

Pastor's Corner - January 21, 2018 - Charitable Donations in 2017

Christmas is a time of gift giving: the gift of God reborn in our hearts and in our lives throughout the New Year 2018. We can be thankful for the many ways in which our Parish community welcomes and makes a home for Christ in our midst and in other parts of the world. Yes, we are very blessed in our community and we are not afraid to share those blessings with others. **In addition to innumerable hours of volunteer service with the CWL, Friendly Hours, K of C, St. Vincent de Paul, the many parish ministries and other community organizations, our parishioners are also very generous in sharing financial resources both here in the Parish and in the wider community. Let us be thankful for these blessings and for this tremendous generosity.**

This past year you have been very generous in giving to **Hanti Sidra - One Global Family**, to **St. Vincent de Paul** (your blue envelopes), to **Anawim**, to **BirthRight**, to **Marianagar** - these separate independent groups appreciate your contributions to their important work and have reported on the considerable amounts they raised here in the Parish.

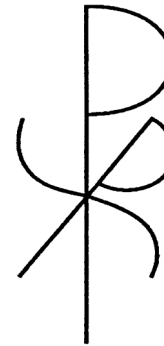
You also responded with enthusiasm and caring hearts to the **special CCCB (Canadian Catholic Conference of Bishops) and D&P (Development and Peace) appeal ("Pray, Give, Speak out")** in June on behalf of the millions of people affected by the famine crisis in the South Sudan/Somalia/Yemen areas; **\$8,439.35 was sent to D&P**. In March we were able to send **\$ 34,166 to the Dominican Sisters of Siena in Erbil and Mosul in Iraq to help them in their health and education work with internally displaced Christians** who had to flee their homes in 2015 and in the fall began to return to their devastated towns and cities. **Please, remember that we made a conscious decision not to sponsor a refugee family for settlement here but rather to send money to help the many internally displaced Christians who may not have the financial resources to flee or who wish to remain in their own countries and rebuild their lives because that is their home.** I am convinced that in this way our donations can help the most vulnerable and assure a Christian presence which has been there for more than 2000 years despite wars, conflicts, occupations, ethnic cleansing, etc.

In addition, years ago our Parish decided to set aside an amount (about 25,000 to 28,000) in the parish's annual budget to be given to charitable organizations (roughly 10% of our total budget). Various Parish Councils (present chair: **Mary McGovern**) and Finance Committees (present chair: **Peter Taylor**) also decided over the years to give a preference and the largest amounts to small locally administered groups working in developing countries. The rationale being that our financial donations can do so much more in those countries especially in the education and formation of future citizens there. **I think we can be very proud of what these charitable donations are enabling small local organizations to do in a wide range of services.**

Because of my stay in Indonesia and East Timor from 1989-1993 and several visits since I personally know what these parish donations, as well as your additional personal contributions, have done for the youths and families in **Timor Leste (East Timor)** and for the **Pasobolong Holy Rosary Family Centre in Zamboanga City, Mindanao, Philippines**. **Because of your generosity individual and communal lives have been bettered and people have renewed hope as their youths are prepared for their future. Thank you again for all you are doing to welcome and make a home for Christ in His many disguises.**

CHARITY	2015	2016	2017
Hanti Sidra - One Family (Eritrea/South Sudan)	\$2,000	\$2,500	\$3,500
CNEWA Canada	\$2,000	\$2,500	\$2,500
Development and Peace	\$2,000	\$2,500	\$2,500
D&P - emergency relief (e.g. Refugees, Nepal, Rohingya etc.)	\$5,000		\$3,000
Timor Leste (East Timor) - formation of young adults	\$2,000	\$2,500	\$3,500
Pasobolong Family Center - Mindanao, Phillipines	\$2,000	\$2,500	\$2,500
Catholic Missions in Canada	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
Talitha Koum Society (Vancouver) - housing, first nations women	\$2,000	\$2,500	
Queen of Peace Monastery, Squamish	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
Anawim House	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
St. Vincent de Paul - Rosalie's House	\$1,800	\$1,800	
Development and Peace - Letter Writing Group	\$200	\$200	\$300
Scholarships		\$1,000	\$1,500
TOTAL:	\$25,000	\$24,000	\$24,300

PS, Because Talitha Koum received a substantial donation, we decided not to donate this year.



Saanich Peninsula Parish

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

Parish office: 10030 Third St, Sidney
Phone: 250-656-7433
Email: spparish@shaw.ca

Mailing address: 10030 Third St, Sidney, V8L 3B3
Rectory: 250-652-1557
Web site: www.spparish.com

Office hours: Tuesday to Friday 9:00 am - 12:00 noon

Pastor: Fr. Rolf Hasenack, O.P.

Admin. Assistants: Melanie Ehrlich & Gary Koett

Associate Pastor: Fr. Thomas Chinnappa

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: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 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.



JANUARY 21, 2018
3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Jonah 3:1-5, 10, 1 Corinthians 7:29-31
Mark 1:14-20

JANUARY 28, 2018
4th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Deuteronomy 18:15-20
1 Corinthians 7:32-35



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

January 1	\$ 1,599
January 7	\$ 7,963
January 14	\$ 2,375
Pre-Authorized Debits	\$ 4,980
Monthly Target.....	\$23,000

SAANICH PENINSULA PARISH RETREAT! MARK YOUR CALENDARS! MARCH 9-11

This interactive Retreat at St. Elizabeth's will be focused on "Living Gospel through Forgiveness." **Dates:** Friday **March 9th** evening; Sat. **March 10th** morning & afternoon; Sunday **March 11th** ending with the Eucharist. Patti-Anne: "The retreat is consistent with a Lenten deepening of prayer, meditation, and engagement on scripture with focused information about forgiveness, based also on information from social and evidence based sciences."

This retreat will be led by our own parishioner **Patti-Anne Kay** together with **Fr. Peter Doherty** from Calgary. They have given this interactive retreat to many parishes and recently published a book through **Novalis** entitled "**Forgiveness**". View the book synopsis on the following link:

tinyurl.com/spp-retreat-book.

No registration required; a good will offering collection will be taken at the end of the retreat.

PASABOLONG LUNCHEON FUNDRAISER

"A FEAST FOR THE PHILIPPINES" Join us for a lunch, dessert, and entertainment, catered by the Victoria Filipino-Canadian Seniors Assoc., **Sun, Feb. 4 after 10:30 mass at St. Elizabeth's**

Tickets: adults \$20; kids under 12 \$10. Proceeds to benefit the **Pasobolong - Holy Rosary Family Centre** in Zamboanga City, Mindanao, Philippines, in education/formation of youths and care for a local leper colony.

PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

Every year Christians celebrate a **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** and participate in jointly-organized ecumenical services. Let us come together at **St. Andrew's Cathedral on Sunday, Jan. 28 at 2 pm. Bishop Logan McMenamie will be preaching with our own Bishop Gary Gordon in attendance. Everyone is welcome. Reception to follow.**

NEXT 2 WEEKS IN OUR PARISH

MONDAY, JAN. 22 & 29

1:00 pm Faith Reflection

TUESDAY, JAN. 23 & 30

9:00 am Mass at St. Elizabeth's
11:30 am Friendly Hours Soup Luncheon

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 24 & 31

9:00 am Mass at St. Elizabeth's
10:00 am Taiji Qigong

THURSDAY, JAN. 25 & FEB. 1

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

FRIDAY, JAN. 26 & FEB. 2

9:00 am Mass at St. Elizabeth's followed by Eucharistic Adoration
For the intentions of Maria Tavares (Feb. 2)
11:00 am Mass at Saanich Pen Hospital (Jan. 26)

SATURDAY, JAN. 27 & FEB. 3

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

SUNDAY, JAN. 28 & FEB. 4

8:30 am Mass at Our Lady of Assumption
9:45 am Children's Faith Formation
10:30 am Mass at St. Elizabeth's
11:30 am K of C Pancake Breakfast (Jan. 28)
11:30 am Pasobolong Luncheon (Feb. 4)

For the latest schedule see tinyurl.com/sppcal

PANCAKE BREAKFAST: SUN. JAN. 28

The K of C Pancake Breakfast. \$6 / person, 12 & under free. Good food and fellowship. Bring your appetite!



Church Photo Directory



PARISH DIRECTORY

A great resource to get to know our parish family. Parishioners' photos, parish groups and church history of Our Lady of Assumption and St. Elizabeth's Churches are featured. Lots of interesting 'tidbits' of information about our parish. **\$15 a copy - available in the foyer & the office.**



THANK YOU - GREAT JOB!

Sincerest thanks to **James Bryce** & his Diocesan Appeal Team for helping our parish achieve **93.5%** of our goal of \$46,000. **\$43,030 was raised through 165 pledges. Congratulations.**

YEARS OF HARD WORK PAYS OFF!

D&P Caritas Canada welcomes the Canadian government's announcement of the creation of a human rights ombudsperson to oversee Canadian mining, oil & gas operations around the world. For over 10 years D&P has campaigned for greater accountability in defending human rights. Concerns over human rights violations linked to Canadian mining companies began to surface in the early 2,000's. THANK YOU to all who signed cards, sent letters and prayed for justice.

RELIC OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER: JAN. 27 At St. Andrew's Cathedral, Saturday, Jan. 27, 2018 Program for the Day:

Public Veneration: 1 - 4:30 pm & 6 - 10 pm
Confessions: 1:30 pm - 4 pm & 6 - 9 pm
Mass: 5 pm: Program: 7 pm: Closing Prayer: 10 pm

DIOCESAN FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH

All are welcome! Consider coming out to our *Diocesan Foundations of the Faith Formation Program* to deepen and renew your faith. Part I of this free. Program began Wed. evening Jan. 17 and runs for 8 consecutive Wednesdays from 7-9 p.m. at the Pastoral Center 4044 Nelthorpe. Part II will be offered March 19 & 20-day sessions. Registration through Eventbrite (www.eventbrite.com) or contact Glen Palahicky via email: gpalahicky@rcdvictoria.org

DEVELOPMENT & PEACE ACTION CAMPAIGN

Development and Peace - Caritas Canada introduces us to a Columbian, Afghan and a Syrian woman who work at building peace in their communities: see the pamphlet "**Women at the heart of peace**" or go on-line at devp.org/campaign/resources. **Please sign the Action Card!** Together, let's call on the Canadian government to give women the resources they need to be at the heart of peace.

ADJUSTMENTS IN THE PARISH OFFICE

Melanie Ehrlich is now the office coordinator; please, address any enquiries to her. Please, remember that **the office is only open Tuesdays to Friday inclusive 9:00 am to 12:00 noon.** Both **Melanie** and **Gary Koett** will work in the afternoon on the many office tasks which require concentration. **Thank you in advance for respecting the office hours.**

ParishSOFT Computer System :

The Diocese implemented in 2017 a new data base system called **ParishSOFT** which will serve to improve and streamline parish procedural guidelines and records keeping information. With a new system comes new challenges and for some time to come more work for the persons (Melanie, Gary, Jim and others) working in the office. We ask that you remain patient with us as we work through some of the new procedures, including the issuance of **Income Tax Receipts.** Our goal is to have this completed at the beginning of February. **Thank you for your continued patience and cooperation.**

UVIC MULTIFAITH HARMONY: FEB. 4

In honour of the United Nations' World Interfaith Harmony Week, and the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, UVIC Multifaith Services and the Victoria Multifaith Society are joining together to present **Creating our Future: Visioning a Sustainable, Compassionate World: Sun., Feb. 4, 1- 4 pm** David Lam Auditorium, Maclaurin Building A144 UVIC. Displays, presentations and celebrations. Information: www.victoriamultifaith.com or contact **Sheila Flood, 250-818-9099.**

DIOCESAN JOB POSTINGS

- **Diocese of Victoria:** Assistant to the Judicial Vicar, Marriage Tribunal - See diocesan website Deadline: February 8, 2018.
- **Island Catholic Schools** positions:
 - 2 Principalships, (St. Andrew's H.S. & St. Joseph's)
 - Temporary Kindergarten Teacher, St. Patrick's
 - On-Call Part-Time Bus Driver, St. Joseph'sApplication forms and details are posted at: <http://cisdv.bc.ca/employment-opportunities.php>