

Pastor's corner – May 3, 2009

Every now and then we are reminded how precious the gift of life is. It is even more of a gift when the gift of life comes out of the death and loss of someone else. Because Jesus gave his life freely for our sake we have been given the promise of eternal life. In addition God gave us also the ability to discover various and numerous ways to give life ourselves.

Ever since the first transplant many years ago people have been given the gift of life enabling them to live longer and to enjoy life in its many facets. The Church has always supported these newer forms of life and Pope John Paul II enthusiastically encouraged people to become organ donors. I would like to reproduce here the story of one such donor who gave another unknown person the possibility to enjoy life for many years. But that gift has been a gift not just to one person but to many others because that one recipient has been a life-giving presence to his family and to the students he has been teaching as well as to all the other people who are part of his life and part of his story.

Life, death, andlife: a gift of life 20 years ago leaves lasting legacy for BC family.

Tony Beeftink, the second person to receive a heart transplant in BC, stood before a crowded auditorium at St. Paul's Hospital in Vancouver on December 2, 2008. He told people his story of twenty years of life thanks to his heart transplant. Struck with a virus that attacked his heart at the age of 37, Beeftink, the father of three children aged 4, 7 and 11 at the time, was close to death before receiving his transplant in December of 1988. A high school teacher and a keen runner, Beeftink is never complacent about the gift of life he received 20 years ago.

“Who knew that I could be so close to not making it all those years ago, but still be around today twenty years later to talk to you about my experience. My transplant has given me the opportunity to see my children grow up and to share in those life experiences with my wife Alana. I have walked both my two daughters down the aisle and now Alana and I are about to be grandparents. My life couldn't be better!”

Since BC's first heart transplant in 1988, over 320 heart transplants have been performed.

To date, the biggest obstacle the heart program faces is the need for hearts for transplant.

Of course, there is even a greater need for other organs, such as kidneys, liver, etc.

Please, consider registering yourself, your family, your children, with the BC Transplant Society; it is such a wonderful way for us Christians, called to be Christ-like and Easter people, to concretely show that we believe in life and sharing that life with others.

Your driver's license decal is no longer enough and you need to sign up on B.C.'s Organ Donor Registry to ensure your decision is respected. The Organ Donor Registry replaces all previous ways of recording your wishes.

You can register electronically at www.transplant.bc.ca or you can phone for more information at 1-800-663-6189. You can also pick up a brochure at the front door of the church.

As the brochure says: “By taking 5 minutes today, you could save a life tomorrow

I also wish to thank you for your prayers, best wishes and generosity at the occasion of my 69th birthday. No, it was not my 70th although I realize I am entering another decade!

Fr. Rolf Shalom.

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: 250-656-7433, Fax 250-483-1597, Rectory: 250-652-1990

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 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:** Gary Koett
ASSOCIATE PASTOR: Fr. Jai Francis **PASTORAL COUNCIL:** Chair, Tim Leadem 250-656-5628

EUCARIST AT ST. ELIZABETH'S

10030 Third Street, Sidney

Saturdays at 5pm, Sundays at 10:30am

Daily at 9am Tuesdays, Wednesdays

& Thursdays and First Fridays

EUCARIST AT

OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION

7742 West Saanich Road, Saanichton

Sundays at 8:30am

Last Friday at Saanich Peninsula Hospital at 11am

Remaining Fridays at 9am in a private home

See inside bulletin

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER: MAY 3, 2009

Acts 4.7-12 / 1 Jn 3.1-2 / Jn 10.11-18

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER: MAY 10, 2009

Acts 9.26-31 / 1 Jn 3.18-24 / Jn 15.1-8

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 (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 _____

Phone# _____

Need Pre-Authorized Debit package? Yes ___ No ___

Need donation envelopes? Yes ___ No ___

PARISH REPORT

COLLECTIONS

April 5	\$ 5,561.00
April 12	\$10,378.79
April 19	\$ 4,200.74
April 26	\$ 3,276.25
PAD's (38 donors)	\$ 3,020.00

SECOND COLLECTION: MAY 17

A 2nd collection will be taken after communion on the 17th for **The Pope's Pastoral Works**.

Thank you to all who attended our Parish AGM last Sunday (April 26). Your suggestions, and any others still forthcoming, are appreciated.

Your new Pastoral Council (2009-2010):

Returning Members:

Bob Fowler	Tim Leadem
Paul Ledet Jr.	Lissen Lockwood
Maureen Hertz	Linda MacGowan
Janet Staebell	Chris Whelan

New Members (approved at)

Fatima Warner	Monica Rodrigues
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K of C ANNUAL GARAGE SALE: MAY 9

At St. Elizabeth's. Items will be accepted **ONLY** on Friday, May 8th. We will only accept re-saleable items. Please, **NO** clothes, shoes, mattresses, baby cribs etc. All items will be subject to inspection in order to cut down on un-saleable junk. Thank you. You may call Gord at 250-652-4379 or 250-588-1226 (cell).

PLANT SALE FOR BIRTHRIGHT: MAY 9

The Annual plant sale in support of Birthright Victoria will take place during the KofC garage sale. If you would like to donate a plant to be sold at the sale, please contact Arthur or Alanna Menu at 250-656-0138. Birthright Victoria is a registered charity that offers women dealing with an unplanned pregnancy support for them and their child both before and after birth. For more information see <http://www.birthright.org/htmlpages/index.htm>.

THE NEXT TWO WEEKS IN THE PARISH

1:00pm	MONDAY, MAY 4 & 11 Memory P.L.U.S.
7:45am	TUESDAY, MAY 5 & 12 Eucharistic Adoration (1 hour)
9:00am	Mass
11:30am	Friendly Hours
7:30pm	K of C Exec. Meeting (May 5)
9:00am	WEDNESDAY, MAY 6 & 13 Mass
10:00am	CWL Exec. Meeting (May 6)
10:00am	CWL Gen. Meeting (May 13)
10:00am	Taiji Qigong
1:00pm	Faith Reflection Group
7:00pm	Parish Council Meeting (May 6)
9:00am	THURSDAY, MAY 7 & 14 Mass
11:30am	Friendly Hours
2:00pm	Prayer Group
6:00pm	Taiji Qigong (May 14 only)
9:00am	FRIDAY, MAY 8 & 15 Mass at St. Elizabeth's
9:00am	Mass at the home of Eileen Kroetsch (May 8)
9:00am	Mass at the Legion Manor 7601 E. Saanich Rd. (May 15)
8am-1pm	SATURDAY, MAY 9 & 16 Garage Sale (May 9)
5:00pm	Mass at St. Elizabeth's
8:30am	SUNDAY, MAY 10 & 17 Mass at OLO Assumption
10:30am	Mass at St. Elizabeth's

PARISH PICNIC—Mark your calendars: JUNE 10

Our parish picnic is on Wednesday, June 10, 5:30–7pm. at Heritage Acres, located off Island View Road & the Pat Bay Hwy. Bring your own picnic, food and dishes. Refreshments and dessert will be provided. Barbeque grills will be available. The train will be running for kids of all ages. Good fellowship and lots of fun. Everyone is welcome! For more info. call Roy at 250-652-0340 or Lynn at 250-652-2543 or email me at lynn@spparish.com.

COVENANT

ST. MARY & STEPHEN'S ANGLICAN CHURCHES

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

IN OUR PARISH

C.W.A. NEWS: MAY 5

The Tuesday, May 5th meeting will be held at the home of Margaret Jackson (250-656-1291), 2427 Henry Avenue, Sidney at 1:30pm.

FAITH REFLECTION GROUP: MAY 6 & 13

The next Faith Reflection Group will meet on Wednesdays at 1pm at St. Elizabeth's. Sister Donna & Fr. Rolf welcome you.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: MAY 27

An enjoyable evening with a purpose - support the village schools in Eritrea! Come and hear the **Arbutus Singers Spring Concert** on Wednesday, May 27th, 7:30pm at St. Elizabeth's. Tickets \$10 at the door. Your entertainment can provide a child's education. **ALL** proceeds will go to the Eritrean village schools.

SATURDAY EVENING EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

We have only 5 dedicated Eucharist Ministers serving in this most important, beautiful and sacred ministry at the Saturday Evening Masses. If you would like to become a Eucharistic Minister and serve members of our congregation, please phone Bill Blore at 250-655-0853 or email alfredblore@shaw.ca.

LITURGY OF RECONCILIATION: MAY 31

The Diocese of Victoria will be hosting a special Liturgy of Reconciliation at St. Andrew's Cathedral on Pentecost Sunday, May 31st at 3pm. Evening Vespers/Liturgy of the Word will be celebrated with Bishop Richard Gagnon and Bishop Remi De Roo, Bishop Emeritus. Following the service there will be a reception at St. Andrew's Elementary School. All are invited to participate in this time of prayer, seeking healing and reconciliation which will assist our Diocese in moving forward into the future.

GENERAL

MOTHER'S DAY TEA: MAY 9

St. Rose of Lima Parish, 6221 Sooke Rd. present a Mother's Day Tea on Saturday, May 9th. Featuring fancy sandwiches, scones and preserves, assorted sweets, tea and coffee. 3 sittings available: 11am, 12:30pm and 2:00pm. Tickets are \$15 each and sold in advance by phoning the parish office at 250-642-3945.

PRIEST APPRECIATION: MAY 29

The Knights of Columbus Council 1256 will be hosting the 2nd Annual Priest Appreciation & Vacations Fundraiser on Friday, May 29th at Our Lady of Fatima Parish Hall, 4635 Elk Lake Drive. Doors open at 5pm and banquet dinner at 6pm. Also featured is a cash bar and a silent auction. Keynote speaker is the Right Reverend Father Abbot John Braganza, OSB of Westminster Abbey, Mission, BC. There will also be a special performance by the Greater Victoria Police Pipe Band. Ticket cost \$75 with a tax receipt of \$40. For tickets call Grand Knight Roland Wauthy at 250-474-6255, or see Gary in the Parish Office. Advance tickets only.

HOST FAMILIES NEEDED:

Host families are needed for International students attending St. Andrew's High School, St. Patrick's and St. Andrew's Elementary Schools for the school year. Compensation will be paid. For more information a recruitment orientation meeting will be held at St. Andrew's High School on Thursday, May 21st from 6:30—7:30pm. Further information at www.cisdv.bc.ca.

WORKSHOPS / LECTURES

VOCATION LIVE-IN: MAY 8-10

On the weekend of May 8-10 there will be a Vocation Live-In for boys or young men interested in the priesthood or the consecrated life at the Seminary of Christ the King in Mission, BC. For more info. call 604-826-8715. We had 59 young men attend last February.