

Pastor's Corner - Charitable Donations - January 22, 2012

Our Saanich Peninsula Parish faith community has always been very generous in reaching out to help the poor and people in need. Your generosity has reached out to local people in need through your blue envelopes with contributions to the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Then there are five regular special collections (yellow envelopes) during the year for a number of church related needs in addition to special collections aimed at a particular emergency situation. In the past few years you have given generously in order to come to the aid of people affected by natural disasters such as the tsunami in Indonesia, the turmoil in Darfur, the hurricane disaster in New Orleans, the earthquake in Haiti, the floods in Pakistan, the drought in the Horn of Africa/East Africa, a special wheelchair for a child in Mexico, an operation for a child in the Sudan, etc. Each year a special luncheon and bake and other items sale brings in more than \$10,000 yearly for Hanti Sidra with small projects in Eritrea and the Southern Sudan. Then there is the Parish's long-time support for people trying to start a new life at Anawim. We could go on and on. Sorry, if I have forgotten other important fundraising efforts. All of this is in addition to what people give at home in gifts to all kinds of other worthy causes, such as the local Food Bank, Red Cross, Chalice, etc.

Just as individuals and families need to incorporate within their yearly budgets money to be given to various charities, so **as a faith community** we need to look beyond our own local parish needs to include the needs of others. The Diocesan Assessment and the Annual Diocesan Appeal are a reminder to us that we belong to the larger Catholic community on the Island. For many years now our Parish community **as a community** has also put aside in our yearly budget a significant amount of money (since 2010 this has been \$25,000) to be given to groups and organizations which reach out to the poor. For the last eight years our Parish Pastoral Council and the Finance Committee have devised a way to distribute this amount on three levels: international, provincial/national and local level. We have tended to favour International organizations with a higher percentage because our Canadian Dollar can do so much more in poorer countries. In the past we have posted information on the various groups. If you would like more information on a particular organization, let us know and we will try to provide it. This weekend you will find a chart in the foyer of the church which shows donations in 2011 and two previous years.

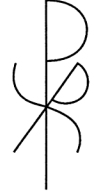
We have received thank you letters from a number of the groups, e.g., Covenant House, Anawim, Queen of Peace Monastery, etc. Bishop Gary Gordon of Whitehorse (Catholic Missions in Canada) said: "Thank you for your commitment and love of the Church." This northern diocese has 7,500 people in 22 missions with 7 missionary priests and many dedicated lay missionaries like Mike and Tina Girard with 4 year-old Jonathan "who became a young pastoral animator bringing comfort to the grieving community after a recent tragedy."

Sr. Nini Rebollos, op with Susan Cordova of the Pasobolong women centre and Imelda Alejo of the parents group in Pasobolong, Mindanao, Philippines (affected by recent floods): "Yes, we received the funds last Friday from Manila to Zamboanga Metrobank branch. The \$2,000 became 85,242 pesos. This will be utilized for the programs of women development - values formation & retreat with the community as well as 20% for the on-going construction of the extension of their kitchen where the women produce delicacies for market in shops downtown. Thank you to all the parishioners of Saanich Peninsula RC Parish in Sidney and the Dominican Community through you, Fr. Rolf who shared this amount for our mission with the women and families in the south. May our common mission to God's people be blessed and strengthened in 2012. Very grateful for your support."

Shalom! *fr. Rolf, OP*

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

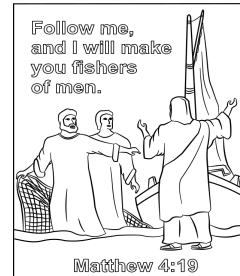
Saturdays 4 - 4:30pm

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)



3rd. SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME JANUARY 22, 2012

Jonah 3:1-5, 10 1 Cor 7:12-31
Mark 1:14-20

VISITING EUCCHARISTIC 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:

January 1 collection:	\$ 5,080
January 8 collection:	\$ 4,842
January 15 collection:	\$ 2,620
Monthly Target:	Approx. \$ 23,000

K OF C PANCAKE BREAKFAST:

This Sunday after 10:30 am mass.



ATTENTION ALL LECTORS!

Please pick up your copy of the "Guidelines for Readers" sheet in the foyer.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

March 4 - 7: Parish Retreat with Fr. Tony Gonsalves, OFM. The theme, *What is our identity?*, will help us to discover our God at work within us, as individuals, as a community, and the role we can play alongside issues of the world of today.

April 15: Bishop Richard Gagnon will confer the sacraments of Confirmation and First Communion during the 10:30 am mass at St. Elizabeth's.

PARISH PHOTO DIRECTORY PICTURES

For those who had their photo taken for the Parish Photo Directory and did not receive their free 8" x 10" photo in the mail, you can pick up your 8" x 10" photo at the back of the church. If you ordered pictures and they haven't arrived, or if you were expecting a free 8" x 10" photo and it isn't at the back of the church, please contact Linda MacGowan at 250-655-0713.

The Parish Photo Directory will be available later in the spring. Thank you to all who participated in this important parish project.

IN OUR DIOCESE

CAMP HOMEWOOD: FEB. 3 - 5

Calling all youth! Get away for a fun-filled weekend on Quadra Island and look at life in a slightly different way, with other youth that have the same backgrounds and interests. Great food, lots of activities & fun! Fri. Feb. 3 - Sun. Feb. 5. All inclusive cost is \$135. Call Roy Battilana at 250-652-0340 to arrange a ride. For more info see poster in the foyer.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

MONDAY, JAN. 23

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

TUESDAY, JAN. 24

8:30am	Mass at St. Elizabeth's
9:00am	Eucharistic Adoration
11:30am	Friendly Hours

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 25

9:00am	Mass at St. Elizabeth's
10:00am	Taiji Qijong
6:30pm	El Shaddai

THURSDAY, JAN. 26

9:00am	Mass at St. Elizabeth's
11:30am	Friendly Hours
2:00pm	Prayer Group
6:00pm	Taiji Qijong

FRIDAY, JAN. 27

11:00am	Mass at Saanich Peninsula Hospital
7:00pm	Youth Choir Practice

SATURDAY, JAN. 28

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

SUNDAY, JAN. 29

8:30pm	Mass at Our Lady of Assumption
9:45am	Children's Religious Education
10:30am	Mass at St. Elizabeth's

For the latest schedule, please check the online Parish Calendar at <http://tinyurl.com/sppcal>.

HOW DO WE PRAY?: FEB. 7

Tue. Feb. 7, 7 pm at St. Patrick's Church. Fr. John Hibbard will give a one hour presentation on the topic: "How do we pray? Liturgical & Devotional Prayer over the Centuries". To register call St. Patrick's at 250-592-7391 or email parishsecretary@telus.net.

SOCIAL JUSTICE SERIES: JAN. 25

Wed. Jan. 25, 7 - 9 pm at Sacred Heart Parish, 4040 Nelthorpe St., on the Pacific Peoples' Partnership in West Papua, Indonesia. Presented by April Ingham and Todd Biderman.

MARK MALLET - "ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS": JAN. 22

Mark Mallet, singer & evangelist, will be at St. Joseph's on Sun. Jan. 22 from 7:30 - 9:30 pm for music and reflection. Free will offering. Everyone welcome!

HEALING THE CHURCH - LESSONS FROM THE CLERGY SEXUAL ABUSE CRISIS: FEB. 24 & 25

Sister Nuala Kenny is Emeritus Professor of bioethics at Dalhousie University and Ethics and Health Policy Advisor to the Catholic Health Alliance of Canada. On Fri. Feb. 24, 7 - 9 pm & Sat. Feb. 25, 10 am - 3 pm (please bring a bag lunch). She will give a series of lectures on *Healing the Church: Lessons from the Clergy Sexual Abuse Crisis*. Sister Nuala is a member of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops ad hoc committee on Clergy Sexual Abuse. At St. Joseph the Worker Parish, 753 Burnside Road. To register call 250-479-7413 or email sjtwooffice@shaw.ca.

GETTING TO KNOW MORE ABOUT ISLAM

Four evening sessions on Wednesdays, Feb. 1, 8, 15 and 29, 7 pm at St. Patrick's Parish, 2060 Haultain St.:

- *Historical Prospective of Islam*
 - *The Four Pillars of Islam*
 - *Living in a Majority Moslem Country*
 - *Challenges of Christians to Live with Moslems*
- Presented by Fr. Tony Gonsalves O.F.M. Fr. Tony has worked extensively in Moslem countries, and he has a great depth of knowledge to share with us. Everybody welcome!

D & P SHARE LENT WORKSHOP: FEB. 4

Development and Peace is conducting a Share Lent Workshop at St. Joseph the Worker Hall on Sat. Feb. 4, at 9:30 am. This is an opportunity to find out more about the Catholic organization of Development and Peace focusing on Social & **Ecological** Justice. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend to prepare for Lent. For more information call Jocelyn at 250-474-3989.

GENERAL

PASTORAL CARE VOLUNTEER TRAINING: FEB. 17 - MAR. 30

If you would like to volunteer and develop / improve skills for visiting residents of long term care facilities to bring them spiritual comfort and care, you are invited to attend a course of seven 2-hour sessions taught by experts in the field. Fridays, Feb. 17 to Mar. 30, 9:30 to 11:30 am at the Church of the Cross, 3787 Cedar Hill Rd. **The \$20 registration fee will be covered by the parish.** For more info call Arthur Menu at 250-370-5733 To register contact the parish office at 250-656-7433.

TAIZE SERVICE: JAN. 24

Fri. Jan. 24, 7 pm at St. John's United Church, 10990 West Saanich Road (across from Deep Cove Elementary School). Visitors welcome.

PILGRIMAGE OF SOLIDARITY TO ISRAEL/ PALESTINE : JAN. 29

Sun. Jan. 29, 2 pm at Cadboro Bay United Church, 2625 Arbutus Rd, Victoria. Come and learn about the inspiring work Palestinians and Israelis are doing for peace and justice and what we can do to be in solidarity with them! Middle Eastern desserts, coffee, tea will be served. For more info call Natalie at 1-877-996-5751 ext. 213. Admission by donation (proceeds to Victoria Interfaith Refugee Assistance Committee).

UVIC - JOHN ALBERT HALL LECTURES

Testimonies of the Spirit: Christianity, Media and the Politics of Confession - Jan. 23, 25, 7 pm, Social Sciences and Math Bldg, Rm A102. These lectures examine the impact of changing media on Christian practices of testimony and confession over the past 100 years in N. America:

Jan 23: *Protestant Potlatch: Confession and the Ethics of Storytelling*

Jan 25: *Spiritual Radio: Testimony and the Optimism of Communication Technologies*

BURSARY OPPORTUNITY

The Catholic Health Assoc. of BC is awarding two \$250 bursaries to two 2012 high school students. Students are asked to submit a 500 word essay that demonstrates an awareness and understanding of the significance of Spirituality in Health Care. Deadline: Mar. 9. For more info see poster in the foyer, or www.chabc.bc.ca under upcoming events.