

Pastor's corner - April 20, 2008

Last Sunday Bishop Gagnon came to join our community for the confirmation of some of our children and to celebrate with us the fact that these children participated for the first time as full members of our faith community in the Eucharist. I am sure that you were heartened by the fact that young people continue to come forward to join the community of believers that is the Church. At the same time we sense that we were there not just as witnesses but as committed members who once more were asked to recommit themselves to our baptismal promises usually made for us by our parents years ago. Or even if we became a Catholic when we were an adult, we understand that each celebration of one of the sacraments of initiation (baptism, confirmation, First Eucharist or "first communion") is a reminder to us of our own personal involvement and of our own personal responsibilities as baptized Christians.

When we heard the children being called by name and their resolute "Here I am" and then their "Amen" after the "Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit", we rejoiced that these children were willing to make, still as children, a commitment to take on the priestly prophetic mission as members of the Body of Christ which is the Church. At the same time we probably wondered how that Amen would be lived out in the daily lives of these children and how it eventually would develop in them as adults. But we could also continue to wonder how will I, how will we, live out my/our own priestly prophetic mission as a member? And even more fundamentally: When do we think of ourselves as priestly persons, as prophetic persons?

The weekly Lectionary in these days after Easter has a passage from the Second Letter of Peter: "We possess the prophetic message that is altogether reliable. You will do well to be attentive to it, as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. Know this first of all, that there is no prophecy of scripture that is a matter of personal interpretation, for no prophecy ever came through human will; but rather human beings moved by the Holy Spirit spoke under the influence of God (2 Peter 1: 19-21)."

When do we think of ourselves as being missionaries entrusted with a prophetic message, no doubt addressed to me, but also to others, to the world? What does that mean?

Yes, it is a mission that is ours, not just a mission entrusted to ordained ministers; no, it is the mission of all baptized members because all have been given the gifts of the Spirit (the same gifts of the Spirit that are named on the confirmation banner hanging in St. Elizabeth). It is a mission that requires us to develop within us an ability to hear and listen; to listen deeply to our rich tradition and to be attentive to the movements of the Holy Spirit, not only in ourselves but especially in others and in the situation in which we or/and the world find ourselves.

Jesus showed us the example of a fundamental trust and reliance on God and on God's Spirit in him. If we call ourselves Christians, we are called to be Christ-like, and live in the same way. In a changing world with many unanswered questions and interconnected radical shifts we need to go beyond the grieving of things past, beyond the fears of the futures unknown, and put all our trust in God and in the prophetic Spirit that inhabits us, and which continues to guide us through the rough waters of uncertainty. We are called to explore possibilities not yet taken and entertain alternative worlds not yet visible. Walter Brueggemann, who wrote "The Prophetic Imagination" writes that we need "to seek language that is passionate, dangerous and imaginative enough to make available the passion, danger and freedom of God." The Second Letter of Peter reminds us to listen to and discern within our rich tradition as well as to trust firmly in the presence of the Spirit who promises not to be silent and to boldly preach with compassion the truth we hear 'under the influence of God.'

Shalom.

Fr. Rolf, OP

*fr. Rolf*

# Saanich Peninsula Parish



A ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY IN COVENANT WITH ST. STEPHEN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH  
Box 2116, Sidney, BC, V8L 3S6 web-site: www.spparish.com e-mail: spparish@shaw.ca

Parish Office: 656-7433, Fax 483-1597, Rectory: 652-1990

Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 8:30am - 12:30pm

RECONCILIATION Saturdays 4:00 - 4:30pm, or by appointment.

PASTOR: Father Rolf Hasenack, O.P.

PARISH COORDINATOR: Neil Lensen

PASTORAL COUNCIL: Chair, Bob Fowler, 655-3078

**EUCCHARIST AT ST. ELIZABETH'S**  
10030 Third Street, Sidney

Saturdays at 5pm, Sundays at 10:30am  
Daily at 9am Tuesdays, Wednesdays  
& Thursdays and First Fridays  
Liturgy of the Word at 9am on Mondays

**EUCCHARIST AT  
OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION**  
7742 West Saanich Road, Brentwood Bay  
Sundays at 8:30am  
Last Friday at Saanich Peninsula Hospital at 11am  
Remaining Fridays at 9am in a private home  
See inside bulletin

## APRIL 20, 2008

## FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

*Acts 6:1-7 / 1 Pet 2:4-9 / Jn 14:1-12*

### 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 \_\_\_\_\_

Phone# \_\_\_\_\_

Need donation envelopes? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

## PARISH REPORT

### COLLECTIONS

April 6th	\$4,969.00
April 13th	\$5,332.75
PAD's	\$2,815.00

### UPDATE ON DONATIONS FOR AWOR FAMILY

Feb. 29 Donations, Approx. \$ 3,000

Spring Fling:

Tickets	\$2,434		
Donations	\$1,920		
Auction	\$3,771		
K of C	\$1,000	Total	\$ 9,125
		Total to Date	\$12,125

Donations are still coming in. We are expecting William to arrive around May 7th from Beirut, Lebanon and Maria and the children from Manila, Philippines the week following.

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: APR. 20

The AGM of the Parish Pastoral Council will be held following the 10:30am Mass at St. Elizabeth's. Several years ago it was decided there would be no nominations for council from the floor. We hope to be finished by 1pm.

### SPECIAL COLLECTION: APR. 27

A 2nd collection will be taken after communion on the 27th for **The Pope's Pastoral Works**.

We offer our condolences to our Coordinator, Neil Lensen and his family on the death of his sister, Nada Irvine who died in Melfort, Saskatchewan.

## COVENANT

### ST. MARY & STEPHEN'S ANGLICAN CHURCHES

Apr. 27th 9:00 St. Stephen's BAS Holy Communion  
10:30 St. Mary's BCP Holy Communion

## IN OUR PARISH

### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL: APR. 21

Note our next regular meeting will be held on **Monday, April 21** at 1:30pm at St Elizabeth's church. All parishioners are welcome.

### THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

#### MONDAY, APRIL 21ST

9:00am Liturgy of the Word  
1:30pm St. Vincent De Paul  
3:00pm Reflection Group

#### TUESDAY, APRIL 22ND

9:00am Mass  
11:30am Friendly Hours

#### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23RD

9:00am Mass  
10:00am Taiji Qigong

#### THURSDAY, APRIL 24TH

9:00am Mass  
11:30am Friendly Hours  
2:00pm Prayer Group  
6:00pm Taiji Qigong

#### FRIDAY, APRIL 25TH

11:00am Mass at the Saanich Peninsula Hospital  
1:30pm CWL Tea

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 26TH

5:00pm Mass at St. Elizabeth's

#### SUNDAY, APRIL 27TH

8:30am Mass at OLO Assumption  
9:45am Children's Religious Education  
10:30am Mass at St. Elizabeth's

### FAITH REFLECTION GROUP: APR 21

3pm at St. Elizabeth's. Topic: *Vatican II: Religious Freedom.*

### CWL: APR 25

The Saanich Peninsula Parish CWL is hosting a Tea at 1:30 p.m. on April 25, 2008 in honour of our Lady of Good Council. We have invited all CWL members of the Vancouver Island Diocese. All CWL members from St. Elizabeth's and Our Lady of Assumption are invited to attend. If you wish to join us, please call Linda MacGowan at 655-0713 by April 20, 2008 to confirm your attendance. We will be having guests that day to speak to us on the Trafficking of Women and Children. Admission to the Tea is by donation."

### K of C ANNUAL GARAGE SALE: MAY 10

At St. Elizabeth's. Donations for our Garage Sale will be accepted only on May 8th or 9th. Note: all donations will be inspected and we will **NOT** accept garage sale left-overs. Thank you. Call Gord at 652-4379.

### WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER:

**MAY 23-25. ARE YOU** looking for a gift for your husband or wife for under \$50? A gift you can enjoy together? One that will last for years to come? For the cost of a \$35 registration fee and a donation made on the weekend, you can give him or her a Marriage Encounter weekend. The next weekend will be held May 23-25 at the **Bethlehem Retreat Centre** in Nanaimo. To receive a registration brochure or for more information, please call: **Bryan & Fatima Warner at 656-8863** or e-mail [larjen@shaw.ca](mailto:larjen@shaw.ca). We encourage you to book ASAP.

### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTRY COORDINATOR

Is needed. If you can help in this area please call Betty or Roman Hawryluk at 544-0529.

## GENERAL

### ABBEYFIELD SING-ALONG: APR. 21 & 25

You are invited to join the residents and the Sunshine Singers on Monday, April 21st at 6:30pm and Friday, April 25th at 1:30pm. Also entertaining will be Daisy and the Kaptien. Refreshments provided.

### HAMPTON CONCERT ORCHESTRA: APR. 21

A Spring Concert at Holy Cross on Monday, April 21st at 7:30pm. Suggested donation \$10 or \$20/ family. Proceeds for the Hampton Concert Orchestra and Ozanam Offsite Program.

### EARTH DAY CELEBRATION & QUEENSWOOD FUNDRAISER: APR. 22

Come listen to David Hickey's Crystal Bowl, Paiste Gongs & Chakra Chimes Concert at Queenswood Centre Chapel, 2494 Arbutus Rd. from 7—9:30 on Tuesday, April 22nd. Cost \$20/ person at the door.

### OPERATION UPPER ROOM 2008: MAY 4

On Sunday, May 4 from 2-5pm, the Victoria Diocese Charismatic Renewal Services is holding a special prayer meeting, part of the "Operation Upper Room 2008" Novena Prayer Events that are being held worldwide and are intended to weave a global prayer network before Pentecost. The prayer meeting will be held at St. Joseph the Worker Parish Hall, 785 Burnside Road W. There will be refreshments and snacks at the end of the prayer meeting. For more information, contact David at 383-9955.

## WORKSHOPS / LECTURES

### BETHLEHEM RETREAT CENTRE

2371 Arbot Rd., Nanaimo, 250-754-3254.  
[www.retreatsonline.net/bethlehem](http://www.retreatsonline.net/bethlehem)

### WEEKEND RETREAT: APR. 25

"As the Person So the Planet" from Friday, April 25th at 7pm to Sunday, April 27th at 4pm. Sister Joan Marie Sasse, educator, theologian, and co-founder of a Holistic Renewal Centre in Beaumont, California shares her insights on the power we have as individuals to make a difference in our personal lives and in our world. Weekend - \$200.00 - Commuter \$140.00 For more information call Bethlehem Retreat Centre.

### RE-ENERGIZE WORKSHOP: APR. 30

Retired Bishop Barry Jenks will lead a "Re-Energize" Workshop at St. Mary's Anglican Church, on Wed., April 30<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. The Workshop will examine how we can work to change ourselves by reducing our energy use and our carbon footprint, and to change our community and our world by working for a just and sustainable energy policy. All welcome. Wheelchair accessible.

### ISLAND PASTORAL TRAINING: MAY 2 & 3

Training the Caring Community—Stage 2 takes place on Friday, May 2 from 7-9pm and continues Saturday, May 3rd from 9am-4pm at St. Peter's Anglican Church, 3939 St. Peter's Rd. \$60 includes lunch. Trainers: Rev. Bill Cole and Rev. Nancy Ford. To register, call 472-2851 before April 30th.