

Pastor's corner – June 7, 2009

Last week I wrote briefly on the reasons for becoming a priest 40 years ago this June 7th. I mentioned at the time that I strongly believe that the wounds and the bruises which I received as a child because of my family's internment in a Japanese camp in Sumatra, Indonesia, my father's death there, my subsequent stay with my aunt and uncle in Nijmegen, Holland, and our separation as a family, all these were in the end a gift which shaped me to be the person I am and give me a call to the priesthood. Later as a member of the Order of St. Dominic I learned to see these as a gift from God, given through the events and the persons of our life. Dominic is an example of that. He is one of those saints who are more known by what they inspired and created. They are like signposts pointing away from themselves.

As a Castilian canon in Osma, Spain, he realized that the Gospel can be stifled by spiritual, as well as material, security. He wanted to shake awake the lethargic Church and bring the people of the early 1200's to the truth that would set them free. The Dominican motto is Veritas (truth): preaching the truth in the service of the Gospel. Dante described Dominic as "l'amoroso drude della fede Christiana", roughly translated as "the boyfriend of the Christian faith." The Dominican Order has always tried to bring people to understand the Gospel rather than to convince them or to make them followers. The intellectualism for which the Order is known is not academia but rather an intellectualism in the sense that it puts a high value on understanding, on insight, qualities which can be attributed both to simple, practical people as well as to intellectuals: contaplata aliis tradere, OP, Order of Preachers, servants of the truth, a truth that is not neutral and that demands commitment.

As a young Dominican studying in Ottawa at our College of Philosophy and Theology from 1964 to 1969 I and several others wanted not only to preach and teach the contemplated truth but also to make it a reality, to do the truth, orthopraxis as we call it today (to try and put right what is wrong). Seeing Dominican spirituality as incarnational (centered on Jesus Christ and modeled on his involvement in the world) we decided at our ordination in 1969 to leave the monastery and live with the poor of the centre of the city. With our Provincial's approval we moved into a row house, doing everything ourselves and working for our keep. Since I had previously been working with troubled youth in the area, I was employed by a youth agency as a street worker. This brought me into contact with families, who were often facing other problems related to absentee slum landlords, exploitation, violence, etc. We started a newspaper, Vox Populi (voice of the people), ran an after-four program for children as well as for families, organized people to fight unjust city and provincial laws and bureaucracies. At the request of the local people and with my Order's permission I ran in the city and regional elections of 1974 and surprised everyone by winning. I served 11 years (five terms). As chair of the Regional Social and Health Policy Ctte. I was able to influence positive changes. In the years that I served the Dalhousie area of Ottawa (about 25,000 people) we were able to set up and help organize 14 different coop and non-profit housing groups for low-income families, seniors, and one 110 unit home for street people (Options Bytown which has now grown to three homes). During the last five years the house I was living in became also a coop home for some 13 street youths, who collectively were involved with me in preparing food, setting rules, accepting new arrivals, etc. Most of them matured into wonderful human beings who are now nurturing parents, teachers, self-employed. One of them became my adopted son when he decided at 18 to take my family name.

In 1985 I left politics and my Provincial asked me to become Master of the Dominican students at our College; at that time we had 16 in formation. In 1989 the Master of the Order in Rome asked me to explore the possibility of re-establishing the Order in Indonesia from which we were expelled in 1610 by the Dutch.

(to be continued)

Now I know that people are organizing something special on June 19th to celebrate those 40 years of ministry. But, please, I do not need gifts for myself; I really do not need anything. If you wish to give, please, help our community of Dominicans in Canada because we are passing through a rough time financially, especially because we attach great importance to maintaining our Dominican College in Ottawa, a centre of formation of Dominicans but also of other religious congregations and of lay leaders. Our tax laws can help both you and the Order.

Make out a cheque in the name of The Dominicans of Canada with your name & address. I will collect them and send them to our Administration in Montreal who will issue the tax receipts and send them.

Thank you for your generosity and may God bless you.

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: 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

EUCHARIST AT ST. ELIZABETH'S

10030 Third Street, Sidney

Saturdays at 5pm, Sundays at 10:30am
Daily at 9am Tuesdays, Wednesdays
& Thursdays and First Fridays

EUCHARIST AT

OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION

7742 West Saanich Road, Saanichton

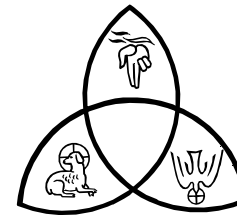
Sundays at 8:30am

Last Friday at Saanich Peninsula Hospital at 11am
Remaining Fridays at 9am in a private home
See inside bulletin

TRINITY SUNDAY

JUNE 7, 2009

Deut 4.32-34, 39-40 / Rom 8.14-17 / Mt 28.16-20



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

May 3	\$4,978.05
May 10	\$6,306.50
May 17	\$3,959.00
May 24	\$3,797.80
May 31	\$4,005.75
PAD's (40 donors)	\$3,190.00
Pope's Pastoral Works	\$1,018.00

We offer condolences to the families and pray for the repose of the soul of: *Albert Badham.*

COVENANT

ST. MARY & STEPHEN'S ANGLICAN CHURCHES

June 14 9:00 St. Stephen's BAS Holy Communion
10:30 St. Mary's BCP Holy Communion

IN OUR PARISH



PARISH PICNIC: JUNE 10

Our parish picnic will be held on Wednesday, June 10th from 5:30 - 7:00 pm 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 information call Roy at 250-652-0340 or Lynn at 250-652-2543, or mail Lynn at lynn@spparish.com.

MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK: JUNE 13

The young people at the grade 6 - 8 level who journeyed together since October have decided to contribute to the life of our community by cleaning up our cemetery at Our Lady of Assumption on West Saanich Road. They invite you to join them on **Saturday, June 13 from 9 to noon**. Please bring drinking water for yourselves, and non-electric tools such as weed-eaters, rakes, hedge cutters, brooms, spades, large crow bars, etc.

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

MONDAY, JUNE 8

1:00pm Memory P.L.U.S.

TUESDAY, JUNE 9

7:45am Eucharistic Adoration (1 hour)

9:00am Mass

11:30am Friendly Hours

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10

9:00am Mass

10:00am CWL General Meeting

1:00pm Faith Reflection Group

5:30pm **Parish Picnic at Heritage Acres**

THURSDAY, JUNE 11

9:00am Mass

11:30am Friendly Hours

2:00pm Prayer Group

6:00pm Taiji Qigong

FRIDAY, JUNE 12

9:00am Mass at St. Elizabeth's

9:00am Mass at the home of Vera Gear
7993 W. Saanich Rd., Saanichton
250-652-2774

SATURDAY, JUNE 13

9:00am **Clean Up Party at Cemetery**

5:00pm Mass at St. Elizabeth's

SUNDAY, JUNE 14

8:30am Mass at OLO Assumption

10:30am Mass at St. Elizabeth's

11:30am **Pot Luck Brunch to welcome
The Mexican Farm Workers**

LET'S PARTY! JUNE 14

On Sunday after the 10:30am mass all are invited to welcome the Mexican Farm Workers who have been in our parish this past year. A pot-luck brunch is being organized. Bring finger food, sandwiches, veggie and fruit platters, pickles, squares or cookies. For further information you may contact Barbara Nedzelski at 250-656-5768.

FR. ROLF'S 40th CELEBRATION: JUNE 19

Mark your calendars for a celebration of Fr. Rolf's 40th anniversary of his ordination on Friday, June 19th from 6:30 to 8:30pm. Tickets will be available after each mass for the next two weeks.

GREETERS WANTED

There are a few people who presently welcome fellow parishioners to the Saturday 5:00 pm Mass in the church lobby. We are looking for a few more people who would be willing to commit to be a welcoming presence before this Mass. If there are sufficient numbers that are interested, I'd be willing to make up a schedule. Call Helene Dizy at 250-656-0572, or email helene.dizy@shaw.ca.

WELDER NEEDED

We are looking for a welder to repair the metal frames on about a dozen chairs. Call Gary at 250-656-7433, or email spparish@shaw.ca

CEMETERY INFORMATION

Last summer we had a meeting and site inspection with the Compliance Inspector for the Business Practices and Consumer Protection Authority of BC. This is the BC Government Ministry responsible for cemeteries. Adjustments have been made to our Constitution. A contract is now required for plot reservations, and an Interment Authorization Form must be completed for any future burials. I will be contacting those who have reserved plots, to complete the updated contract forms. It is important to note that the land belongs to the church and what you have purchased is the right to be buried there. Thank you,
Susan McConnell, Cemetery Committee

THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

On behalf of our hard working Eritrean friends, your support for them through The Arbutus Singers Concert on May 27th will assure many children a year of education. You raised \$4,000!

God Bless, Stephanie.

ANOTHER THANK YOU ...

Goes out to Marcel Fauchon for painting the wall next to the stalls in the men's washroom, and for his ongoing dedication to the parish.

GENERAL

WE NEED YOUR HELP

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul operates a day program for over 60 mentally and physically challenged adults in Victoria and they are taken to many community events. Their wheel chair van and regular mini-van are in need of replacement. The costs for used vans would be \$54,000 & \$25,000 respectively. For a tour of the facilities and/or to help please call Ken Leason, the Manager at 250-727-0007.

DIocese-WIDE SUMMER CAMP: AUG. 4 - 9

For diocesan youth in grades 5 to 7 - come to a Marvellous Mystery camp from August 4th - 9th at Camp Barnard (Sooke). It is an adventure-filled, action-packed week of camping fun. Meet new friends, play active games, go hiking, swimming and canoeing. Make crafts, sing camp songs, share funny skits and campfire activities. Sleep in a rustic cabin and enjoy some authentic summer camp food! Let your Catholic faith come to life as you discover what it means to be called by Jesus to be Fully Alive! Space is limited. To register email sfitzmaurice@cisdv.bc.ca, or call 250-479-1331, ext. 232. Family rates are available.

CAMP COLUMBIA FAMILY CAMP

Established as a summer camp for children in 1947, Camp Columbia resides on beautiful Thetis Island. You can enjoy a walk along the beach or through forest trails. Camp Columbia is run by the Anglican Diocese of BC. The camp's primary function is to seed and nurture a relationship with Jesus Christ for children, youth and adults in a welcoming environment. A number of camps are scheduled from June - Aug, such as: Family Camp, Theatre Camp, Juan de Fuca Trail Camp, Mini Adventurers Camp, Girl's Camp, Boy's Wilderness Camp, and Teen Camp. Additional information and a schedule of events can be found at www.campcolumbia.com.