARISHIONERS
& FRIENDS:

ALL ¿HABLAS ESPAÑOL?
NERS S:

We invite you to come meet one another to form a Spanish Catholic community in our parish. Let us gather to grow in our faith, socialize and learn from and help one another. For more information, please contact Gloria Villamil email: villamilg66@gmail.com

phone: 604 209 9323

AVISO PARA TODOS LOS FELIGRESES, FAMILIAS Y AMIGOS DE HABLA HISPANA:

Los invitamos a conocernos para formar una comunidad católica en español en nuestra parroquia. Reunámonos para crecer en nuestra fe, socializar, aprender y ayudarnos unos a otros.

Para obtener más información, por favor comuníquese con la líder de grupo Gloria Villamil Correo electrónico:

villamilg66@gmail.com Teléfono: 604 209 9323



DADS & KIDS GYM NITE

For dads of the parish and their school-aged children (5yrs +)

Fridays 6:45-8:00PM Star of the Sea School Gym

Contact Joseph Myers <u>Joseph.myers.j@gmail.com</u> 604-866-7887 for more info

Ladies: **You** are invited to our **MAGNIFICAT Praver**

Brunch, on **Saturday**,

May 25th, 11am-2pm at St. John Paul II Pastoral Centre, 4885 Saint John Paul II Way, in Vancouver.

Our speaker is Donna Ross, Co-ordinator of the International Magnificat Chapters.

Walking in the Spirit Prayer teams will be available at the end of the event for those interested. Please register at beholdvancouver.org/events or call 778-868-4226

or email: magnificatvancouver@gmail.com Registration deadline is May 17th



WEDNESDAYS 7:15PM

at Star of the Sea School, 15024 - 24th Ave (enter from the 24th Avenue entrance)

For more information, contact: Jae Ewing 604-536-7860 jae.ewing@shaw.ca Flavianne Devuyst 604-535-0508

flaviannedev@gmail.com



Can connections made through the parish office help us help each other?

> If so, email us at parish@starofthesea.ca

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* * * * * * *

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GOLF TOURNAMENT

May 16, 2024

Tsawwassen Springs | 1PM SHOTGUN START CAPTAINS CHOICE TEXAS SCRAMBLE

For more info, scan QR Code or go to:

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