

Pastor's Corner - November 20, 2011 - Ecological Justice

No matter where we turn these day we hear expressed over and over again concerns about the economic situation of our local communities, of our province, of our country and of our world. Forgotten it seems the concern about what our economic actions are doing to our planet in the long term. So it was refreshing to hear of a meeting which reminded all of us how the Creator God gifted us with this planet and made us stewards of this planet requiring us to maintain a balance between economic activity and environmental stewardship. In Ottawa on October 25 leaders of 21 faith communities and of 5 faith-based communities issued a call for leadership and action on climate change asking the political leaders to look at the world's religious traditions for the necessary moral and spiritual resources to meet the climate change crisis. For the many skeptics in our country and elsewhere they used some strong words: "We recognize that **at its root the unprecedented human contribution to climate change is symptomatic of a spiritual deficit: excessive self-interest, destructive competition, and greed have given rise to unsustainable patterns of production and consumption.** ... Our faith traditions and sacred texts call upon us all, individuals, civil society, businesses, industry, and governments, to consider the spiritual dimensions of the crisis of ocean and climate change; to take stock of our collective behavior; to transform cultures of consumerism and waste into cultures of sustainability; and to respect the balance between economic activity and stewardship. ... **We see people as more than consumers with unlimited appetites. The foundations for a sustainable economy include the values of restraint, cooperation, and reciprocity.** We believe **we must work together in transforming cultures of self-interest and unprecedented consumption into cultures of justice for all.** All religious traditions uphold the nobility of the human spirit, calling on us to seek moderation and service to the common good. ... Our everyday choices about food, transportation, clothing and entertainment are all practical expressions of what we value. ... **We need to seek coherence between our beliefs and our actions,** so that our lives and consumption habits reflect our relationship with the rest of humanity and the Earth itself." Both Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict in *Caritas in Veritate* have expressed similar views based on the Hebrew and Christian Scriptures. Unfortunately, rich countries like Canada have often hesitated or refused to accept their responsibility and to adapt their policies in a serious way: "For high-income nations such as Canada, justice demands that our governments shoulder a greater share of the economic burden of adaptation mitigation, first and foremost, because of access to greater means, but also because of an historic role in contributing to its causes. **We have a moral imperative to act.**" In a call for leadership and action these spiritual leaders turn also to us: "In our neighbourhoods and communities, in businesses and organizations, we need to change wasteful patterns of production and consumption. This calls for a cultural transformation that brings the values of sustainability to the forefront of public consciousness, and into more responsible practices. **We cannot wait for others to act but instead must lead by example.** Religious organizations, public institutions, and businesses all have important roles to play in promoting **ethical consumption and more sustainable lifestyles and practices in their everyday operations.**" Maybe we could take the dust off the environmental policy which your parish pastoral council of 2005 passed not only for parish use but also for the use in each home!

This year's fall campaign of **Development and Peace**, with its theme "*Together, we hold the future in our hands*", also reiterates basic elements of an ecological justice and makes the connections between ecological issues, agricultural production and the exploitation of natural resources. I would urge you to read and reflect on the very informative background material provided by Development and Peace as well as to participate in the card signing whereby we express our solidarity. Let us remember that today's ocean and climate challenges call us to a new solidarity with the people of the Global South and to a new ecological spirituality based on the Gospel and the Church's social teaching. Over many decades now numerous encyclicals have called for integral human development which concerns the well being of every person and of the whole person in every dimension, economic, political, social and spiritual: "**Every violation of solidarity and civic friendship harms the environment, just as environmental deterioration in turn upsets relations in society (Caritas in Veritate, 51).**"

Shalom,

Saanich Peninsula Parish

A ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY IN COVENANT WITH ST. STEPHEN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
Box 2116, Sidney, BC, V8L 3S6

Parish Office: 250-656-7433, email: sparish@shaw.ca, fax 250-483-1597

Web site: www.sparish.com, Rectory: 250-652-1990

Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Reconciliation: Saturdays 4:00 - 4:30 pm, or by appointment.

PASTOR: Father Rolf Hasenack, O.P. **PARISH COORDINATOR:** Gary Koett

PASTORAL COUNCIL: Paul Ledet, Jr. (Chair)



EUCCHARIST AT ST. ELIZABETH'S

10030 Third Street, Sidney
Saturdays at 5 pm, Sundays at 10:30 am.
Daily on Tuesdays (8:30 am), Wednesdays and
Thursdays (9 am), and First Fridays (9 am).

RECONCILIATION AT ST. ELIZABETH'S
Saturdays 4 - 4:30pm

EUCCHARIST AT

OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION
7742 West Saanich Road, Saanichton
Sundays at 8:30 am

Last Friday at Saanich Peninsula Hospital at 11 am
Remaining Fridays at 9 am in a private home
(see "This Week in Our Parish" inside bulletin)

NOVEMBER 20, 2011

FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

**EZ 34:11,12,15-17, 1 COR 15:20-26, 28,
MATT 25: 31-46**



VISITING EUCHARISTIC MINISTRY

If you know of someone who is house-bound or in a nursing home/hospital and would like a visit from the Pastor or the Visitation Team, please call the office at 250-656-7433.

MISSION STATEMENT

*Let us be open
accepting individuals
sensitive to change
and willing to take
Courses untraditional,
unknown to us.
Let us live as
examples of God's love.*

NEW TO THE PARISH? WELCOME!

Please fill out the information below so we can get to know you. Pick up one of the blue information pamphlets next to the bulletins in the foyer so you can get to know us.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Postal Code: _____

Email: _____

Need Pre-Authorized Debit package? Yes ___ No ___

Need donation envelopes? Yes ___ No ___

IN OUR PARISH

COLLECTIONS:

November 6	\$ 4,794
November 13	\$ 4,660
Catholic Missions in Canada	\$ 1,349
Pre-Authorized Debits (PADs):	\$ 4,490
Monthly Target:	Approx. \$ 23,000

MESSAGE FROM THE APPEAL TEAM

Many thanks to the 100 parishioners who have given or pledged \$33,705 to the Diocesan Appeal. If you have not yet made your donation or pledge, there is still time to do so. Please make your cheques payable to the **Diocese of Victoria** and place your envelope in the collection.

With thanks - Fr. Rolf, Derek, Freddie, Jim, Linda, Mark, and Norm.

TODAY - CWL BAKE & FLOWER SALE

K OF C BREAKFAST: SUN. NOV. 27

All week long you can look forward to having the Knights serve you a delicious pancake breakfast next Sun. Nov. 27 - you don't have to do the dishes either!

ADVENT MEDITATION: SAT. DEC. 10

On Sat. Dec. 10 at 7 pm, you are invited to an evening of Advent music and reflection at St. Elizabeth's hosted by Ray Folk & friends.

UNDERSTANDING THE REVISED MASS TEXTS - INFORMATION BOOKLET

An information booklet explaining the Revised Roman Missal is available in the foyer - by donation.

PROPOSED 2012 PARISH BUDGET

The proposed parish budget is posted in the church foyer. Please look it over. Direct your responses to the finance committee or a member of the parish council.

TAIZE PRAYER:

- **Fri. Nov. 25, 7 pm** - St. John's United Church, 10990 West Saanich Road
- **Tues. Nov. 29, 7 pm** - Saanich Peninsula Hospital

D & P FALL ACTION CAMPAIGN

This year we are focusing on the environment. Check out the display in the foyer, take a brochure, and sign our Action Card!

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

MONDAY, NOV. 21

1:00pm Memory Plus
1:00pm Faith Reflection Group

TUESDAY, NOV. 22

8:30am Mass
9:00am Eucharistic Adoration
11:30am Friendly Hours

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 23

9:00am Mass
10:00am Taiji Qigong
6:30pm **EI Shaddai Celebration**

THURSDAY, NOV. 24

9:00am Mass - for CWL deceased members
11:30am Friendly Hours
2:00pm Prayer Group
6:00pm Taiji Qigong

FRIDAY, NOV. 25

11:00am Mass at Saan. Pen Hospital Chapel
7:30pm **Sidney Classical Orchestra**

SATURDAY, NOV. 26

4-4:30pm Reconciliation
5:00pm Mass at St. Elizabeth's

SUNDAY, NOV. 27

8:30am Mass at Our Lady of the Assumption
9:45am Children's Religious Education
10:30am Mass at St. Elizabeth's
11:30am **K of C Pancake Breakfast**

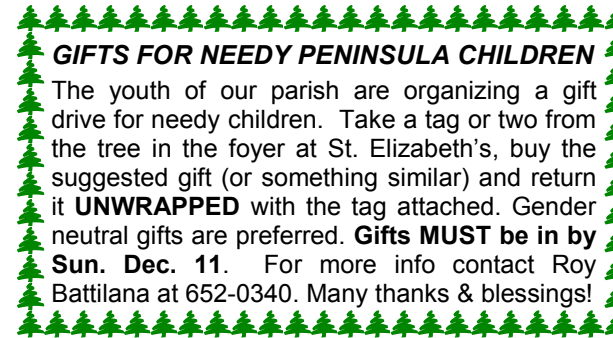
See online calendar at www.spparish.com for latest changes (click "View Parish Calendar").

ADVENT INVITATION - OPENNESS TO GOD

You are invited to experience moments of God's Presence, Scripture reflection, personal quiet in preparation for the celebration of Emmanuel - God within us. Thursdays: Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22, 2 to 3:30 pm at St. Elizabeth's. For information contact Cathy Kelsey at 250-652-2365 or Sr. Donna MacIntyre at 250-656-0281.

CHRISTMAS CARDS ON SALE IN FOYER

\$1 per card, available for purchase after mass. Proceeds to St. Clare's Monastery, Duncan.



GIFTS FOR NEEDY PENINSULA CHILDREN

The youth of our parish are organizing a gift drive for needy children. Take a tag or two from the tree in the foyer at St. Elizabeth's, buy the suggested gift (or something similar) and return it **UNWRAPPED** with the tag attached. Gender neutral gifts are preferred. **Gifts MUST be in by Sun. Dec. 11.** For more info contact Roy Battilana at 652-0340. Many thanks & blessings!

CONCERTS AT ST. ELIZABETH'S:

- **Sunday, Nov. 20, 2:30 pm**
Victoria Chamber Orchestra presents "Mozart Requiem" & other works. Adults \$20, students \$15.
- **Friday, Nov. 25, 7:30 pm**
Sidney Classical Orchestra presents "Mozart - Elegance & Joy". Refreshments following the concert. Adults \$20, students \$10 at the door.

THANK YOU FROM MARTIN POELS

Epistle from Martin to his dearly beloved brothers and sisters in Christ. Thank you for your earnest prayers on my behalf. Here is a mantra for you: The Heavens open with the Son of Man coming in great Power and Majesty, and herein lies a spiritual Oasis of Peace that I would like to share with all of you.

IN OUR DIOCESE

DIOCESAN MASS: FRI. NOV. 25

On Fri. Nov. 25 at 12 pm a Diocesan Mass, with Bishop Richard Gagnon presiding, will be celebrated at the Cathedral for all deceased priests, bishops and religious of the diocese. Reception will follow.

CHRISTMAS BAZAARS:

- **UKRAINIAN CHRISTMAS FOOD FAIR**
Sat. Nov. 26, 11 am to 2 pm at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Church, 1110 Caledonia Ave. Hot lunch and sale of perogies, cabbage rolls, sausage, borscht, preserves, Christmas bread and pastries.
- **ST. ROSE OF LIMA BAZAAR**
Sat. Nov. 26, 9 am - 3 pm, St. Rose of Lima, 6221 Sooke Rd, Sooke. Crafts, baking, gifts, refreshments, raffles, prizes.

BUS TO CATHOLIC SCHOOLS ?

Are you interested in sending your child from Sidney by bus to a Catholic school in Victoria? If so, please contact Stuart Andrie at 250-884-1870 ASAP. We need to know if there is sufficient interest to proceed.

RE-ENCHANTMENT OF NATURE AS THE WORD & BEAUTY OF GOD: DEC. 2 & 3

Fri. Dec. 2, 7 - 9 pm & Sat. Dec. 3, 10 am - 2:30 pm, Fr. John McCarthy will lead a retreat at St. Joseph the Worker Parish. Free. See poster in foyer.

GENERAL

UVIC OPPORTUNITIES:

- **Health Is The Greatest Wealth: Aging Well With Healthy Hormones.** Thursday, Nov. 24. Fee \$54. Call 250-472-4747 to register.
- **Reel Spirituality Series.** Fri. Nov. 25, 2:30 pm. "Shane", Fine Arts Building, Room 103. Free.

VICTORIA CHORAL SOCIETY: NOV. 30

Wed. Nov. 30, 7:30 pm the VCS presents "Benedicta: Songs of Grace and Wonder", music inspired by the Blessed Virgin Mary at St. Andrew's Cathedral. Tickets at Tanner's Books. Adults \$30, students \$20. See www.victoriachoralsociety.ca for further info.

TRANSITIONS RETREAT: DEC. 1 - 4

Transitions: Your Journey of Transformation through Grief and Loss. This retreat will provide insight, hope and prayerful support for those who have experienced a wide variety of losses including the death of a loved one, illness, loss of a job, or the ending of a marriage or significant relationship. Facilitator: Sarah Donnelly, BA, M.Div. Thurs. Dec. 1, 5 pm - Sun. Dec. 4, 1 pm. Bethlehem Retreat Centre, Nanaimo. To register or for more info please call 1-250-710-7675. Live-in: \$394.

CHRISTMAS AMERICAN STYLE: DEC. 3

Sat. Dec. 3, 7:30 pm, the Linden Singers perform music of our southern neighbours at First Metropolitan United Church, 932 Balmoral Rd., Victoria. Guests: St. Patrick's Elementary School Intermediate Choir. Tickets \$20 / \$17. For more information see www.lindensingers.ca.

FEEDING THE POOR IN MEXICO

Rudy van Lierop, Lay Brother of the Poor, will be visiting the Betesda orphans and the elderly centre in Mexicali, Mexico to bring food to the poor. If you want to help this worthy mission, please send a cheque to Lay Brothers of the Poor, 6911 Bayside Place, Brentwood Bay, BC V8M 1B2.