

Pastor's Corner on changes in the parish

Parish Office:

For some time I as Pastor and together with the finance committee, we were looking at desirable changes in the functioning of our Parish Office in order to meet unmet needs. The change in the location of the office last year was a first step; then came the splitting into two positions with the hiring of Melanie Ehrlich at the beginning of May. It all came together on August 1st when Gary Koett began a part-time position at St. Paul's United on week day mornings. **From now on the parish office will be open only in the morning Tuesday to Friday 9:00 am to 12:00 noon. Melanie Ehrlich welcomes you in the morning from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon Tuesday to Friday.** Due to the demands of ParishSoft and with his excellent computer skills **Gary Koett is now working in the afternoon 1:30 pm to 5:30 pm Tuesday to Friday.** These arrangements will be reviewed later in the fall. The office has been and will continue to be closed on Mondays.

Kitchen at St. Elizabeth's:

New lower cupboards and counter top on the window side and a new central island were installed in the week of August 7 at a cost of \$7350.00. This past week two Knights of Columbus came to the rescue and made it possible to re-install the old sink; a new double sink with the same depth would have cost more than \$3000.00. Thank you to all involved.

Pastors:

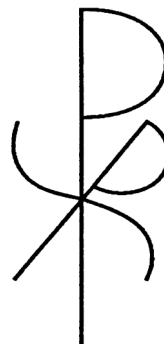
Father Thomas Chinnappa began his ministry here in the Parish in the beginning of June. As our Bishop explained to the Parish at our gathering on June 9th **Fr. Thomas' ministry will be primarily focused on strengthening the social and pastoral relationship between the Parish and the First Nations of the Tsartlip, Tsaw'out, Pauqu'achin and Tseycum.** From a Sacramental point of view he will celebrate the Eucharist and preach both at St. Elizabeth's and Our Lady of the Assumption taking turns with me Fr. Rolf.

Due to the retirement of Fr. Benoit Laplante **effective October 1 Bishop Gary on August 3rd appointed Fr. Rolf who is bilingual as interim Pastor/Administrator of St. Jean Baptiste Parish,** the French-speaking community on Richmond Road near Fairfield Road. **I will continue as Pastor of our Parish and will be present for our Sunday liturgies.** The details of my time commitment at the pastoral and administrative level and possible financial arrangements will be worked out with the St. Jean Baptiste community and the Diocese after a survey which is being conducted within the French-speaking community.

During most of the month of September I will be away. **From Sept. 1 to Sept. 18 I will be in the communities in the north (Port McNeill, Port Hardy, Port Alice, Alert Bay)** replacing Fr. Dino Villadiego whose youngest brother Kokoy suddenly died this week at 42 of a heart attack. Fr. Dino is now in the Philippines. Please, pray for Fr. Dino and his family. I will be in Ucluelet and Tofino from Sept. 18 to 26.

Development and Peace – Caritas Canada thanks Canadians across the country who rallied to donate \$2.5 Million to Development and Peace, of which 1.3 M is eligible to be matched by the Government of Canada for its Famine Relief fund. This fund is used for humanitarian aid in response to the severe food crisis in parts of East and West Africa and Yemen.

SHALOM,



Saanich Peninsula Parish

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

Parish office: 10030 Third St, Sidney

Parish office: 250-656-7433

Email: spparish@shaw.ca

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

Pastor: Fr. Rolf Hasenack, O.P.

Parish Council Chair: Mary McGovern

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

Rectory: 250-652-1990

Web site: www.spparish.com

Administrative Assistant: Gary Koett

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.



AUG. 27, 2017 - 21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Isaiah 22:15, 19-23, Romans 11:33-36, Matthew 16:13-20

SEPT. 3 - 22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jeremiah 20:7-9, Romans 12:1-2, Matthew 16:21-27



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

August 6	\$ 3,567
August 13	\$ 3,202
August 20.....	\$ 2,567
Pre-Authorized Debits (August)....	\$ 4,980

We offer condolences to the family and pray for the repose of the soul of MARY BARR, Funeral **MONDAY, AUGUST 28 at 11:00 am**

CHECK THE SPELLING OF YOUR NAME !

Important! In preparation for the photo directory PLEASE, check your name under the picture on the sheets in the foyer.

MASS AND EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

From now on **every Friday**: mass at 9 am at St. Elizabeth's, followed by Eucharistic Adoration.

PLEASE NOTE ON SUNDAY SEPT. 10



Our Parish outdoor Mass and picnic at Our Lady of the Assumption on SUNDAY, SEPT. 10 at 10:30 am. On that Sunday Sept. 10th there will be no 8:30 am Mass at Our Lady of Assumption and no 10:30 am Mass at St. Elizabeth's. There will be a 5 PM mass Sat.

FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION

Faith formation, or what many of us knew as religious education, will begin on October 1. It is vital that you register your child for Sacramental preparation. Registration information is posted in the foyer. Please register as soon as possible.

CATECHIST CONFERENCE: SEPT. 23

Diocesan Workshop for catechists Sat. Sept. 23 at Ascension Parish in Parksville. Everyone welcome. Register:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/catholic-diocesan-catechist-retreatworkshop-tickets-37019950669>

NEXT 2 WEEKS IN OUR PARISH

MONDAY, AUGUST 28 & SEPT. 4

11:00 am **Funeral Mass for Mary Barr**

TUESDAY, AUGUST 29 & SEPT. 5

9:00 am Mass at St. Elizabeth's
7:30 pm K of C Executive Meeting (Sept. 5)

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30 & SEPT. 6

9:00 am Mass at St. Elizabeth's
10:00 am Taiji Qigong
1:30 pm SVDP Conference Meeting (Aug. 30)
2:00 pm CWL Executive Meeting (Sept. 6)
6:00 pm Parish Council Meeting (Sept. 6)

THURSDAY, AUGUST 31 & SEPT. 7

9:00 am Mass at St. Elizabeth's
11:30 am Friendly Hours (Sept. 7)
2:00 pm Prayer Group
6:00 pm Taiji Qigong

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1 & 8

9:00 am Mass at St. Elizabeth's followed by Eucharistic Adoration

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2 & 9

2:00 pm El Shaddai (Sept. 9)
4:00 pm Confession
5:00 pm Mass at St. Elizabeth's

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3 & 10

8:30 am Mass at Our Lady of Assumption (Sept. 3)
10:30 am Mass at St. Elizabeth's (Sept. 3)
10:30 am **Mass at Our Lady of Assumption & Parish Picnic (Sept. 10)**
NO mass at St. Elizabeth (Sept. 10)
11:30 am Coffee Fellowship

For the latest schedule see tinyurl.com/sppcal

NEW COURSE, NEW LOCATION WITH DR. PATRICIA ROOKE: PINOCCHIO, JIMINY CRICKET AND CHRISTIAN CONSCIENCE.

At St. Elizabeth's in Sidney on 10 Tuesdays from Sept. 19 to Nov. 28, 2:00 to 4:00 pm. Register now at victoriaccrs@gmail.com to ensure a place; there is a limited number of participants.

MESSAGE FROM IRAQ RE. OUR REFUGEE SUPPORT

Here is a message just received from the Dominican Sisters in Erbil, Iraq; we support their work (medical clinics, schools, orphanage, faith formation, etc.) with the Christian refugees there and have sent them money.

"Take courage, all you people of the land; work, for I am with you, says the LORD (Haggai.2:4)"

"Dear brothers, sisters and friends,

It has been three years since we were displaced and you have been accompanying us through your prayers to endure the days of turmoil. During these years, we cried, screamed, wondered, questioned God and our faith and also laughed and found moments of hope, love and gratefulness to our Lord, the church and all individuals who supported us in so many different ways. On August 6th 2014, we entered a tunnel that we did not know when we would get out of it. In fact, some days we thought we would never see the light. Three years ago we left our homes at night to the unknown. We started a journey of displacement, exile and questioning. But, to speak the truth, despite everything, we always dreamed of going back and finding our houses safe and sound, just as we left them. We strongly wished that we would return and kindle our candles for prayers, harvest our grapes, and read our books. We hoped even when we knew that it was our neighbors who betrayed us and did us harm even before ISIS did. That was the case until the fall of 2016, when Iraqi forces started the military operations to liberate the Plain of Nineveh. God showered us with His graces as our towns were liberated one after the other; ISIS was defeated and the Plain of Nineveh seems to have been liberated. When we first visited our Christian towns, we were so much stunned by the damage we saw. It was badly painful to see all that overwhelming destruction. We immediately realized that it was not the military forces or smart weapons that caused all that damage, but hate. Hate leaves both oppressed and oppressor deeply wounded. Only God knows how much love we need to heal these deep wounds. Walking sluggishly in our Christian towns we wondered remembering the word of God to the prophet Ezekiel, "Son of man, can these bones live?" and we found ourselves answering him "Sovereign LORD, you alone know," (Ezekiel 37:3). Inspired by the stories and experiences of Biblical characters, we believe that God is able to raise us again in a new way.

Today we see the marvelous work of God.

There are some signs of hope. The rebuilding process although slow, but it has started and some families have returned to their homes. In Batnaia, a town that was 90% destroyed, a process of cleaning has started.

To Telskuf and Qaraqush, Christian towns, some families have returned and there are families returning every week. There are over 600 families today in Telskuf and 450 in Qaraqush. Telskuf was much less destroyed than Qaraqush. Qaraqush the amount of destruction is estimated to be 30%, rebuilding is not easy and the NGOs that have offered to help with rebuilding are not enough compared to the destruction. There are 7000 home in Qaraqush and 2400 of them are completely burned and another 4400 are partly burned and destroyed, there are 116 house completely destroyed. The hope is to repair as many houses as possible before the beginning of the school year in September, but of course there is a problem with the funding. So far only the church and some NGOs are doing the rebuilding.

Our sisters are back to Telskuf and we hope to find a place by the beginning of the year and will start a kindergarten. Soon also we will return to Qaraqush. Since our convent in Qaraqush is partially destroyed, we repaired a family home for us to live in it until we move back to our convent. Also, the orphanage was totally burned but we found a place for the sisters and girls to move too in Qaraqush.

As you probably already have heard, Mosul has been liberated, but the amount of destruction is overwhelming in every field. It will take years to be fixed, but there is nothing impossible with God. Of course, it is not easy to decide whether to go back to Mosul or not. Some people still try to understand what the will of God is—if ISIS is defeated that does not mean that the Plain of Nineveh is entirely cleansed from that mentality.

However, we as community decided to return with our people; and pray and hope all people will have the courage to go back to their hometowns and be able to start from the beginning again. God is with us and will not leave us. We thank you for all the support you have shown us. Please pray for us as we start this new phase of our lives. Know of our gratitude and prayers for you."

Dominican Sisters of St. Catherine of Siena, Erbil, Iraq.