

### Pastor's Corner - the Spirit moves us forward

Anyone who would have dropped in on Sunday April 30 at our 10:30 Celebration would have sensed that something important, special and wonderful was happening, that **the Spirit was surely moving!!** Yes, I think the Holy Spirit was truly present in our midst as Bishop Gary and we welcomed as full members of our faith community 11 young people. Their glowing faces and their obvious joyous involvement showed that they had freely decided to make a commitment. Receiving the Sacraments of confirmation and Eucharist brought them together with the first Christians two thousand years ago who in the same way became followers of Jesus the anointed one, the Christ who is our Light and our Hope. Celebrating those Sacraments brought them together with their forefathers & foremothers in the faith who passed on the joy and strength of the Gospel from one generation to the next. It brought us all together as we continue the journey and reminded us of the special relationship we have with the One who gathers us together and leads us on, always moving forward towards fulfillment.

When we read the Bible we sense change and renewed hope whenever people are on the move, on the road leaving one place or going somewhere to another. But usually the travelers only slowly become aware of their journey, of the real possibilities inherent in the journey. This was true of Abraham and Sarah's journey which brought them as migrants from their homeland to a new and unknown land and ultimately the promise of a covenant with a faithful and loving God always journeying with them on the road no matter what the future was to bring. It was true for Jacob's family as they journeyed to Egypt to find food and work and found Joseph their brother. It was true of Moses and the Israelites as they journeyed through the desert and the promise of a land of milk and honey and the deepening relationship between them and the One True God who was always with them on the road. It is only with time and reflection that these journeys took on greater importance and significance and strengthened their hope and their determination to trust in the future.

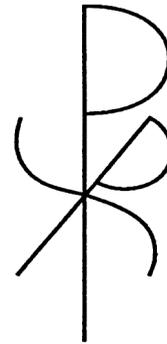
Well, the same is true of the journey of Cleopas and another disciple (maybe his wife?, mentioned in John 19:25) who left Jerusalem where their hopes for Jesus and themselves died on the cross. We are told by Luke 24:13 that they were going to a village called Emmaus; maybe they were planning to go back to their former lives trying to forget the dreams they once had with Jesus and the other disciples. In other words their journey was not bringing them forward but was going nowhere, to a dead end! It is a stranger who joins them, listens to them, to their pains and dashed hopes, and who in the end brings them to a greater understanding, to a deepening of their faith and who inspires them to move forward by going back to Jerusalem to become enthusiastic messengers of the Good News: "The Lord has risen indeed... Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread (Luke 24:35)."

**Our Christian God is a God who is always creating anew, reaching out to us, who calls us forward.** God did that in Jesus. Jesus calls his disciples to leave everything and to move forward. Jesus led the way to Jerusalem. After his death and resurrection and inspired and strengthened with the gift of the Spirit the disciples become travelers again; they follow Jesus on the Way and they go out to the ends of the world to bring the joy of the Good News to all people. Ever since we continue on the journey called forward, always forward.

Sometimes we may be like the disciples on the road to Emmaus preoccupied with our past, with our dashed hopes, with our pains. Maybe we do not know where we are going, what to do next; we are stuck. Like the disciples in the Gospel we gather but we may be closed in on our selves, afraid to open the doors of our mind and hearts. That is when we need the risen Lord present in the stranger, present in the events of our life, present in the painful and joyful challenges of our time, to shake us out of our lethargy and fear and to break open and interpret the Scriptures for us. Like the disciples of Emmaus we are called to share with others the God we have discovered little by little as we journeyed through life together on the road. **Like the people of old our own journeys have taken on greater significance and importance and have brought us with reflection and prayer and grace to move forward to greater hope and strength.** And again like the disciples of Emmaus we are called to let our encounter with the risen Lord embolden us to become signs of hope to others: "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us (Luke 24:32)?"

The disciples of Emmaus were brought to a new beginning. They cannot but move forward to tell others of the joy of their meeting with the risen Lord. **We too cannot leave our Sunday gathering where we have broken open the scriptures and been fed by Christ in his Word and Sacrament without becoming messengers of the joy of the Gospel, without meeting and experiencing the risen Lord in the stranger we meet as we journey in life and becoming for them signs of hope and peace. May Easter continue to bring you joy as we move towards Pentecost!**

Shalom,



# Saanich Peninsula Parish

A ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY IN COVENANT WITH ST. STEPHEN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

**Parish office:** 10030 Third St, Sidney

**Mailing address:** 10030 Third St, Sidney, V8L 3B3

**Parish office:** 250-656-7433

**Rectory:** 250-652-1990

**Email:** [spparish@shaw.ca](mailto:spparish@shaw.ca)

**Web site:** [www.spparish.com](http://www.spparish.com)

**Office hours:** Tuesday to Friday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

**Pastor:** Fr. Rolf Hasenack, O.P.

**Administrative Assistant:** Gary Koett

**Parish Council Chair:** Mary McGovern

### **SUNDAY EUCHARIST** at ST. ELIZABETH'S

10030 Third Street, Sidney

**Saturdays at 5 pm, Sundays at 10:30 am.**

### at OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION

7742 West Saanich Road, Saanichton

**Sundays at 8:30 am**

### **WEEKDAY MASSES**

**Daily at St. Elizabeth's:** Tues. Wed. & Thu. (9:00 am), and First Fridays (9:00 am)

**Third Friday:** 9:00 am at the Legion Manor, 7601 East Saanich Road, Saanichton

**Last Friday:** 11:00 am in the Chapel at Saanich Peninsula Hospital

**Remaining Fridays:** 9:00 am in a private home (for location see "This Week in Our Parish" ...)

**RECONCILIATION** at ST. ELIZABETH'S: Saturdays 4 - 4:30pm, or by appointment.



**MAY 14 & 21, 2017**

**5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Sundays of Easter**

**Acts 6:1-7 / 1 Peter 2:4-9 / John 14:1-21**

**Psalm 33: Let your love be upon us Lord, even as we hope in you.**

### **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

May 7.....	\$ 3,421
Pre-Authorized Debits (May).....	\$ 5,240
Monthly Target .....	\$ 23,000

### POPE'S PASTORAL WORKS

#### COLLECTION: NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 21

There are so many crisis-type emergencies that happen in our world that drastically change the lives of the people. Immediately on hearing of this, many countries rush in food, medicine, blankets, money, and trained people. Prominent among such aid is the financial help offered by the Holy Father to people in need. The annual Pope's Pastoral Works collection makes these funds available for Pope Francis to distribute, not in his name, but in the name of Catholics everywhere. Please be generous.

### CONCERT FOR SOUTH SUDAN FAMINE

A fundraising concert will be held on **Wed. May 24, at 7:30 pm** at St. Elizabeth's. The **Arbutus Singers** return for their 13<sup>th</sup> annual concert, featuring beautiful and inspiring music. Tickets are \$10 per person or \$25 for a family and are available at the door. All proceeds will be used by **Hanti Sidra One Global Family**, a Sidney-based charity, to expand a program to produce and distribute food within South Sudan.

### A SPECIAL EVENING: JUNE 9

Friday, June 9, 6:30 pm at St. Elizabeth's, you are invited to an informal evening with Bishop Gary Gordon and Fr. Thomas Chinnappa. Fr. Thomas, who arrived in Victoria on April 25 is currently spending time with Fr. Joe Prakash in Duncan. This gathering will be an opportunity to meet and welcome Fr. Thomas to our parish. Bishop Gary will outline his vision of Fr. Thomas' role in First Nations' pastoral work and his role in our parish. Mark this special 'meet 'n greet' on your calendar. Refreshments provided.

### K OF C BURSARY OPPORTUNITY

\$500 K of C bursaries available to Catholics attending a post-secondary institution. June 30<sup>th</sup> cutoff. Applicants must be under 25 yrs. old as of June 30. Contact Roy Battilana at 250-652-0340.

## NEXT 2 WEEKS IN OUR PARISH

### SUNDAY, MAY 14

8:30 am	Mass at Our Lady of Assumption
10:30 am	Mass at St. Elizabeth's
11:30 am	Coffee Fellowship

### MONDAY, MAY 15 & 22

1:00 pm	Faith Reflection
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### TUESDAY, MAY 16 & 23

8:30 am	Mass at St. Elizabeth's
9:00 am	Eucharistic Adoration
11:30 am	Friendly Hours Soup Kitchen
7:00 pm	<b>K of C Rosary (May 16)</b>
7:30 pm	<b>K of C General Meeting (May 16)</b>

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 17 & 24

9:00 am	Mass at St. Elizabeth's
10:00 am	Taiji Qigong
1:30 pm	<b>SVDP Executive Meeting (May 17)</b>
7:30 pm	<b>Arbutus Singers (May 24)</b>

### THURSDAY, MAY 18 & 25

9:00 am	Mass at St. Elizabeth's - for the intentions of Nell Chernichen ( <b>May 18</b> )
11:30 am	Friendly Hours Soup Kitchen
2:00 pm	Prayer Group
6:00 pm	Taiji Qigong

### FRIDAY, MAY 19 & 26

9:00 am	Mass at the Legion Manor ( <b>May 19</b> )
11:00 am	Saanich Peninsula Hosp. ( <b>May 26</b> )

### SATURDAY, MAY 20 & 27

4:00 pm	Confession
5:00 pm	Mass at St. Elizabeth's

### SUNDAY, MAY 21 & 28

8:30 am	Mass at Our Lady of Assumption
10:30 am	Mass at St. Elizabeth's
11:30 am	Coffee Fellowship
11:30 am	Samahan Fellowship ( <b>May 21</b> )

### THANK YOU

Thanks to everyone who attended last Saturday's CWL Bridge Party, and to all involved with the preparations for the day. Congratulations to the top winners and to the lucky lady who won the beautiful gift basket. A very special thank you to Olga Sweet for her tireless work in organizing this most successful event. Everyone had fun! See you next year.

## LAST CALL FOR PHOTO DIRECTORY!

Last chance to have your photo taken:

- **Sunday, May 14** from 11:45 am to 3 pm
- **Sunday, May 21** from 11:45 am to 1:30 pm

Book a photo appointment (Mon. to Fri. only) at: [tinyurl.com/SPP-Photo-Directory-Signup](http://tinyurl.com/SPP-Photo-Directory-Signup).

Forgot your time? Check appointment schedule at [tinyurl.com/SPP-Photo-Appointments](http://tinyurl.com/SPP-Photo-Appointments).

### CALLING ALL THE LADIES

Wed. June 14, 2 pm at St. Elizabeth's, the CWL invites all the ladies in our parish to a "Summer in Sidney Fashion Show", an afternoon of fun, fellowship, fashion & food. Your friends, relatives & neighbours are welcome to attend. You are invited to bring a "pot luck" snack/finger food. By donation (proceeds will go to Hospice Unit of Saanich Peninsula Hospital).



### CARNATIONS FROM THE CWL ...

will be handed out to the ladies on Mother's Day.

### CALLING ALL GRADUATES

Help us to acknowledge them by sending their names to the parish office as soon as possible.

### PATRICIA ROOKE COURSE PLANNED

If there is sufficient interest, Dr. Patricia Rooke will give a course entitled "Pinocchio, Jiminy Cricket & Christian Conscience", Tuesdays, from Sep. 19 to Nov. 28, 2 - 4 pm. **Please let Freddie Brand or the office know if you will attend.** To register email [rookept@shaw.ca](mailto:rookept@shaw.ca).

### AN AUTOMATED DEFIBRILLATOR ...

has been installed at St. Elizabeth's on the wall outside the handicapped washroom.

### CONSERVATION / ENVIRONMENT POLICY

Parish Council is updating our 2005 conservation policy. Please contact the office if you are interested in assisting to draft a revised policy.

### K OF C PENNIES FOR HEAVEN

The Knights of Columbus will be holding their annual Pennies for Heaven campaign on the May 27/28 weekend to raise funds for our Diocesan Seminarians. All donations - including pennies! - are gratefully accepted.

## DIOCESAN YOUTH CONFERENCE: MAY 26 - 28

Calling all youth, grades 8 to 12 for the Diocesan Youth Conference. This is a weekend full of fun, faith, friendship and great activities! Our theme is "More Than A Feeling", which will focus on helping the youth form a personal relationship with Jesus. St. Andrew's high school on May 26 - 28. Register now! For info or to register, email us at [teamdyc@gmail.com](mailto:teamdyc@gmail.com). Can't wait to see you!

### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Diocese of Victoria and Island Catholic Schools are looking for a Computer Technician. Application forms and details are available online at [cisdv.bc.ca/employment-opportunities.php](http://cisdv.bc.ca/employment-opportunities.php).

### EVENING PRAYER IN THE STYLE OF TAIZE

Sun. May 21, 7 pm at St. Mary's Church, Cultra Ave. and East Saanich Rd. All are welcome!

### PASTORAL CARE SESSION: MAY 20

St. Joseph the Worker Pastoral Care Outreach **Session 4: Who am I as a Pastoral Care Outreach Visitor?** (boundaries, visiting tips and role plays) 9 am - 3 pm. Bring a bag lunch; coffee and tea are provided. To register call St. Joseph the Worker Parish at 250-479-7413 or email [sjtwoffice@shaw.ca](mailto:sjtwoffice@shaw.ca).

### SAVE THE DATES:

- **Sun. July 9:** Diocesan mass at 11 am followed by a picnic at St. Ann's Academy. Music, children's games, food and opportunities to visit the Chapel (our first cathedral) and to socialize.
- **Aug. 24 - 27:** 5<sup>th</sup> annual Diocesan Family Conference at **Nanoose Bay**. Last year 300+ people of all ages spent a weekend together with their families relaxing on the beach, listening to amazing speakers, singing around the beach fire, playing and praying together. This year our speakers are Josh and Denise Grimard from Telegraph Creek, BC where they serve as missionaries. The theme is Our Mission: in the family, in the community & the world. Special guest Ryan Mitchell from Face-2-Face Ministries! For more info email [reine\\_and\\_ian@hotmail.com](mailto:reine_and_ian@hotmail.com). Registration will be open soon on the Diocesan website [www.rcdvictoria.org](http://www.rcdvictoria.org).