

CLC Flourishing at St. Mark's – UBC

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When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled, they were all together in one place.... And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak ..., as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim.

Now there were devout Christians from every nation staying in Vancouver... They were astounded and in amazement ...We are Canadians, Americans, Filipinos, New Zealanders, Hungarian, German, Chinese from Hong Kong, ...both Catholics, and Evangelicals, and non-denominational seekers, yet we hear each other speaking ...of the mighty acts of God. (A description of the CLC at St. Mark's-UBC paraphrasing Acts 2:1,3-5,7, 9-11).

CLC is flourishing at St. Mark's-UBC in Vancouver. We have a very diverse and ecumenical group – 10 regular participants, others who come when they can and newcomers arriving regularly. All are seeking our deepest desire and discerning and responding to God's will in our lives. Ours is the only CLC in Vancouver with young families and persons with theological degrees (5). Age ranges from recent UBC graduate to retired. Some members have prior experience with CLC in Hong Kong, the Philippines or Toronto. At least five members have prayed the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius. Two are spiritual directors. Some direct or are training to direct the Exercises. Several have studied at Jesuit schools outside of Canada. Almost all have participated in retreats in Ignatian spirituality and discernment.

The Holy Spirit has drawn us together to form a community of welcome, of hospitality, of seeking to grow deeper in our faith through Ignatian spirituality, to share the wonders of God acting in our lives, and to support one another on the journey. Only the Holy Spirit could have gathered such an incredible diversity of Christians together to enrich and enliven each other in community. Thanks be to God!