

**Pastor's Corner - February 27, 2011 - Called to Conversion**

The last few Sundays we have heard proclaimed Matthew's Gospel in which Jesus teaches his disciples and us how to live our relationships. His "sermon on the mount" sure puts the mirror of the Gospel squarely before us. There can be no hedging on the life Jesus is calling us to: "you have learned that it was said... but I say to you": "forgive...; reconcile...; love your enemies." Just as Jesus is the concrete proof that God's love is unconditional, so the disciples of Jesus are called to become living examples of God's unconditional love. We are called to live with integrity, fidelity, honesty and strong moral character.

These Gospel passages come at a time when we have been reminded that several persons in our community are journeying with us since last October in the Rite of Christian Initiation. You may remember: a few Sundays ago we celebrated that simple but profound rite in which I and the leader of the RCIA program touched with the sign of the cross the forehead ("by this sign of his love Christ will be your strength. Learn now to know and follow him"), the ears ("may you hear the voice of the Lord"), the eyes ("may you see the glory of God"), the lips ("may you respond to the word of God"), the heart ("may Christ dwell there by faith"), the shoulders ("may you bear the gentle yoke of Christ"), the feet ("may you walk in the way of Christ"). The ritual text says: "From evangelization ... come the faith and initial conversion that cause a person to feel called away from sin and drawn into the mystery of God's love (RCIA #37)." Discovering the Gospel and developing a personal relationship with Jesus a candidate starts to see what type of conversion he/she must enter.

Well, this is not just true for these candidates. All of us who are journeying with them, we all cannot help but be touched by the Gospel and let our renewed encounter with Jesus change us in a permanent way. Together with the candidates we are all called to a conversion. We know that we have a lifetime to continue to grow in Christ. But each day of our life is a matter of deciding if the Gospel is worth living and if we have the courage to accept it with our whole mind and heart.

Just as Easter is not the end of the process of initiation for the candidates in the RCIA program, so it is for all of us journeying with them. The whole liturgical year with its great variety of readings is a necessary catechesis to begin to teach all of us the fullness of our faith. Even for the younger children this is true. For the last two years we have a catechesis for the children at the grade 2-4 level which is based on the Lectionary (the Sunday readings) and which includes the basic elements of the beginning of the Mass. We have asked that at least one of the parents, preferably both, be there to accompany their children, but also to participate themselves in the journey and thus to come to a fuller and deeper understanding. We need to remember that this journeying-with-us on the part of a segment of the community is going on while we begin each Sunday's celebration. And I am not just talking of the people attending at 10:30 on Sunday morning and who see all these children and adults come in after the homily to join the rest of the community for the Eucharist. I also mean that all parishioners at the Saturday 5:00 pm and at the Sunday 8:30 am celebrations need to feel connected in their hearts, in their minds, in their prayers to those journeying with us: the children and parents, the candidates of the RCIA. We are all on a journey of conversion and we do so together.

Several youth in their teens are also preparing for confirmation, accompanied by their peers in a small group of about ten. It is a wonderful opportunity for these young men and women to be active witnesses for each other. On Sunday March 5 we will celebrate with them the rite of welcome.

All of this reminds us all how each one of us, and all of us, we are called to a full and active participation in the Liturgy so that little by little we can become in our daily life full, conscious and active witnesses to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Shalom!

*fr. Rolf*

# Saanich Peninsula Parish

A ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY IN COVENANT WITH ST. STEPHEN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH  
Box 2116, Sidney, BC, V8L 3S6 **web-site: [www.spparish.com](http://www.spparish.com)** e-mail: [spparish@shaw.ca](mailto:spparish@shaw.ca)

**Parish Office: 250-656-7433**, Fax 250-483-1597, Rectory: 250-652-1990

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

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

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

**PASTORAL COUNCIL:** Janet Staebell & Linda MacGowan (Co-Chairs)



**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.)

## 8TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**FEBRUARY 27, 2011**



**I will not forget you.**

Is 49:15

*Isa 49.14 -15 / 1 Cor 4.1-5 / Mt 6.24-34*

**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 \_\_\_

## PARISH REPORT

### COLLECTIONS:

PAD's (monthly total):	\$ 4,070
February 6:	\$ 4,916
February 13:	\$ 2,798
February 20:	\$ 3,395
Monthly Target:	Approx. \$ 23,000

**We offer condolences to the family and pray for the repose of the soul of:**

- **Bill MacLeod** (husband of Winifred Mary Huth-MacCleod, who passed away recently)

## IN OUR PARISH

### K OF C PENNIES FOR HEAVEN : MAR. 5 & 6

The Knights of Columbus is holding their annual Pennies for Heaven Campaign before and after Masses on March 5 & 6, to support our priests and vocations. Please save your spare coins (we accept paper too). Your support is greatly appreciated.

### FR. JACK UPDATE

Fr. Jack Sproule has been moved to Sunrise Facility, 920 Humboldt St. (at Quadra), Victoria.

### CWA MEETING: MAR. 2 AT 1:30 PM

Wed. Mar. 2, 1:30 pm at the home of Hilde Fischer, 6180 Old West Saanich Rd. Ph. 652-1436

### CAN YOU HELP OUR NEEDY?

In our community there are many in need of basic necessities such as soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, razors, combs and deodorant. If you are travelling and can bring back 'hotel packs' (shampoo, lotions etc.), these can be used to make up toilet kits for those in need. 12 kits were assembled this week and the last of the toothpaste was used up. If you have Shoppers Drug Mart points, this is a great way to use them! Please leave items in the Anawim box in the foyer. Your support is much appreciated.

## IN OUR DIOCESE

### WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2011: MAR. 4

Join other Christian churches in prayer on the World Day of Prayer on Friday, Mar. 4, 2 pm at St. Paul's United Church, 2410 Malaview, Sidney.

## THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

### MONDAY, FEB. 28

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

### TUESDAY, MAR. 1

8:30am Mass  
9:00am Eucharistic Adoration  
11:30am Friendly Hours  
2:00pm CWA Executive Meeting  
7:00pm K of C Executive Meeting

### WEDNESDAY, MAR. 2

9:00am Mass  
10:00am Taiji Qigong  
1:30pm CWA Meeting (see "In Our Parish")  
7:00pm Parish Council Meeting  
7:00pm RCIA

### THURSDAY, MAR. 3

9:00am Mass  
11:30am Friendly Hours  
2:00pm Prayer Group  
6:00pm Taiji Qigong

### FRIDAY, MAR. 4

9:00am Mass at St. Elizabeth's

### SATURDAY, MAR. 5

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

### SUNDAY, MAR. 6

8:30am Mass at Our Lady of Assumption  
10:30am Mass at St. Elizabeth's  
2:30pm Linden Singers

### FRASSATI FELLOWSHIP

Are you a young man from 18 to 30, single or married, looking for a group to help you explore and strengthen your faith, and offer opportunities for fellowship with other young men? Perhaps the Frassati's are for you! Taking their name from Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati, we meet once a month at the Cathedral parish centre from 7:30 - 8:30 pm for discussion, followed by fellowship afterwards. The next meeting is on Fri. Mar. 11. For more details call Mark Theobald at 250-385-1227 or email theobald@telus.net.

## "RETURNING TO THE SPIRIT" RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL RECONCILIATION PROGRAM, PART I: MAR. 7 - 11

Workshops in Cowichan and Nanaimo. The *Returning to the Spirit* program is based on returning the people to the spirit of who they are rather than reliving the painful experience of the past, particularly that of residential schools. Learn how to: discover the spirit of who you are; move beyond healing and experience reconciliation; create a future based on choice rather than on reaction to the past; experience the impossible as being possible; bridge the differences between yourself and others; discover how residential school shows up in your life today and how it impacts Canadian society; and be part of the solution. For more information contact Cynthia Bouchard-Watkins at the Diocese Office (250-479-1331), or email [chancery@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:chancery@rcdvictoria.org).

### GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP: MAR. 3

Thu. Mar. 3, 6 - 9 pm, at Sacred Heart Parish, a fundraiser for Students for Global Citizenship Project to buy equipment for teaching Emergency Obstetrical Skills on maternity wards in Uganda. Food, raffle, silent auction, and slide presentation. Admission: adults - \$20, children under 16 - by donation.

### FAITH TRANSFORMING SOCIETY: MAR. 21

A presentation on Mon. Mar. 21, 7 - 9 pm at Holy Cross Parish, 4029 Gordon Head Rd., Victoria by Caroljean Willie, Ph.D will highlight the impact of international Christian initiatives to create a more caring, just and sustainable world for those most vulnerable.

### FUNDRAISING COORDINATOR NEEDED

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Victoria seeks a Fundraising Coordinator for our Annual Appeal, to help develop and implement a fundraising strategy. Must be able to work independently, be a self-starter, and work well under time constraints. Background in fundraising, marketing or public relations would be helpful. Contact the parish office for further information. Send resume to Personnel and Recruitment Committee, 1 - 4044 Nelthorpe St., Victoria, V8X 2A1 or email [leahm@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:leahm@rcdvictoria.org). Deadline: Mar. 31.

## GENERAL

### FUNDRAISING CONCERT: FEB. 28

On Mon. Feb. 28 from 7 - 9 pm the Bayside Middle School Band and Sidney Concert Band join together for a concert at Bayside Middle School, 1101 Newton Place, Brentwood Bay. Proceeds to support Bayside Band trip to Nelson. Tickets \$15 at the door, or preferred seating is available (\$20) by calling 250-658-1135, ext. 218.

### CHORAL ACADEMIA CONCERT: MAR. 6

Sun. Mar. 6, 7:30 pm at St. John the Divine Church, 1611 Quadra St., Victoria. *Choral Academia* presents a concert of acapella sacred choral works from Russia, Ukraine, Bulgaria and Georgia. Tickets: \$15.

### CATHOLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION BURSARY

The Catholic Health Association of BC is awarding two bursaries valued at \$250 each to 2011 graduating students enrolled in a Catholic secondary school, or who are a member of a BC or Yukon parish, and enrolled in a public secondary school, or home schooled. Students must submit a 500 word essay that demonstrates an awareness and understanding of the significance of Spirituality in Health Care. Submissions must be received on or before Mar. 31. For more info see [chabc.bc.ca](http://chabc.bc.ca), upcoming events.

### UVIC CENTRE FOR STUDIES IN RELIGION & SOCIETY PUBLIC LECTURES (FREE)

- Mon. Feb. 28, 7:30 pm, Harry Hickman Bldg., Rm. 105 - *Distinguished Lecture in Islam*.
- Mon. Mar. 7, 10:30 - 11:30 am, Mac Bldg., Rm. D010 - *The People of No Religion: The Loss of Religion in Canada, the US and Great Britain Since 1950*. Callum Brown.

### MICROCREDIT CONFERENCE: MAR. 4 & 5

A conference on the subject of microcredit, as a means of improving the effectiveness of efforts to help the poor, is being sponsored by local Rotary Clubs. It will be held on Mar. 4 - 5 at the Salvation Army Citadel, 4043 Douglas St., Victoria on Fri. Mar. 4 at 7 pm. The keynote speaker will be Phil Smith, author of *A Billion Bootstraps* and *The Poor Will be Glad*. Conference details are available at [www.microcredit2011.org](http://www.microcredit2011.org).