

## **Church of the Annunciation**

635-5th Avenue West, Prince Rupert, BC V8J 1V1

Phone: 250-624-3035
Email: annunciation@citywest.ca
Website: annunciationchurchpr.ca
Pastor: Fr. Terry Brock 250-624-3035
Email: tbrock@telus.net



# April 30th, 2023 — 4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

"You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God."—I Peter 1:23

#### <u>Annunciation Mass</u> <u>Schedule & Intentions</u>

Mon May 1 @ 8am Maria NG+

Tue May 2 @ 8am

Wed May 3 @ 7pm Carl Olafson+

Thu May 4 @ 8am

Fri May 5 @ 7pm (First Friday) Peter Nguyen+

Sat May 6 @ 5pm

Sun Apr 30 @ 10am OUR PARISHIONERS



#### **Parish Activities**

**Exposition & International Rosary:** First Friday of the month @ 7:00 pm Mass followed by Exposition and Rosary.

Rosary: Saturday @ 10:15 am.

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help: Every Wednesday evening @ 6:30 pm before Mass.

**Confessions:** 30 mins before weekday and weekend mass or by appointment.

**<u>Baptism</u>**: Call the office for appointment with Fr. Terry.

**Matrimony**: Please contact Fr. Terry at least 6 months in advance.

#### **First Holy Communion & Confirmation:**

- ⇒ FIRST COMMUNION will be on Sunday, June 6
- ⇒ **CONFIRMATION** date TBD

<u>Catholic Women's League</u>: Please check out our national website: <u>cwl.ca</u> and provincial: <u>bcyukoncwl.com</u>.

**Alleluia.** I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me. **Alleluia.** 

# New online platform fights porn addiction under the patronage of Blessed Carlo Acutis

Pornography use and addiction are sources of distress in modern marriages and a significant reason for higher divorce rates over the past 20 years. The accessibility of porn on the internet, as well as a loss of spirituality and the meaning of sex and marriage, has given rise to the widespread use of porn.

This reality is the reason for a new online discussion and prayer platform called **SOS Porn Deliverance**, which was recently launched under the patronage of the Italian computer programmer Blessed Carlos Acutis. The platform, available in English since March 19, was originally launched in 2020 in French by the online evangelization association **Lights in the Dark**, founded in 2015.

The association has since developed several thematic platforms to announce the Gospel to the peripheries of the Church, including the themes of life after death, the Holy Shroud of Turin, and the meaning of Christmas and Valentine's Day. "E-missionaries" are present on each platform to answer live questions from internet users.

"We want to make Christ known and loved to our contemporaries who do not yet know him, knowing that Jesus can free them from their chains, namely their addictions," Jean-Baptiste Maillard, co-founder of **Lights in the Dark**, told CNA. "We offer the opportunity for those affected by this scourge to chat confidentially with an e-missionary trained in this mission, which is first and foremost to listen with compassion and to bear witness to the love of God in our lives."

Blessed Carlo Acutis, one of the first and most famous figures of online evangelization and a key reference for Lights in the Dark since its foundation, is also at the center of this initiative, which includes a prayer of deliverance through his intercession.

The prayer received the imprimatur of the archbishop of Bourges (central France), Jérôme Beau, as well as the approval of Acutis' mother.

"We also wrote to Pope Francis in August 2022 and were pleased to receive a response three weeks later in which he encouraged us to 'continue to reach out to the wounded and fragile, in search of meaning in their lives,' and to be 'a beacon of hope' for those who are discouraged and sad," Maillard said. "The Holy Father also encouraged us to 'take care of the fragile members of our families, of our society, of our peoples."

"Our outstretched hand is [to provide] for all these people, especially those addicted to porn, a real lifeline, which they have sometimes been waiting for several decades," explained Maillard, who also reported several cases of profound healing through the intercession of Carlo Acutis. Many of those testimonies are available on their website.

"These testimonies encourage many addicts who hear about this good news," Maillard said. "It shows them that getting out of porn, with God's help, is really possible."

## "The Pope Answers" New Documentary:

Ten young people from all over the world meet in Rome with Pope Francis, with the aim of talking and conveying to him the main concerns of their generation.

Among the group of 20- to 25-year-olds were Catholics, Protestants, atheists, agnostics, and one Muslim. Each has a unique problem with either the Church or God. They question the pope on some of the Church's most controversial teachings and difficult problems.



#### **Question Topic: Sex and Pornography**

Another, Alejandra, from Colombia, challenges the Church's position on pornography. She shares that to earn a living she creates pornographic content on a social media site, asserting that it is the best job she has had because it allows her to stay home to care for her daughter.

The pope responds by reminding the young woman of the obligation to use social media responsibly.

"There should be a distinction between the richness of social media and the morality of what you do ... The morality of social media depends on what you use it for," the pope says. "Pornography diminishes, it doesn't help you grow. Those who use pornography are diminished in human terms."

#### What Should You Do If You've Committed A Mortal Sin?

First, we need to truly understand that we are capable of sin and that evil does exist. Many today deny that sin is possible, believe it or not. Likely, this is because we have lost touch with the reality of objectivity which is only found in God. Truth is not decided by the majority, it is as God made it. Our freedom, therefore, is not license to do whatever we like, it is the right to do what we ought.

So, what should you do if you are conscious of mortal sin in your soul? The first thing to do is to take a breath and recognize the sorrow for your sin which you are experiencing. If you are sorry for what you have done, then you need only ask for God's forgiveness to receive it. The moment we offer a broken and contrite spirit to God, He will not spurn us. Like the father in the prodigal son parable, He will run towards us and embrace us. However, this is not the end. The moment we ask for forgiveness, we receive it. True! But we still have yet to confess our sins aloud and be reconciled with the Church. There is a distinction between forgiveness and absolution.

When the priest or bishop absolves our sins in the Sacrament of Penance, our soul is restored to the state of justification of our Baptism. We are set right with God. The sins, mortal and venial, have been absolved (washed away). There will still be penance to do and the temporal effects of sin remain. But, our soul has been resuscitated and we are in a state of grace. The graces which flow from this great sacrament are truly beautiful.

God forbid we should commit a mortal sin, but if you find yourself having done so, then turn to prayer as soon as you experience the grace of conversion. Say an Act of Contrition. Say an "Our Father," where we ask for forgiveness directly. Pray a Hail Mary asking for our Blessed Mother's help to get to Confession as soon as possible. But remember, God does not condemn us. Condemnation and shame come from the Accuser, from Satan. Instead, God convicts our hearts. The Holy Spirit is the Helper who guides us to the harbor of God. Sin is a big deal, but God's grace is bigger. Put your trust in Him. Run to Him. Cling to Him. Give thanks to Him.

Jesus, I trust in You.

#### **Mass Schedule for Lectors and Psalmists**

Mass Date	Time	1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reader, Pray- ers of the Faithful	Psalmist	Ciborium	Ushers
May 6, 2023	5:00 pm	Anu Khaira John Zille	Lorraine Zuzarte	Christine Komadina	Zorina & Morina
May 7, 2023	10:00 am	Carol Ruperto Laura Esposito	Angeline DeVera	Giselda Bidese	Jocelyn Hortel & Jovita Abecia



## Sacramental Preparation Dates!

FIRST COMMUNION preparation will take place on the following Sundays after the 10am Mass on April 23, 30 and May 7

CONFIRMATION preparation will take place on the following Saturdays after the 5pm Mass on April 15, 22, and 29 (Parents are

invited to bring a snack and join in a short teaching on confirmation, little snack and a game of some sort.)

Where: Downstairs in the Gathering Centre

"No one, however weak, is denied a share in the victory of the cross. No one is beyond the help of the prayer of Christ." —St. Leo the Great



