

Pastor's corner - April 27, 2008

During the month of April special attention is being paid to the need for organ donations. Statistics show that 90 % of the citizens in British Columbia agree with organ donation, but only 13 % have registered. We have apparently the lowest percentage of registrations in the country. And that is at a time when there is a far greater chance that you and I will one day need an organ transplant, than there is of you and I ever being an organ donor. Transplants are cost effective and the survival rates of transplant patients continue to improve. The average cost of dialysis is \$50,000 a year while the one-time cost of a kidney transplant is \$20,000 plus a yearly cost of \$6,000 for anti-rejection medications. More than 400 people in B.C. are waiting for an organ transplant; many will die unless we can help improve the donor and consent rates.

Many people think the decal they once had on their CareCard or driver's license is still valid. That is not the case. No one had a decal on their driver's license anymore; you need to register your decision on the Organ Donor Registry. While one must be at least 19 years of age there is no age limit for organ donation. In this organ donor awareness week let us make a real effort to register a decision about organ donation.

In the foyer you will find Organ Donor Registry Forms which can be filled out and mailed to the British Columbia Transplant Society (BCTS) in the postage paid envelope provided. You can also register online at www.transplant.bc.ca For info.: 1-800-663-6189

The Catholic Health Association of British Columbia mentions that while he was still Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, Pope Benedict XVI revealed that he was a registered organ donor "To donate one's organs I an act of love that is morally licit, so long as it is free and spontaneous." The Catholic Church accepts and promotes organ donations from those who have died, as well as from the living. These types of donations do not go against any of the Church's teachings on the value and dignity of our bodies or in the belief in the Resurrection of the Dead.

Our Lord demonstrated with His own life how, even in sorrow, love enables us to embrace the needs of others.

We can choose to donate our organs to save the lives of many people.

The decision to donate at the end of life is the beginning of healing for many others.

Healing and saving life is a great gift. Jesus sent his twelve disciples out with the imperative to heal disease and illness.

"Heal the sick ...freely you have received, freely give (Matthew 10:8)."

"In eternity we will neither have nor need our earthly bodies: former things will pass away, all things will be made new (Revelation 21: 4-5)."

"I positively hope that Christian people will seriously and positively consider organ donation. The ready willingness to donate an organ is a clear sign of that sacrificial self-giving for others patterned by Jesus Christ." – David Ebor, Archbishop of York.

"Every organ transplant has its source in a decision of great ethical value...Here lies the nobility of a gesture which is a genuine act of love. There is a need to instill in people's hearts a genuine and deep love that can find expression in the decision to become an organ donor." - Pope John Paul II.

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 27, 2008

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17 / 1 Pet 3:15-18 / Jn 14:15-21

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
April 20th	\$3,518.40

PAD's \$2,815.00

SPECIAL COLLECTION: TODAY

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

COVENANT

ST. MARY & STEPHEN'S ANGLICAN CHURCHES

May 4th 9:00 St. Stephen's BCP Holy Communion
10:30 St. Mary's BAS Holy Communion

IN OUR PARISH

FAITH REFLECTION GROUP: APR 28

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

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.

PLANT SALE FOR BIRTHRIGHT: MAY 10

The Annual plant sale in support of Birthright Victoria, an organization that provides support for women who decide to carry their child to term in difficult circumstances will take place at the KofC garage sale. Donations of plants for the sale would be gratefully accepted. For more information call Arthur or Alanna Menu at 656-0138.

C.W.L. MEETING: MAY 13

The general meeting will be held at 2pm at St. Elizabeth's. All women welcome.

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

MONDAY, APRIL 28TH

9:00am Liturgy of the Word
3:00pm Reflection Group

TUESDAY, APRIL 29TH

9:00am Mass
11:30am Friendly Hours
7:30pm K of C Executive Meeting

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30TH

9:00am Mass
10:00am Taiji Qigong

THURSDAY, MAY 1ST

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

FRIDAY, MAY 2ND

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

SATURDAY, MAY 3RD

5:00pm Mass at St. Elizabeth's

SUNDAY, MAY 4TH

8:30am Mass at OLO Assumption
10:30am Mass at St. Elizabeth's

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER: MAY 23-25. KEEPING IN SHAPE. What are you doing to keep your marriage in good shape? Why not try a Marriage Encounter weekend? The next session will be held May 23-25 at the **Bethlehem Retreat Centre in Nanaimo**. For more information, please call: Bryan & Fatima Warner 656-8863 or e-mail at larjen@shaw.ca. We encourage you to book ASAP.

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 Visitation Team, please call the office.

GENERAL

iGNight - FOR YOUTH: APR. 27

Sex: Under-rated - Scenes Too Holy To Show On Television will be shown on Sunday, April 27th from 6:30-9:30pm at St. Joseph the Worker Parish. Watch the trailer at <http://ignight.ca>

VICTORIA PHILHARMONIC CHOIR: APR. 30

The 60 voice choir, 4 soloists and symphony players directed by Simon Capet promise a powerful and moving experience on Wednesday, April 30th at 7:30pm at the UVIC Farquhar Auditorium. For tickets (\$15-48) call 721-8480. For more information visit www.vpchoir.ca

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.

ONE NIGHT ONLY!: MAY 21

Hillsong United presents '*The I Heart Revolution We're All In This Together*'. It was created to inspire this generation and youth ministries to respond to injustice in their local communities and take responsibility as God's hands and feet on the planet. May 21st at 7pm at the SilverCity theatre at Tillicum Centre.

WORKSHOPS / LECTURES

RE-ENERGIZE WORKSHOP: APR. 30

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

QUEENSWOOD 2494 Arbutus Road, Victoria
For Registration or Information call 477-3822
Or e-mail info@queenswoodcentre.com

HONOURING YOUR UNIQUE & VITAL VOICE: WRITE YOUR FIRE: MAY 3

A writing workshop to unearth your unique voice and vision via your pen, facilitator: Margot Van Sluytman 9:30 to 3:30pm. \$65 including lunch.

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.

YOUTH CONFERENCE: MAY 9 - 11

All youth in grades 8-12: come to the DIOCESAN YOUTH CONFERENCE "That 7 x 70's Show" Friday May 9 to Sunday May 11 at St. Andrew's High School. Our guest speaker is Fr. Stan Fortuna from NY. For registration info download the registration form at www.islandyouth.ca. Questions? Phone Flo Follero-Pugh at 544-0999.

MESSAGES

CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Thank you to all in our parish community who supported the Confirmation & First Communion children and their families during this phase of their journey of faith. Thank you to Michael, Karen, and the choir who provided beautiful music for our Confirmation/First Communion celebration.

This Sunday – April 27th will be our last day of classes. Classes for Preschool, K, & 1 (Sunday Liturgy) however will continue for the months of May and June. Els and I would like to thank the Catechists: **Mary Barr, Terry Carvalhal, Stasia Hartley, Gary Koett, Christine Jaroch, Sheila Craig, Tracey Westwood, Liane Funk, Roy Battilana & Subs: Stephanie Schroeder and Kimberly House**. We are truly blessed to have such an amazing team of Catechists. We would also like to thank the Parents, KofC, CWL, the Prayer Group, and the music ministers for their ongoing support. And last, but certainly not least, we would like to thank Father Rolf who is always there for us and whose advice and patience is truly appreciated.