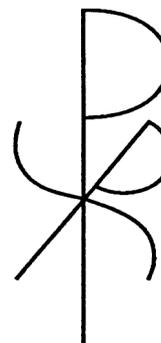


Pastor's Corner –World Day of the Sick message by Pope Francis

Most of us are blessed with reasonably good health in a country which provides excellent health care. We can be very thankful for this especially when we think of those in our community and elsewhere who are struggling with health issues including the lack of proper and affordable care. Pope Francis on the 27th World Day of the Sick adds another dimension saying a culture of generosity and the joy of generous giving can add to the **spiritual health** of a Christian because it is **a form of evangelization: "You received without payment; give without payment" (Mt 10:8)**. These are the words spoken by Jesus when sending forth his apostles to spread the Gospel, so that his Kingdom might grow through acts of gratuitous love. Caring for the sick requires professionalism, tenderness, straightforward and simple gestures freely given, like a caress that makes others feel loved. Life is a gift from God. St. Paul asks: "What do you have that you did not receive? 1 Cor.4:7" Precisely because it is a gift, human life cannot be reduced to a personal possession or private property, especially in the light of medical & biotechnological advances that could tempt us to manipulate the "tree of life." Amid today's culture of waste and indifference, I point out that "gift" is the category best suited to challenging today's individualism and social fragmentation, while at the same time promoting new relationships and means of cooperation between peoples and cultures. Dialogue, the premise of gift, creates possibilities for human growth and development capable of breaking through established ways of exercising power in society. "Gift" means more than simply giving presents: it involves the giving of oneself, and not simply a transfer of property or objects. "Gift" differs from gift-giving because it entails the free gift of self and the desire to build a relationship. It is the acknowledgement of others, which is the basis of society. "Gift" is a reflection of God's love, which culminates in the incarnation of the Son & the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Each of us is poor, needy and destitute. When we are born, we require the care of our parents to survive, and at every stage of life we remain in some way dependent on the help of others. We will always be conscious of our limitations, as "creatures", before other individuals and situations. A frank acknowledgement of this truth keeps us humble and spurs us to practice solidarity as an essential virtue in life. Such an acknowledgement leads us to act responsibly to promote a good that is both personal and communal. Only if we see ourselves, not as a world apart, but in a fraternal relationship with others, can we develop a social practice of solidarity aimed at the common good. We should not be afraid to regard ourselves as needy/reliant on others, because individually and by our own efforts we cannot overcome our limitations. So we should not fear, then, to acknowledge those limitations, for God himself, in Jesus, has humbly stooped down to us (cf. Phil 2:8) and continues to do so; in our poverty, he comes to our aid and grants us gifts beyond our imagining.

I would like to recall the figure of St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta: Mother Teresa, in all aspects of her life, was a dispenser of divine mercy, making herself available for everyone through her welcome and defense of human life, of those unborn and those abandoned and discarded. She bowed down before those who were spent, left to die on the side of the road, seeing in them their God-given dignity; she made her voice heard before the powers of this world, so that they might recognize their guilt for the crime – the crimes! – of poverty they created. For Mother Teresa, mercy was the 'salt' which gave flavour to her work; it was the 'light' that shone in the darkness of the many who no longer had tears to shed for their poverty and suffering. Her mission to the urban and existential peripheries remains for us an eloquent witness to God's closeness to the poorest of the poor. St. Mother Teresa helps us understand that our only criterion of action must be selfless love for every human being; her example continues to guide us by opening up horizons of joy and hope for all those in need of understanding and tender love. ...Generosity inspires and sustains the work of the many volunteers who are so important in health care and who eloquently embody the spirituality of the Good Samaritan. I express my gratitude and offer my encouragement to all volunteers. ...One particular area in which your presence expresses the Church's care and concern is that of advocacy for the rights of the sick, especially those affected by pathologies requiring special assistance. ...I also mention the many efforts made to raise awareness and encourage prevention. Your volunteer work in medical facilities and in homes, which ranges from providing health care to offering spiritual support, is of primary importance. ...I urge you to continue to be a sign of the Church's presence in a secularized world. ...A volunteer is a good friend with whom one can share personal thoughts and emotions; by their patient listening, volunteers make it possible for the sick to pass from being passive recipients of care to being active participants in a relationship that can restore hope....Volunteer work passes on values, behaviours and ways of living born of a deep desire to be generous. It is also a means of making health care more humane. ...I urge everyone, at every level, to promote the culture of generosity and of gift, which is indispensable for overcoming the culture of profit and waste; ...health is relational, dependent on interaction with others, requiring trust, friendship and solidarity. It is a treasure that can be enjoyed fully only when it is shared. ...The joy of generous giving is a barometer of the health of a Christian. I entrust all of you to Mary, *Salus Infirmorum*. May she help us to share the gifts we have received in the spirit of dialogue and mutual acceptance, to live as brothers and sisters attentive to each other's needs, to give from a generous heart, and to learn the joy of selfless service to others."



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

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

Pastor: Fr. Rolf Hasenack, O.P.

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

Rectory: 250-652-1557

Web site: www.spparish.com

Admin. Assistant: Melanie Ehrlich

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.

JAN. 27, 2019

3rd SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Nehemiah 8:2 - 6:8-16

1 Cor. 12:12-30

Luke 1:1-4, 4:12-21

**Psalms 18: Your words,
Lord are spirit and life.**



FEB. 3, 2019

4th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19

1 Cor. 12:31- 13:13

Luke 4:18-19

**Psalms 71: My mouth will
tell, O Lord of your deeds of
salvation**



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

Jan. 1.....	\$ 1,823
Jan. 6.....	\$ 9,711
Jan. 13.....	\$ 2,979
Jan. 20.....	\$ 2,537
Pre-Authorized Debits (Jan.).....	\$ 5,055
Monthly Target	\$ 25,000

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Children/youth 11 years & older, who have not yet received the Sacrament of First Communion are encouraged to join Sunday morning Sacramental preparation at 9:45am at St. Elizabeth's.

DEVELOPMENT & PEACE

This year's D & P's theme, **Share the Journey**, invites us to reflect about the plight of so many who are struggling to survive. Please take a moment to sign the D & P cards that will be sent to the Prime Minister.

THANK YOU FOR DOING YOUR PART

Friendly reminder; to do your part please turn down the thermostat, turn off lights & machines, in order to prevent excess utilities costs for our church buildings. We are all responsible for the care of our buildings.



K OF C PASTA NIGHT: FEB. 22

Our annual Pasta Night will be on Fri. Feb. 22. Cocktails at 6:30 pm, with dinner at 7 pm. Tickets are \$10 per person or \$25 per family. Please plan to come out, enjoy a good meal and socialize with friends and family. To help out, please contact Denis Courchene (250-656-1655) or Francois Vinay (250-652-0144).



MASS FOR THE SICK: FRI. FEB. 8

Friday, Feb. 8 at 11 am (PLEASE NOTE TIME) a special mass will be celebrated with the anointing of the sick and their caregivers. We encourage everyone who knows someone who is sick or ailing to please bring him/her to this mass for a blessing. Let us come together, families, caregivers, friends and ministers to the sick for this special celebration. **Following Mass a Soup Lunch will be provided by the CWL.**



NEXT 2 WEEKS IN OUR PARISH

MONDAY, JAN. 28 & FEB. 4

1:00 pm Faith Reflection

TUESDAY, JAN. 29 & FEB. 5

9:00 am **NO Mass** at St. Elizabeth's (Jan. 29)
 9:00 am Mass at St. Elizabeth's (Feb. 5)
 11:30 am Friendly Hours Luncheon
 2:00 pm **CWL Executive Mtg. (Feb. 5)**
 2:00 pm **SVDP Conference Mtg. (Feb. 5)**
 7:30 pm **K of C Executive Mtg. (Feb. 5)**

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 30 & FEB. 6

9:00 am **NO Mass** at St. Elizabeth's (Jan. 30)
 Communion Service
 9:00 am Mass, followed by Euch. Ador. (Feb. 6)
 10:00 am Taiji Qigong - **cancelled**
 6:00 pm **Parish Council (Feb. 6)**

THURSDAY, JAN. 31 & FEB. 7

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

FRIDAY, FEB. 1 & 8

9:00 am Mass at St. Elizabeth's (Feb. 1)
 11:00 am **Mass for the Sick at St. Eliz. (Feb. 8)**

SATURDAY, FEB. 2 & 9

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

SUNDAY, FEB. 3 & 10

8:30 am Mass at Our Lady of the Assumption
 9:45 am **Sacramental Preparation**
 10:30 am Mass at St. Elizabeth's
 11:30 am Coffee Fellowship
 11:30 am **Samahan Fellowship Mtg (Feb. 10)**

CWL BRIDGE TOURNAMENT: FEB 16

Sat. Feb 16, 11:30 am - 3:00 pm at St. Eliz. Tickets on sale now. \$20 / person or \$80 / table (incl. lunch). Call Olga Sweet at 778-426-1941

KAIROS BLANKET EXERCISE: MAR. 9

Note rescheduled date: Sat. Mar. 9, 1- 4 pm. A deeply moving, participatory history lesson – developed in collaboration with indigenous Elders and educators – that fosters truth, understanding, respect, and reconciliation among indigenous and non-indigenous peoples. Limited to 60 participants Sign up sheet in foyer: kairosblanketexercise.org

PARISH LIBRARY

Please take time to look at the amazing selection of new books just added to the library on display on the trolley at the rear of the church. All of these books have been donated, we really appreciate them and we would like to thank everyone who gave them to us. Library committee.

2019 PASTORAL CARE TRAINING SESSIONS

Workshops are open to anyone who wants to understand the practical aspects of pastoral care; present hospital and homebound parish visitors who have yet to take this training; parishioners who look after their own family members. Like the Good Samaritan, may we walk by the side of the road of our own lives – to be good and caring neighbours to one another and, especially, to the sick, the elderly and the dying – those in need of a loving and healing presence.

St. Patrick's Parish Hall

Saturday, Feb. 9 – Session 1: *The Healing Ministry of Christ* - Fr. William Hann is the morning presenter.

Saturday, March 23 – Session 2: *Listening & Communications and Mental Health*

All sessions are 9:00 am – 3:00 pm. No charge.

Bring a bag lunch. Coffee/Tea will be available.

Contact the parish office to register: (250) 592-7391 or stpat190@telus.net

If you are planning to attend, please contact Fatima Warner, Visiting Ministry Coordinator at 250-656-8863 or email at bfwarner@shaw.ca We are hoping to arrange car pools.

BY HIS WOUNDS WE ARE HEALED: FEB. 21

Opportunities to dialogue with Bishop Gary Gordon and members of the Diocesan Leadership Team regarding the clergy sexual abuse crisis in the Church, and to learn about the Diocesan Responsible Ministry & Safe Environment policies and protocols that were established to address these concerns in our Diocese. **Thurs. Feb. 21, St. Joseph the Worker Church, 7:00 to 9 pm.**

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Saturday Feb 2nd at the Victoria Horseshoe club starting at 8:00 am. \$12.00 PRESENTATION: "A Conversion Story – My Path to Catholicism and Other Anecdotes" by Brian Dennison Please RSVP Chris Burke info@mfaff.org

F.Y.I Taijiong is cancelled and will resume on Feb 20th

D&P SHARE THE JOURNEY: Let our Government know about your concerns re. forced migration. Please, sign the cards; place in box in the foyer.

FORCED TO FLEE: FEB. 20

An opportunity to walk in the steps of migrants forced to flee their homes. **Wed. Feb. 20, at St. Patrick's Parish, 10:00 - noon.** Forced to Flee is a simulation experience on decision making during conflict and forced migration. This year D & P - Caritas Canada is asking us to "Share the Journey" with the 68.5 million forced migrants

"LIVING WITH CHRIST" BOOKLETS

Please let the office know **asap** if you wish to be on our Subscription List. We need to renew in March. We receive a discounted rate for 10 or more who subscribe together. Our existing discounted 2 year subscription rate is \$58.17/year (incl. tax) – regular price is \$70.88 (incl. tax). This rate will continue upon renewal for another 2 years. Alternatively, we can opt for a 1 year subscription group rate if more people prefer this option, which would be \$33.08/year (incl. tax) – regular price is \$40.43/year (incl. tax).

CATHOLIC PRAYER BREAKFAST: FEB. 23

Catholic prayer breakfast will be held at the Comfort Inn, 3020 Blanshard Sat. Feb. 23, 9 am to noon. The speaker, Father Alfredo Monacelli, immigrated from Italy after military service and is the Pastor at St Joseph the Worker in Victoria.. Before the priesthood he has been a restaurant manager, photographer and had a photography business. He has a powerful personal testimony. Price: \$15. Tickets are available from Cathy Kelsey 250-652-2365 or 250-477-4700 (the Dunstons) for a reservation. All welcome.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER: MAR. 30-31

At St Joseph's School, Victoria. **LOVED THE WEDDING. INVITE ME TO THE MARRIAGE. LOVE, GOD.** A Non-Residential **Worldwide Marriage Encounter** weekend can help you do that! A Marriage Encounter is where married couples can get away from jobs, kids, phones, and focus only on each other. Sounds good, right? If you'd like greater depth, growth, and romance in your relationship, you'll like the difference a **Worldwide Marriage Encounter** weekend can make. Register at rcdvictoria.org / www.evancouverbc@gmail.com or Sharon & Glen 778 386 2908.