



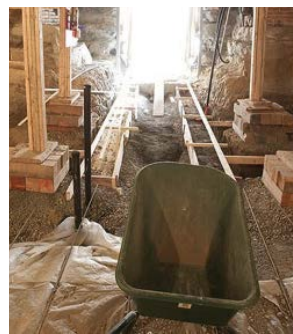
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Fr. Harrison  
Ayre



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“Seghers Hall”  
Open for  
Business



# The Diocesan Messenger

A Publication of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Victoria

April 2015

## Peace on Our Way

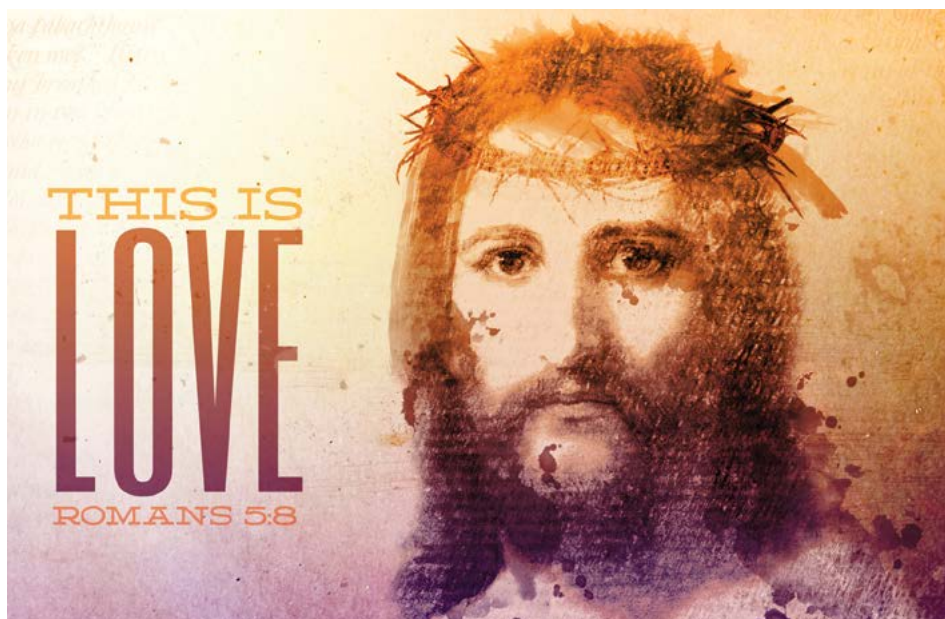
by Bishop Gary Gordon

The Easter season of celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus from the dead is at the centre of our Gospel of Joy, because it is real hope. In the midst of the many hopes and fears we live with daily, such as, “I hope I get a good mark on my exams,” or, “I fear the move to a new school.” There is a hope that can dispel all fear, even the fear of our mortality and the losses that inevitably come during life.

The resurrection of Jesus after his cruel death on the Cross is more than just a date on the calendar: it is an offer to each and every human being for an abundant life of trust and hope.

It is hard to describe, but once a person is embraced in an encounter with the living, resurrected Christ, there are no more limits to what is possible, and no more “what ifs” driving the paralyzing fear that so often grips people and even whole nations. Encountering the Risen Christ does not eliminate challenges, problems, suffering and eventual death, but rather it provides a new horizon of possibility, and makes hope real in every circumstance.

One of the truest blessings and confirmations of being encountered by the Risen Christ is the ability to ‘let go’. As a person of the Resurrection, I do not need to be in control, nor do I have to control others. In fact the opposite is true: I can embrace others with genuine love, which can bring order and mutual respect rather than competition and chaos.



The freedom that the Risen Christ offers is so much more than the license of autonomy, because it means we are embraced by an eternal love; and this love, this encounter, will always move us and the whole people of God to the margins and periphery of the mission of our Diocese and of the world.

I can only recount my own encounter with the Risen Christ, which happens in many ways, all the time. Even failure and pain have been meetings with the Risen Christ. An example is the many times I have tried to reveal the human dignity of prisoners and made efforts to reconcile victims of crime, or to reveal the human dignity of the newly conceived person. Though so many people do not want to accept the immense value and worth of every

human person and would rather cast off what is seen as trouble, or a problem, I persist in valuing even what, for many in today’s society, is not valuable. Some could say this is just optimism or tenacity. I say it shows up mostly as commitment and contentment, knowing God’s divine favour for all that is rejected and discarded. Maybe the first word of the Risen Christ to the early witnesses of His resurrection from the dead, “Peace,” is what I am speaking about. Indeed, Jesus promises a peace the world cannot give: “My gift to you is peace.”

May the Risen Christ meet each person this Easter season and may his word, Peace, ring in our ears and enliven our hope in the midst of our own challenges and changes that come our way during our journey as God’s pilgrim people. ✠

## Lent, Lunches & Love

by Glen Palahicky

This Lent, folks at the Pastoral Center are trying to do their small part in serving the poor and follow Bishop Gary’s challenge to connect with those on the periphery.

There are plans this Lent to serve a meal to the homeless and money is being raised for that occasion. Also, every Friday at 4pm, fifteen lunches are made by different staff and then personally delivered with a smile, a listening ear and an open heart to those on the street. It is one small way to make real the Lenten call to “Turn away from sin and believe the Good News.” ✠



“Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.”

~ Matthew 25:40

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# CELEBRATING CONSECRATED LIFE

## Living with Passion, Gratitude and Hope

by Sr. Patricia Shreenan SSA. Photo credit: Frater Carlos

Poet Patrick Lane muses: “There are mornings in our lives when beauty falls into our hands. And when that happens we must do what we can to nurture and protect it.” On Monday, March 9, 2015, 33 Roman Catholic Consecrated Life Religious, currently ministering in our Diocese, were gifted with such a morning!

### Pope Francis: live the present with passion

The Duncan community of St. Clare welcomed us for a day of prayer and friendship renewal, nurturing us with food shared, conversations begun, and hearts opened to God in contemplative silence. The mystics of our inherited revelation of Jesus Christ lived moments of beauty as annunciations—invitations, an openness to what may unfold in the future. Through the inspired guidance of our hosts, our prayerful community opened ourselves to that unfolding.

### Pope Francis: look to the past with gratitude

We were offered fresh insights into the San Damiano crucifix. Clare, founder of the Order of St. Clare, inherited the crucifixion/resurrection icon in 1212 CE, contemplating it until her death. In 2015 we too contemplated the call of our crucified/resurrected Christ. In 1912, 700 years following Clare’s death, three nuns established a monastery of the Order of St. Clare in our Diocese. The descendants, our hosts, continue their contemplative community in our midst, ensuring “mornings of beauty falling into humanity’s hands” uninterruptedly for 103 years. We celebrate them.

Participant stories revealed us as a microcosm reflecting the macrocosm of our universal Church. Besides the Poor Clares, we had the Order of St. Benedict, the Church’s oldest Roman Catholic Order of Consecrated Life founded circa 529 CE. The Benedictines came to the Diocese in 1900. Their Order eventually established the House of Bread monastery in Nanaimo in 1972, a name announcing their desire to share the bread of Scripture and Eucharist Presence with all seeking a community of prayer. Present were the Order of Friars Minor, founded by St. Francis of Assisi in 1209, and established in the Diocese in 1948. Francis’ vision to live the Gospel simply and humbly in loving fraternity to all was witnessed to us by our eight participant Frates. Three Congregations of Religious Sisters founded in Canada, Spain, and the Philippines in the 19th century completed the gathering: 11 Sisters of St. Ann (in Diocese since 1858); three Sisters of the Immaculate Heart Community (since 1943); and two Sisters of Religious of the Virgin Mary (since 2011).

### Pope Francis: embrace the future with hope

The Mystery of God enlivening Religious Life was reflected through personal stories: places of birth revealed that we arrived in this Diocese from five countries on three continents; ages represented a span of 70 years from youngest to most elderly; diversity of gifts and unity of purpose imaged relational diversity and unity of our Trinity God.

The next gathering will be hosted by Victoria Franciscans in May. Additional stories of Religious heritage and hope will continue the mysterious unfolding of consecrated communal relational living into the future. Since consecrated life is born from the stories of the whole people of God, we Religious continue to celebrate the beauty of God—ever ancient, ever new—with you, our sisters and brothers, as together we enliven humanity in loving Christian discipleship. ✠



Organizing Committee (L to R): Frater Bert OFM, Sr. Monique OSC; Frater Anthony OFM; Sr. Valerie OSB; Sr. Doreen OSC; Sr. Marina SSA; Sr. Elisa RVM; Frater Jean Louis OFM; (absent: Sr. Anita IHM)

## Oblate Associates Celebrated on Saltspring Island

by Fr. Richard Beaudette OMI

Thursday, January 15, 2015, was a day of rejoicing and an ‘historic day’. It was a day of rejoicing for seven individuals from Saltspring Island who made their commitment as Associates of OMI Lacombe Province of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate. It was an historic day as these were the first Associates in British Columbia to make the commitment as Associates of OMI Lacombe.

The seven, Lois Hobbs, Ruth Liston, Rita Balachandran, Georgina Marcotte, Madeleine Cooper, Jeni Evanik and Michael Doyle, made their commitment after a period of formation and discernment under the guidance of Fr. Jules Goulet OMI. Fr. Richard Beaudette OMI, Superior of the Oblates in British Columbia and Fr. John Brioux OMI, District Animator for Associates in British Columbia, joined the Associates and members of Our Lady of Grace Parish in Ganges for the celebration, along with Parish Administrator Fr. Ian Stuart and Fr. Edward Evanko.

Associates of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate commit themselves to be at the service of those who are marginalized, disadvantaged, forgotten and disillusioned through attitudes and acts of hospitality, compassion and equality for all. They also commit to journey with the Oblate community in prayer, faith sharing, formation reflection and mission, living out the charism of St. Eugene de Mazenod, founder of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate.

Fr. Brioux, in his homily, reminded all present, Oblates and Associates, of our mission to “bring Good News to the poor” as expressed in the motto of the Missionary Oblates and in the reading from the Prophet Isaiah which was proclaimed at the Eucharist. Those gathered were also reminded that while the Oblates of Mary Immaculate no longer serve the community at Our Lady of Grace, the charism of the community lives on in the lives and ministry of the Associates. ✠



it’s official! Signing the installation promises. Fr Richard Beaudette, District Superior, BC & Yukon (L); Georgina Marcotte (R)



Newly installed Lay Oblates of Mary Immaculate, surrounding a statue of Our Lady that was hand carved by the son of Lay Oblate Jeni Evanik, third from the right.



Front row, L to R: Fr. Ian Stuart, Fr. Richard Beaudette, Fr. John Brioux, Fr. Edward Evanko. Back row, L to R: Michael Doyle, Jeni Evanik, Lois Hobbs, Rita Balachandran, Georgina Marcotte, Madeleine Cooper, Ruth Liston





# Diocesan News & Events



## “Seghers Hall” Officially Open at the Cathedral

by Joan Ripley. Photo credit: Paul Beaubien

People were “wowed” when they came to the Open House in the new downstairs hall, officially named the Seghers Hall, at St. Andrew’s Cathedral on Sunday, February 1, 2015. Joan Vezina, Reception Co-ordinator for the Cathedral Parish, said, “The Open House for parishioners was a huge success as literally hundreds flowed through the new spaces after each of the Masses and then enjoyed a ‘cup and a bite.’” Although not completed according to the original time schedule, Fr. John reports that the project was completed on budget!

The new downstairs hall was blessed that day by Fr. John Laszczyk, Rector of the Cathedral, between the 9:30 and 11 am Masses and on Tuesday evening, February 3, Fr. David Hogman, Associate Priest at St. Andrew’s, taught the first class of his course on Evangelization in the new dining area.

The Geotechnical Engineer of Record for the project was Chris Ryzuk, a Cathedral parishioner and member of the parish building committee. He played a key role in keeping all those not working on the project informed of progress and any issues and also prepared weekly reports for Fr. John, which were then shared with parishioners. Chris took photos of the work in progress which were regularly displayed in the narthex and he worked closely with Glen Wilson, the Project Manager.

According to Chris, Fr. John is the heart and the centre of the project. “He’s the guy! We’d feed him with alternatives and he’d make the decision and get back to us.” Fr. John notes that he made his decisions after discussing the issues with a variety of people.

Chris continued, “We had a good-sized building committee to oversee things from the start. Glen helped a lot in pulling the final picture together and that progressed to design and construction. [There were] lots of negotiations with the city, the heritage people, building inspectors and on fire code issues. There were some big issues.” Chris also said that at the very beginning they had a contractor excavate at each column footing location to identify the base of footing level/foundation bearing level for the foundation elements that support the Cathedral. The level of the floor in the crawl space areas was dictated by the level of the existing foundations. Chris says there had also been a plan in the 1980s to renovate and they found the report of 1984 identifying foundation soil conditions.

Doing the plans was a collaborative effort between Fr. John Laszczyk, Glen, Chris and the architects. There were two architects: Misra Architect, Ltd. was the Architect of Record; and Keay and Associate Architecture Ltd. was the Heritage Architect.

“We met with Fr. John and Glen and went over the plans long before we started construction and made sure we had the right people,” said Ryzuk. “We selected Searidge Properties (2007) Ltd. to oversee the project. Searidge President, Glen Wilson, was the Project Manager and tendered each of the trades and subtrades. Travis Wilson coordinated the trades on site and had a limited crew of his own fill in the bits and pieces. We chose the project management option because it would allow us some manoeuvrability in managing the project—like we were able to change the columns in the dining area late in the game. It worked well.”

Chris was previously on the Board of the 9-10 Club, which runs the Soup Kitchen at the Cathedral and there he heard about the kitchen at Our Place that all the workers really like. So Chris made contact with the designer of that kitchen, Gilbert Noussitou of Epicure Plus Ventures, and he was chosen to design the new kitchen at the Cathedral. “Glen worked with Gilbert and the mechanical engineer and it all went together seamlessly,” Chris said.

According to Chris, work started on the project in early March 2014. Right away there were some delays due to environmental considerations. The first step was to remove the asbestos that was wrapped around all the heating pipes in the basement. Then there was an issue of silicone in the grout in the wall plaster and asbestos possibly in the linoleum flooring. It all took time as everyone wanted

it done right. We needed to have proper ventilation and proper equipment for the safety of the workers. It was necessary to get an engineering report and have written procedures to take the asbestos off the pipes, so there were some added detailing required at the start but after that it went well,” he said.

He also said that there used to be a coal furnace that had a hot air return duct in the kitchen to get heat up into the sanctuary but the system did not work so it was replaced with hot water heating. The coal apparently used to come in through one of the old windows that have just been replaced and totally updated. Chris said that they found many things that were in need of repair and redoing to bring them up to current standards, and that they replaced many rotted joists. They also found things like a cache of old wine and whiskey bottles!

The second stage of the project was excavation and more demolition. They removed most of the old masonry walls supporting the floors above. To accomplish this it was necessary to re-support the floors of the Cathedral. They gutted the old soup kitchen area and all the old brick walls in the back of the downstairs area and cleared away much of the old wiring and plumbing.

During this stage there was heavy equipment in the lane behind the Cathedral as a little bobcat brought loads of fill from under the building and dropped it outside. Then an enormous excavator would pick up the fill by the bucket and load it into waiting trucks which came and went continuously for weeks. Inside they had sub-excavated and constructed a road for the bobcat to run up and down on. Chris said that they expected the subgrade soils to be generally stiff to very stiff but they were actually very hard.

As they excavated they had to construct temporary and permanent supports for the balcony and choir loft and some weekends those areas were ‘off limits’ as the supports couldn’t bear the weight of people, and it all involved a lot of planning. Nevertheless, the excavation went better and faster than they expected, he said.

They did as much excavation as possible with the funds they had, as Chris said that they will never get back in there again. In the approval process with the parishioners the direction was, “If you’re down there do as much as you can.” Under the narthex they could have made a full-sized storage area but it would not have been cost effective.

Later in the project there was heavy equipment on the View Street side of the building as the whole lawn with trees and gardens and sidewalks was excavated to make room for the new access ramp for people with mobility issues.

The last stage of the project involved the actual finishing construction of the new kitchen, storage spaces and lavatories and, finally, landscaping of new garden areas on View Street and along the back lane. ✂



The newly renovated kitchen





# Calendar of Events

## April

**11 St. Patrick's, Victoria:** Saturday, April 11, 9am – 2:00pm. Knights of Columbus Garage Sale. 2060 Haultain Street, Oak Bay.

**11 Men's Breakfast:** Conversations in Faith with Fellowship at the Victoria Horseshoe Club, 620 Kenneth off Glanford. Register at least a week before by email to [info@mcaff.org](mailto:info@mcaff.org). or visit [mcaff.org](http://mcaff.org)

**11 UVic Catholic Students' Association Gala Banquet:** Join us at 6:30pm at Holy Cross Hall, along with Bishop Gary who will offer a few words of commendation to the grads. Tickets: \$30 per person except Graduates: your ticket is a gift from the community. Please confirm your attendance with Fr. Dean: [catholic@uvic.ca](mailto:catholic@uvic.ca).

**17-18 Holy Cross Parish, Victoria:** The Diocese of Victoria is pleased to welcome Fr. Mark Miller, CSsR, a clinical bioethicist who will speak on *The Healing Ministry of the Church and Ethics at the End of Life*. 7 – 9pm on April 17; 9am – 4pm on April 18. Please bring a bag lunch. Please contact Holy Cross Parish at GET INFO to register.

**17 Church of the Ascension, Parksville:** Annual Bridge luncheon and fundraiser. For more information, contact the office at (250) 248-3747 or email [ascensionparish@shaw.ca](mailto:ascensionparish@shaw.ca).

**18 Sacred Heart Parish, Victoria:** Sacred Heart Christian Charities Spring Used Clothing and Attic Treasures Sale Saturday, April 18th 9am – 2pm. Parish Hall, 4040 Nelthorpe St. Clothing & accessories, bedding & linens, housewares & attic treasures. Everyone welcome. Free admission & wheelchair accessible. All proceeds to charity.

**18 Victoria Chinese Catholic Community (VCCC):** regular meeting at Our Lady of Fatima Church from 3:30 – 6:30pm, including faith sharing and a presentation on *Living with Cancer* by Mrs. Eleanor Wong, followed by a potluck dinner.

維多利亞天主教團體 - 定期聚會為每月第三個星期六，下午三時半至六時半，在花地瑪天主堂 (4635 Elk Lake Drive) 舉行。活動包括信仰分享，祈禱，彌撒或專題講座，Potluck 聚餐等。今期四月十八日無彌撒，專題講座為「與癌共存」。主講者黃李國芬女士。誠邀您和親友同來分享共融之樂！

**24-25 St. Patrick's, Victoria:** 9:30am – 2pm, St. Patrick's CWL Spring Good Used Clothing Sale. There is ample parking and the facility is wheelchair accessible.

**25 Holy Cross Parish, Victoria:** Pastoral Care Outreach Training Program, Session 4 – *Who Am I as a Pastoral Care Outreach Visitor?*, 9am – 2pm. Registration: (250) 592-7391 or [stpat190@telus.net](mailto:stpat190@telus.net) or (250) 477-5321 or office@[holycrossvictoria.org](http://holycrossvictoria.org).

## May

**1-3 Men's Silent Retreat at Honeymoon Bay Retreat Centre:** Organized by Copper Ridge Conference Centre and conducted by Opus Dei, a personal Prelature of the Roman Catholic Church. To register or obtain more information email : Brent Boyd- [bb@business-exit-strategies.com](mailto:bb@business-exit-strategies.com) – tel: (250) 216-1915 or Steve Pearse- [pearse.steve@gmail.com](mailto:pearse.steve@gmail.com) – Tel: 250-661-5558

**1 St. Joseph the Worker, Victoria:** Feast of St. Joseph the Worker. Mass at 6pm with potluck dinner to follow.

**2 Royal Oak Golf Course, Victoria:** St. Joseph the Worker 1st Annual Nine & Dine Golf Tournament. Registration at 2pm followed by nine holes of golf. BBQ Buffet Dinner to start at approximately 5:30pm (including beef, chicken or vegetarian options). Prizes and Silent Auction starting at 6:30pm. For more information please contact [sjspag@gmail.com](mailto:sjspag@gmail.com) or 250-479-1232.

**7 Church of the Ascension, Parksville:** Mother's Day Fashion Luncheon featuring Close to You Fashions of Parksville. For more information, contact the office at (250) 248-3747 or email [ascensionparish@shaw.ca](mailto:ascensionparish@shaw.ca)

**9 Men's Breakfast:** Conversations in Faith with Fellowship at the Victoria Horseshoe Club, 620 Kenneth off Glanford. Register at least a week before by email to [info@mcaff.org](mailto:info@mcaff.org). or visit [mcaff.org](http://mcaff.org)

**14 March for Life:** Preceded with Mass at 12pm at St. Andrew's Cathedral or St. Patrick's Victoria, the March commences at 1:45pm at Centennial Square, walking to the Legislative lawns at the BC Legislature. The Rally for Life will take place at 2:15pm, featuring music and speakers from different walks of life. For more information visit [www.m4lvictoria.ca](http://www.m4lvictoria.ca)

**22-24 Diocesan Youth Conference, Victoria:** Set the World on Fire! Held at St. Andrew's Regional High School. For more information visit the DYC page on Facebook: DYCVIC.

**23 St. Joseph the Worker, Victoria:** Spring Fling—A Parish and St. Joseph School Fundraiser. Join us for our re-imagined, upscale Bazaar, held in the School Gym and Church Hall from 9am – 2pm. There will be a garden section as well as Treasure Tables, Books, Bake Sale, Kid Zone and a Café for lunch. For more information contact the office at (250) 479-7413 or email [sjtwoffice@shaw.ca](mailto:sjtwoffice@shaw.ca).

**23 Missions Trip to Port Alberni and Ahousaht:** for more information contact Fr. Dean: [catholic@uvic.ca](mailto:catholic@uvic.ca)

**29-30 St. Joseph the Worker, Victoria:** Marriage Preparation Course. Friday, May 29 from 7 – 9pm. Saturday, May 30 from 9am – 6pm. Call the parish office to register: (250) 479-7413.

## June

**12-14 Diocesan Marriage and Family Life Conference, Camp Barnard:** This year's theme is *Love Is Our Mission: The Family Fully Alive*. Camp Chaplain: Fr. Dean Henderson. Keynote speakers: Brett and Andrea Powell. More information: Fr. Dean Henderson ([catholic@uvic.ca](mailto:catholic@uvic.ca)) or Reine and Ian at (250) 884-7100 or email [reine\\_and\\_ian@hotmail.com](mailto:reine_and_ian@hotmail.com). See advertisement page 24.

**26 Living Every Day with Passion & Purpose:** An invitation to all Diocese of Victoria Catholics to save the date and spend an evening with hundreds of your fellow Catholic brothers and sisters being inspired and challenged by Matthew Kelly. See poster page 21 for more information.

## July

**3-4 Retrouvaille Retreat:** To be held at Honeymoon Bay Retreat on Vancouver Island, Retrouvaille is for all married couples wanting to heal their marriages, even those contemplating separation, those who are already separated; even divorced couples. Retrouvaille deals with tough problems like infidelity, years of emotional distance or seemingly irreconcilable differences. Couples who come to Retrouvaille often feel hopeless or desperate, but leave with a renewed sense of hope, intimacy and trust. Register online at [www.retrouvaillevancouver.com/events.html](http://www.retrouvaillevancouver.com/events.html) or Fr. Dean Henderson ([catholic@uvic.ca](mailto:catholic@uvic.ca)) for more information.

# Weekly Events

Mondays

**St. Patrick's, Victoria:** How often do we then say, "Well, all we can do is pray," while thinking that prayer is not enough. But prayer is the most important thing we can do. Prayer is our way of saying "God is with us." We welcome you to St. Patrick's Prayer Group, which meets every Monday at 1pm at 2701 Asquith St. For more info, please contact Mary Weicker at 250-361-7015

Tuesdays

**Our Lady Queen of Peace, Victoria:** Traditional Latin Mass, 9am.

Wednesdays

**St. Patrick's, Victoria:** 9:30am, Moms & Tots group. Come together with the moms of St. Patrick's Catholic Church for faith, fellowship and laughter. Contact Bonnie at (250) 213-4984 or [koalabear\\_writer@yahoo.ca](mailto:koalabear_writer@yahoo.ca) for more info.

Fridays

**Our Lady Queen of Peace, Victoria:** Traditional Latin Mass, 9 am, first Friday of the month only.

**Our Lady of the Rosary, Victoria:** 9:30 – 11am, Moms & Tots Group. All mothers with children 6 years and under are welcome. For more information contact Rosemarie Urbanson at (250) 391-6618; no registration is required.

**Our Lady of the Rosary, Victoria:** YDisciple is a Catholic program to help teenagers take ownership of their faith. We meet from 7 – 8:30pm in the parish hall. Youth leader is Jose Mendez. More info: [olor@shaw.ca](mailto:olor@shaw.ca) or call (250) 478-3482.

Saturdays

**St. Joseph the Worker Parish:** 3 – 4:30pm, Jesus Youth at SJTW Parish invites youth in high school to come out to the Jesus Youth Prayer meeting! Jesus Youth is an international Catholic youth movement with a charismatic spirituality. For more information contact: [mr.georgephilip@gmail.com](mailto:mr.georgephilip@gmail.com).

**At the Cathedral:** 4th Saturday of each month the 9:30am Mass is offered for the sanctity of human life

and for the intentions of those who support Respect Life Ministry. All are welcome to participate.

**Our Lady of Fatima, Victoria:** Victoria Chinese Catholic Community (VCCC) regular meetings with faith sharing, prayers, potluck, Mass or special presentations by expert speakers, 3:30pm. Please note meeting dates may not fall on First Saturdays of the month; please contact Ben for more information. Meetings will conclude with a potluck supper. For more information phone (250) 893-9938 or email Ben Chow at [benchow@shaw.ca](mailto:benchow@shaw.ca).

**Catholic Underground at St. Patrick's Parish:** Catholic Underground is an initiative which engages youth in both their culture and their faith, held in the basement at St. Patrick's at 7pm on the 2nd & 4th Saturdays of the month. Grades 10 – 12.

Sundays

**Our Lady Queen of Peace, Victoria:** Traditional Latin Mass, 12 noon with Gregorian Chant and Sacred Hymns.

**Our Lady of the Rosary, Victoria:** Religious Classes for Children and Preparation for First Communion and Confirmation for children from Kindergarten to Grade 6. 9:40am – 10:25am every Sunday. For more information contact Marie Peeters at (250) 542-4483.

**Our Lady of the Rosary, Victoria:** Holy Families Group on the last Sunday of every month, with potluck dinner! For more information contact Bonnie Landry at (250) 743-1982 or email [onthisrock@shaw.ca](mailto:onthisrock@shaw.ca).

To have your event included in the Diocesan Calendar of Events on the website, please email the details to [editor@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:editor@rcdvictoria.org)



# The Diocesan Messenger

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# Clergy Appointments

Bishop Gary Gordon has, in consultation with the Priest Personnel Committee, made the following pastoral appointments, effective July 1, 2015:

**Rev. Karam Alraban**, new to the Diocese, appointed Administrator of Ascension Parish in Parksville.

**Rev. Harrison Ayre** appointed Assistant Priest at St. Andrew’s Cathedral and Assistant Chaplain to St. Patrick’s School in Victoria, under the direction of the School Chaplain, Rev. Al Alilio.

**Rev. Mel Bayron** appointed Administrator of St. Mary’s Parish in Ladysmith and St. Joseph’s Parish and Chaplain to St. Joseph’s School in Chemainus.

**Rev. Vince Borre** appointed Chaplain to the Extended Health Care Facilities in Victoria.

**Rev. Luyen Dau CSsR**, on loan from the Redemptorists of the Baltimore Province, appointed Administrator of St. Edward’s Parish and Chaplain to Queen of Angels School in Duncan.

**Rev. Michael Favero** will be on loan from the Diocese of Victoria to provide pastoral ministry in the Diocese of Whitehorse for a period of two years.

**Rev. William Hann** appointed Pastor of Holy Cross Parish in Victoria and will continue to serve as Episcopal Vicar for Catholic Schools and Evangelization.

**Rev. David Hogman** appointed Pastor of Sacred Heart Parish and Assistant Chaplain to St. Andrew’s Regional High School in Victoria, under the direction of the School Chaplain, Rev. Pawel Szczur SDS.

**Rev. Krystian Golisz SDS**, new to the Diocese, appointed Administrator of St. Peter’s Parish in Nanaimo and Our Lady of Victory Mission on Gabriola Island, with ministry outreach to Vancouver Island University.

**Rev. Anthony Gonsalves OFM** will retire from St. Mary’s Parish in Ladysmith and St. Joseph’s Parish in Chemainus as he has been reassigned by his Franciscan Provincial Superior to serve the Franciscan Monastery in Duncan and the Poor Clare Sisters full-time.

**Rev. Daniel Gurnick OFM** appointed Hospital Chaplain for Victoria General Hospital and Jubilee Hospital by his Franciscan Provincial Superior and will continue to serve as Guardian of the Franciscan Friary in Victoria.

**Rev. Alfredo Monacelli** appointed Pastor of St. Joseph the Worker Parish and Chaplain to St. Joseph’s School in Victoria.

**Rev. Krzysztof Pastuszka SDS** will leave St. Peter’s Parish in Nanaimo as he has been reassigned by his Salvatorian Superior to the Archdiocese of Vancouver.

**Rev. Ian Stuart** appointed Administrator of St. Rose of Lima Parish in Sooke and will serve as the replacement Hospital Chaplain, one day a week.

**Rev. Dino Villadiego**, appointed Administrator of the North Island Parishes serving the communities of Port McNeil, Port Hardy, Alert Bay, Port Alice, and Zeballos with outreach to the First Nations communities in the North Island.

**Rev. Scott Whittemore** appointed Pastor of Our Lady of Grace Parish and St. Paul’s on Salt Spring Island, with outreach to the Gulf Islands communities.

*Your support and prayers for the ongoing pastoral needs of the Diocese of Victoria are greatly appreciated.*

# A Letter from Bishop Gary Gordon

The last few months have provided an opportunity for me to engage in many conversations as I have visited the parishes, spoken with parishioners, and gained insights into the pastoral needs of our diocesan family. The warm welcome of the parishioners has been a special source of joy and blessing to me in my episcopal ministry. The great variety of missions and ministry in the Diocese and the respective gifts of the clergy and God’s priestly people are indeed a most sacred trust to further the mission of the Kingdom of God.

“I am sincerely humbled by the incredibly generous spirit of desire to serve the mission of Christ as we grow together as missionary-disciples.

I wish to share with you my insights with regards to deepening the pastoral plan and developing a vision for the future. In their role as servant leaders and shepherds, it is important to have healthy clergy in mind, body and spirit. By providing opportunities for prayer and in-service professional development, as well as scheduling free time, a healthy pastor is more able to say “yes” to being stretched in the mission of the Church. I recognize the need for expansion and enhancement of ministry in the geographical and existential peripheries of our Diocese, and forming the whole people of God as missionary-disciples, looking outward beyond the parish to those that ‘do not show up’. This requires that each community grow in awareness and responsibility for the whole population within the parish boundaries.

We all know that planning and assessing the needs of the Diocese is never a simple task, and takes much deliberation by the Council of Priests, Diocesan Finance Committee, Island Catholic Schools Board, Building Commission, the Consultors, and the Personnel Committee. I am most grateful to all these bodies of pastoral governance in the life of the Church in the Diocese of Victoria for their candid and frank dialogue with me.

It has been my experience over the years of pastoring that generally, we have not always managed change well, and have done little to acknowledge the grieving process associated with transfers which affects the pastors and the people. Indeed the pastors and individuals in our communities often experience a low-grade depression, which is fueled by bitterness and even resentment. This energy hurts the Body of Christ and the mission of proclaiming the Gospel of Joy. The primary goal of planning the priest personnel moves well ahead of the stated time of the transfers is so that we all have time to process and manage the change in our communities and in our lives personally.

Certainly one of the realities of change is the reality of loss, and so there is a necessary grieving process for the pastor and the community. Change management relies on the pastor’s mature leadership, and grace of the Holy Spirit to guide communities through a healthy process of grieving and accepting change.

I would like to offer your community a few ideas and tools to process and to provide help for the changes we will live through in the next few months. Your parish has been provided with a document entitled “Reflection on Change for Communities” that may be a useful tool to help move through the process of change.

I am sincerely humbled by the incredibly generous spirit of desire to serve the mission of Christ as we grow together as missionary-disciples. Change is a vital component of life, and together we seek the grace of the Holy Spirit as we continue to grow as missionary-disciples. ✠

# Pastoral Itinerary

April	May	31	Victoria: Confirmation Mass – Holy Cross Parish, 10:30am Victoria: Mass / Vietnamese Community - St. Patrick’s Parish, 1pm
2 <b>St. Andrew’s Cathedral:</b> Holy Thursday service (7:30pm)	2 <b>Campbell River / Sayward:</b> Mass – St. Bernadette’s, 2pm	<b>June</b>	
3 <b>St. Andrew’s Cathedral:</b> Good Friday service, 3pm	3 <b>Duncan:</b> Confirmation Mass – St. Edward’s Parish, 10am <b>Nanaimo:</b> Confirmation Mass – Trinity Parish, 3pm	5 <b>Port Alberni:</b> Visit to John Paul II School	
4 <b>St. Andrew’s Cathedral:</b> Easter Vigil service, 8pm		6 <b>Port Alberni:</b> Confirmation Mass - Holy Family Notre Dame Parish, 10am <b>Sooke:</b> Confirmation Mass – St. Rose of Lima Parish, 5pm	
5 <b>St. Andrew’s Cathedral:</b> Easter Sunday Mass, 11am <b>Holy Cross Parish:</b> Easter Sunday Mass, 4pm	4-6 <b>Victoria:</b> Retreat for Sisters of St. Ann 9 <b>Nanaimo:</b> Confirmation Mass – St. Peter’s Parish, 5pm	7 <b>Victoria:</b> Confirmation Mass – St. Patrick’s Parish, 10:30am	
11-12 <b>Sidney/Saanichton:</b> Confirmation and Sunday Masses – Saanich Peninsula – Our Lady of Assumption Church, 8:30am; St. Elizabeth’s Church, 10:30am	10 <b>Saltspring Island:</b> Confirmation Mass – Our Lady of Grace, 10am 14 <b>Victoria:</b> Mass – St. Andrew’s Cathedral / March for Life, 12noon <b>Victoria:</b> March for Life Walk from St. Andrew’s Cathedral to Legislature for Rally, 2:15 pm <b>Chemainus:</b> Confirmation Mass – St. Joseph’s, 11am	13 <b>Victoria:</b> Confirmation Mass – Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, 5pm	
15-17 <b>Lower Mainland:</b> BC Catholic Schools Administrators’ Retreat	20 <b>St. Andrew’s Cathedral:</b> Confirmation Mass, 10:30am	14 <b>Sooke:</b> Mass – Marriage and Family Life Conference / Camp Barnard	
17-18 <b>Victoria:</b> Holy Cross Parish, Fr. Mark Miller CSSR / guest speaker – <i>Catholic Ethics at the End of Life</i> , Fri., Apr. 17 from 7 – 9pm; Sat., Apr. 18 from 9am – 4pm	23 <b>St. Andrew’s Cathedral:</b> Confirmation Mass, 10:30am	24 <b>Victoria:</b> Mass – St. Jean Baptiste Parish, 11am	
19 <b>Chemainus:</b> 50th Anniversary Celebration and Mass – St. Joseph’s School	24 <b>Victoria:</b> Confirmation Mass – St. Joseph the Worker Parish, 2pm	25 <b>Victoria:</b> St. Andrew’s High School Graduation Mass - St. Andrew’s Cathedral, 6:30pm	
20 <b>Comox:</b> Fr. Mark Miller CSSR / guest speaker – <i>Catholic Ethics at the End of Life</i> . Location: St. Joseph’s Hospital	25-29 <b>Surrey:</b> Clergy Retreat – Rosemary Heights Retreat Centre	26-30 <b>Northern Vancouver Island:</b> Visits to First Nations Communities	
22-27 <b>Toronto/Waterloo, ON:</b> Catholic Missions in Canada Meetings – Our Lady of Lourdes	30 <b>Victoria:</b> Confirmation Mass – Sacred Heart Parish, 5pm		



# Pope Francis Bestows Order of St. Gregory on Dr. Clinton Brand of the Personal Ordinariate of the Chair of St. Peter

Press Release from the Ordinariate of the Chair of St. Peter, Houston, Texas

The Personal Ordinariate of the Chair of Saint Peter is honoured to announce that our Holy Father Pope Francis has named Professor Clinton Allen Brand a Knight of the Pontifical Equestrian Order of St. Gregory the Great.

The award was presented to Dr. Brand at Our Lady of Walsingham Catholic Church in Houston, Texas, at Mass on February 1, 2015, by Msgr. Steven Lopes of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. Msgr. Lopes read a letter from Gerhard Cardinal Müller, Prefect for the Congregation, which acknowledges the Holy Father's gratitude for Dr. Brand's invaluable contribution in serving on the interdicasterial commission *Anglicanae traditiones* since 2011, whose task has been to identify Anglican liturgical and spiritual patrimony and to incorporate it into Catholic worship for the Ordinariates.

In his letter, Cardinal Müller expresses his own gratitude for Dr. Brand's contribution: "Your expertise in Reformation and post-Reformation English religious literature and culture has been of invaluable assistance to the Holy See." Cardinal Müller continues: "Your work has already borne fruit in the publication of *Divine Worship: Occasional Services*, a ritual book which I was indeed pleased to present both to our Holy Father, Pope Francis, and to Pope Emeritus Benedict. The forthcoming publication of *Divine Worship: The Missal* will give further eloquent expression to the vision of Pope Benedict that the unity of faith can be preserved, even amplified, in a diversity of expression."

The letter presented to Professor Brand stresses, "This papal knighthood is a most fitting honour, given the deep connection between St. Gregory the Great and the evangelization of England and Wales. It is a gesture that also honours all of the clergy and faithful of the Ordinariate of the Chair of St. Peter, for whenever sacred liturgy is celebrated worthily and well, God is glorified, grace abounds, and we are each drawn into the life-giving embrace of blessed communion."

"I offer you my sincere congratulations, Professor, noting that this honour binds you even more intimately to the Chair of St. Peter," Cardinal Müller added.

Dr. Brand is Associate Professor of English at the University of St. Thomas, Houston, Texas, and serves as Verger at Our Lady of Walsingham Catholic Church, the Principal Parish of the Personal Ordinariate of the Chair of St. Peter.

Following the promulgation of the Apostolic Constitution, *Anglicanorum Coetibus*, in late 2009 by Pope Benedict XVI, three Personal Ordinariates have been established in the English speaking world: the United Kingdom (2011), the United States and Canada (2012), and Australia (2012). This Apostolic Constitution



Msgr. Steven Lopes presents the award to Dr. Brand, who is joined by his wife Catalina and eldest son Eduardo. To the left and slightly behind Msgr. Lopes is Msgr. Jeffrey Steenson, Ordinary for the North American Personal Ordinariate of the Chair of St. Peter

opened the way for groups of Anglicans "to enter into the full communion of the Catholic Church in a corporate manner" and "to maintain the liturgical, spiritual and pastoral traditions of the Anglican Communion within the Catholic Church, as a precious gift nourishing the faith of the members of the Ordinariate and as a treasure to be shared."

Locally, the Ordinariate community, The Fellowship of Blessed John Henry Newman with Fr. Carl Reid as its parochial administrator, worships at St Columba's Catholic Church on West Burnside at High Street where Mass is offered daily. Msgr. Peter Wilkinson, of St. Columba's, while not sitting on the interdicasterial commission *Anglicanae traditiones*, was chosen by Archbishop DiNoia of CDF to assist the commission in the development of liturgical Propers. Msgr Wilkinson has worked very closely with Professor Brand during the past three years to identify Anglican liturgical and spiritual patrimony now bearing fruit in *Divine Worship: Occasional Services* and *Divine Worship: The Missal*. ✠

## Joyfully Serving the Lord

by Jennifer Foster, 2015 BC & Yukon CWL Convention Planning Committee Chairperson

The 68th Annual BC & Yukon Provincial Convention of the Catholic Women's League of Canada will be held from June 11–13, 2015, hosted by the Prince George Diocesan CWL Council. Hundreds of ladies from all over the province of British Columbia and territory of the Yukon will travel to this vibrant city to experience wonderful hospitality and community! Bishop Stephen Jensen of the Prince George Diocese will join us for opening and closing Masses at Sacred Heart Cathedral. BC & Yukon Provincial CWL President Pat Deppiesse will then guide us on this action-packed weekend filled with discussions, spiritual programs, workshops and entertainment.

Guest speakers will include the National CWL President, Barbara Dowding, and Sr. Irene Baker CSJ, each speaking on the national and provincial themes of *One Heart, One Voice, One Mission and Joyfully Serving the Lord*. Fr. Vincent James OMI, from St. Andrew Parish, Fraser Lake, BC will introduce members and guests to Rose Prince and the Annual Pilgrimage. The Canadian Catholic Organization for Development & Peace will also present at this convention. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Moira McQueen, LLB, MDiv, PhD, who will speak on End of Life Issues, Euthanasia and Assisted Dying from a Catholic perspective. ✠

For more information on the convention please go the Provincial website, [www.bcyukoncwl.com](http://www.bcyukoncwl.com).

## Reminder: Sacred Heart Hymn Contest Deadline!

Friday, April 24, 2015, is the deadline for the 'Sacred Heart' hymn composition contest with a first prize of \$1,000, a second prize of \$500, and a third prize of \$250.

The competition is open to all and music directors in parishes across the Diocese are being asked to encourage their choir members/musicians to join the contest. The winning entries should be determined by mid June.

Submissions can be sent by mail, hand-delivered, or through e-mail: [sacredheartvictoriabc@gmail.com](mailto:sacredheartvictoriabc@gmail.com).

Please request a copy of the contest application form by sending an e-mail to this address and submit this form with the full score (choral format, if in four-part harmony, with accompaniment) and accompanying media, if necessary. Emailed scores must be in PDF format and any audio recordings of the composition must be in MP3 format. ✠

## Catholicity Ain't What It Used to Be

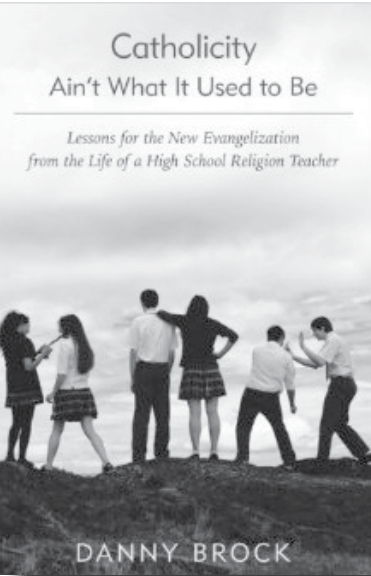
by Marian Thibault, St. Patrick's Parish, Campbell River

On February 22, 2014, St. Patrick's Parish in Campbell River was treated to a very inspirational talk by St. Andrew's High School's own Danny Brock.

Danny has written two books about faith and teens, which was the subject of his talk to our parishioners. His experience working with youth over more than 20 years has given him a unique insight into the inscrutable mind of the teenager. He has an uncanny ability to distil this experience into words comprehensible even to the "older" generations!

Drawing from his many retreats and classroom lessons, Danny describes the perceptions and feelings of teens as they make their own faith journeys. He shows us the incredible depth and spiritual maturity that comes "out of the mouths of babes." His books, *Catholicity Ain't What It Used To Be*, and *Teaching Teens Religion*, can assist adults to help teens explore their faith and, in turn, grow in their own spiritual experience.

St. Patrick's Parish looks forward to inviting Danny back, and we would encourage other parishes to benefit from his wit and wisdom. ✠



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# Pastoral Care Training Sessions Enjoy Record Attendance

by Pat Mochrie

“I was sick and you visited me.” (Matthew 25:36)

More than 100 people thronged to Our Lady of Lourdes Hall at St. Patrick’s Church in Victoria to share in the first installment of four Pastoral Care Outreach Training workshops jointly organized by both St. Patrick’s and Holy Cross parishes. Participants came from several parishes on the Island. The larger-than-expected turnout overwhelmed organizers who credited the devotion to our Lord who opens us up to the suffering, pain and acute needs of others, as well as Bishop Gary’s endorsement of this initiative.

The first session, held January 24, titled *The Healing Ministry of Christ*, featured a video presentation by Fr. Mark Miller CSsR. He is a noted Canadian medical ethicist, who laid out the history of the Church’s involvement in health care over the ages and the significant contribution in Canada by members of religious orders. The video presentation was followed by breakout sessions where smaller groups discussed how members of the parish community could carry on the Church’s healing ministry within the existing public health system. This was followed by a live presentation that carried on the theme of the individual healing role in pastoral care outreach.

The participants at the first session indicated that they appreciated the opportunity to share their experiences, deepen their faith, and to expand their understanding of pastoral care.

Session 2, held at St. Patrick’s Church on February 28, brought in more than 100 participants who learned about and discussed Listening and Communication skills, as well as awareness of issues such as debunking the stigma associated with Mental Health.

The Pastoral Care Outreach Training Program stems from the Diocesan Health Care Committee. The four-part workshops would be of interest to anyone who wants to understand the practical aspects of pastoral care; hospital and homebound visitors who want to be more effective in their ministry; caregivers; or those who consider this training program an opportunity for professional development.

## Bishop Gordon visits the French Parish of Victoria

by Réal Roy, Ph.D., Co-president, Pastoral Parish Committee, St. Jean Baptiste

On February 22, francophone parishioners from St. Jean Baptiste were honoured to warmly welcome Bishop Gary Gordon for the first time since his appointment to the Diocese of Victoria. After a few words in French, the parishioners were able to discover through his homily a wonderful pastor in the person of the new Bishop. He touched the hearts of assembled parishioners while recalling the importance of Lent as a spring time where it is good to rediscover the gestures and words of Jesus through the Gospel. The Bishop did recall at the beginning his own francophone roots as well as the French roots of the Church in Canada.

Many parishioners mentioned to me to have been particularly touched by a great gesture of humility when the Bishop asked each one present to bless his ring, a beautiful gesture reminding everyone of a similar gesture of Pope Francis on March 13, 2013, after his election when he asked before anything else that people at St. Peter’s Square bless him. The French St. Jean Baptiste Parish with the whole Diocese of Victoria cannot but rejoice to have at the heart a Bishop who will know to guide us toward our Faith, much needed in this time of violence and wars.

In August 2014 the celebration for the installation of the new Bishop had already given a particular attention to the linguistic diversity in the Diocese by incorporating readings, songs and prayers in French as well as several other languages including First Nations. This celebration was already an indication of the Bishop’s charisma.

We are already in joyful anticipation of Bishop Gordon’s next visit. Maybe he will join us for the celebration of the Feast of St. John the Baptist on June 24 in our small church of the same name. You are all invited to come and visit us for that celebration or any other Sunday at 10am for Mass.

## World Day of Prayer

by Sandi Digras, Church of the Ascension, Parksville

On Friday, March 6, 2014, many of the area churches in Oceanside met at Church of the Ascension for the 2015 World Day of Prayer.

Rose Marie Hague led this year’s celebration featuring the Bahamas with songs and stories and prayers around the theme “Jesus said to them, ‘Do you know what I have done to you?’” Fr. Mel read John 13:1-17 referring to the washing of the feet of the Apostles and commissioning them to do the same for others. Diane Sisonenko did a reflection on the reading and shared her personal grief and recovery from the loss of her husband. Penny Cowan and I read from the petitions. Jean Kelly played the organ and led the choir, and Skye Donald sang three beautiful hymns.

Holy Cross Parish will host Session 3: The Grieving Process and Ministering to Families on Saturday, March 28. Based on pre-registrations, the number of attendees could be even higher. Session 4 is scheduled for Saturday, April 25, and will help us learn about practical visiting tips, provide role plays and the teach the importance of appropriate and necessary boundaries for parish visitors and those who care for their families and others. The sessions are held from 9am – 2pm, with participants bringing their own bag lunch. Coffee, tea and cookies will be provided.

In the words of Carla, a participant who attended the first two sessions, and who was asked whether she would be able to attend the balance of workshops at Holy Cross, “I wouldn’t miss these sessions for the world.” ✠

The Diocese will host Fr. Mark Miller CSsR on April 17 and 18 at Holy Cross Parish. See Calendar of Events for more information.



## L’évêque Gordon visite la paroisse française de Victoria

Réal Roy, Ph.D., Co-président Comité pastoral paroissial St-Jean-Baptiste

Le 22 février dernier, les paroissiens francophones de St-Jean-Baptiste ont eu l’honneur et le privilège de recevoir chaleureusement pour la première depuis sa nomination à la tête du diocèse de Victoria, le nouvel évêque Gary Gordon. Après quelques mots d’usage en français, les paroissiens ont pu découvrir par son homélie un magnifique pasteur en la personne du nouvel évêque. Il a su toucher le cœur des paroissiens assemblés tout en rappelant l’importance du temps de l’avent comme un printemps qui permet à chacun de redécouvrir les gestes et les paroles de Jésus à travers les textes de l’évangile. L’évêque avait su aussi nous rappeler, au début, ses propres racines francophones et celles de l’église canadienne.

Plusieurs paroissiens m’ont confié avoir été particulièrement touchés par le geste d’une grande humilité du nouvel évêque qui a demandé à ce que chacun présent bénisse son anneau. Un geste qui n’était pas sans rappeler pour certains le geste magnifique du Pape François le 13 mars 2013 après son élection lorsqu’il a demandé avant toute chose que les fidèles assemblés à la Place St-Pierre le bénisse. La paroisse St-Jean-Baptiste tout comme l’ensemble du Diocèse de Victoria ne peut que se réjouir d’avoir en son cœur un évêque qui saura guidé les fidèles vers la foi si nécessaire en ces temps de violence et de guerre.

Déjà en août 2014 lors de la célébration de l’installation du nouvel évêque, une attention particulière avait été accordé à la diversité linguistique du diocèse en incorporant des lectures, des chants et des prières en français et dans plusieurs autres langues dont des langues autochtones et des langues étrangères. Cette célébration était déjà un signe du charisme particulier du nouvel évêque.

Nous avons déjà hâte de revoir l’évêque Gordon lors de sa prochaine visite. Peut-être pourra-t-il venir célébrer le 24 juin la fête de St-Jean-Baptiste dans notre petite église du même nom? Vous êtes d’ailleurs tous invité à venir nous visiter lors de cette célébration ou bien un dimanche lors de la célébration dominicale à 10am. ✠





# Long Service Award for Joseph Schauerte

by Paul Redchurch. Photo credit: Cal Jones

At the November meeting of St Patrick’s (Oak Bay) Knights of Columbus Council 7934, longtime member Joseph Schauerte was honoured for his sixty-five years of continuous service to the Order and at the same time given congratulatory wishes and a cake on the occasion of his 90th birthday.

Mr Schauerte, a charter member of St. Patrick’s Council when it was instituted in 1982, has served the Order (and the Church) in numerous capacities over the years including that of Grand Knight for Victoria Council 1256, District Deputy for South Vancouver Island and Faithful Navigator of Fr. Brabant Fourth Degree Assembly. Until recently, ‘Brother Joe’ held an officer position in St Patrick’s Council. ✂



Council 7934 Grand Knight Mark Redchurch presents longtime K of C member Joseph Schauerte with a certificate recognizing his 65 years of service and his 90th birthday.



Past State Deputy Paul Redchurch (94-96, on the left) and council Grand Knight Mark Redchurch (right) flank ninety-two-year old WWII veteran and council member Michael Hall-Patch after he laid a wreath on behalf of the council, in commemoration of Knights who lost their lives while in the service of Canada

“The Gospel, radiant with the glory of Christ’s cross, constantly invites us to rejoice.

~ Pope Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium*, 4

# Mount St. Mary Foundation Joins Marie Esther Society

By Sara John Fowler, CEO, Mount St. Mary Hospital

After almost ten years of operation, the Mount St. Mary Foundation is joining the Marie Esther Society. The Marie Esther Society, a registered charity, owns and operates Mount St. Mary Hospital. The Society is governed by a Board of Directors which is appointed by the Society Members. The Members are appointed by the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Ann.

The good work of the Foundation will continue under the direction of the Marie Esther Society. Effective April 1, 2015, the assets of the Foundation, including the Sisters of St. Ann Legacy Fund, will be managed by the Society to ensure that Pastoral and Spiritual Care programs, including Music Therapy, continue to enrich the lives of Mount St. Mary Hospital Residents.

Mount St. Mary Hospital, a Catholic health care organization dedicated to continuing the healing ministry of Jesus, is home to 200 individuals ranging in age from 40 to 106 years. During the year up to 260 individuals living at Mount St. Mary Hospital participate in and receive the programs and services delivered by an interdisciplinary team of care providers and support staff who are committed to our Mission and who are experts in gerontological and individualized complex care. Our Community Bathing Program assists individuals to remain in their homes by providing a physical service, as well as a social experience.

The generosity of our donors will continue to enhance the quality of life of our Residents and the Society will oversee the Sisters of St. Ann Legacy Fund, in addition to fundraising for services including equipment and building renewal, and programs like the very successful Art group. All donations to the Society are securely and separately managed to benefit our Residents. We ask donors to continue to support this work into the future.

We thank our community for your continued support of the Mission of Mount St. Mary Hospital and the Residents who live with us. Your support enriches their lives. ✂

Please visit our website at [www.mtstmary.victoria.bc.ca](http://www.mtstmary.victoria.bc.ca) for further information or contact Sara John Fowler, CEO at (250) 480-3101.

# Family Conference 2015 Love is Our Mission: The Family Fully Alive!

by Marnie Wynans

On June 12, 13 and 14, 2015, plan to join families from all across the Diocese to relax and play, and grow closer to God and your family—all in one weekend!

The 3rd Annual Diocesan Family Conference will be held at Camp Barnard in Sooke, a 250-acre Scout camp featuring a lake with canoe rentals, an around-the-lake trail and full kitchen facilities and bathrooms. Meals will be provided again by wonderful Chef Tony from the Bear Mountain Golf Club!

This year’s Speakers are Brett and Andrea Powell. Brett worked for three years as a full-time parish youth ministry coordinator, then 18 years as a missionary with Catholic Christian Outreach (CCO), with the last ten years as VP of organizational development, planning and advancement. He is currently Director of Development for the Archdiocese of Vancouver. Brett and Andrea are parents of eight children aged 5–18. Their talks will affirm parents in their great place in salvation history and provide information about the incredible role of families in contemporary society

Brett and Andrea will talk about the great adventure of parenting; about the missionary dimension of the family to be ‘light in a dark world’; about forming faith, chastity and character in kids; about parenting the hearts of our children; about the primacy of the husband and wife relationship ... without making parents feel guilty. Most parents battle those demons too often—have you ever thought, “Am I ruining my kids?” They will use the introductory catechesis for the World Meeting of Families (WMOF) as a principal text, and will use a lot of humour and practical examples from their own family life.

WMOF was conceived by Saint Pope John Paul II in 1992 to look at strengthening the sacred bonds of the family unit across the globe. The first WMOF took place in Rome in 1994, the International Year of the Family.

Fun formation activities for the kids and teens will be provided while the parents are nurtured in their own faith. Fr. Dean Henderson will be Chaplain for the weekend to celebrate Mass, hear confessions and play!

Don’t miss this wonderful opportunity to renew your faith and friendships, make new friends and create lasting memories with your family. Parishes will be receiving registration forms in the near future. ✂

The cost is \$140/ couple with children 2 years or younger, \$240/ family with children 3 years and older. Registrations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Cabins are available or bring your own RV or tent, and please bring your own dishes and utensils. See ad page 24.



# A Joyful Year of the Lamb Celebration

by Ben Chow

The Victoria Chinese Catholic Community was ecstatic at having our beloved Bishop Gary in our midst celebrating the Chinese New Year (Year of the Lamb) Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church, with Fr. Marinaldo Batista concelebrating. More than 40 members attended, young and old, all dressed up in bright festive colours of spring, depicting rejuvenation and growth (what ‘Lent’ means, as pointed out by our Bishop).

The community was overwhelmed by Bishop’s heartfelt homily on Love, freely given by the Lamb (of God) who laid his life for his friends’ sakes, just like God’s mystic rhythms in our pulses and heartbeats, reverberating the Son of Man’s constant calling to humanity: “Bum ba-bum, Bum ba-bum, Bum ba-bum ... I love you, I love you, I love you ...”

The Bishop’s heart goes to the Chinese faithful who upheld their faith, their first love with Christ, despite all trials and tribulations, from those who first encountered Christ through the early Jesuits via Silk Road in the 7th Century, to the ones of recent memories who dared risking their lives to uphold their faith during the most difficult times in their homeland, or on the high seas like the Mandarin-speaking Catholics who were once impounded in Prince George during the “rusty boat” saga off Vancouver Island.

Bishop Gary also appreciated the thousands of Chinese faithful in communities from coast to coast in Victoria, Vancouver, Calgary, Winnipeg, Toronto, Montreal, who have contributed to faith building of our wider Church communities. God embraces all races as symbolized by the four different colour gemstones on the Bishop’s staff. The Bishop promised to pray for the arrival of a multi-lingual priest who can speak Chinese. “Wouldn’t it be wonderful when vocations and new priests could be raised locally from every ethic community, Chinese or Portugese? Keep praying!” the Bishop challenged during his homily.

Presentation of Gifts at the Mass was offered by the Wong family, Belinda our Treasurer, C.K. and their son Ken, while altar servers were John Nip and John



Leung, assisted by sacristan Sam Aquila of Our Lady of Fatima Parish. Prayers of the Faithful were led by Frances Leung, one of VCCC’s convenors, and Clara Wong, our youth leader.

Joy filled every heart in Holy Communion as manifested by the many happy, beautiful faces. To add to the festivity, Bishop handed out *Lai See* (“well wishing”) packages to every one in attendance, including babies, epitomizing new growth and our future. Exchange of Lai See, or red envelope packages, is a Chinese New Year tradition, similar to bestowing Christmas gifts in Western culture. In return, Rosa Wan, another convenor/leader, presented Bishop Gary with a reciprocal Lai See, while John Nip, a local artist and calligrapher, presented him with a stone seal on which Bishop Gary’s Chinese name was carved.

In addition, a newly published booklet called *The Three Character Classic of The Holy Church* with beautiful calligraphy by John and compiled by Ben Chow, our leader, was presented to our very own ‘jolly good fellow’ Bishop Gordon.

The celebration was complete with warm fellowship, joyful singing, and a hearty potluck supper consumed in a high-spirit, faith-sharing mood. All agreed we shall have more of this kind of bilingual Mass and fellowship in the coming years, and keep praying for much needed vocations from within all ethnic communities in the Diocese and beyond!

VCCC is looking forward to seeing all every third Sunday from 3:30–6:30 pm at Our Lady of Fatima Church, to faith share, enjoy Mass or special topics (when a priest is unavailable), and a potluck dinner.

“Now I know where and when to go when I feel the urge to try out some new yummy Chinese food!” Bishop Gary joked. You and everyone are always welcome, Bishop Gary!!

Peace, Joy, Good Health and Abundant Grace to You and Yours in the Year of the Lamb (of the Lord), Forever and Ever More! ✠

## 維多利亞華人天主教團體羊年主教彌撒及團拜 By Frances Leung

今年二零一五羊年，维多利亚市的中国教友过了一个不一样的农历新年。在二月二十一日星期六下午，风趣亲和的哥頓主教，为我们为数約四十人的中国教友献弥撒。礼仪中双语并用，而歌咏全用中文，令大家感觉非常亲切。主教雖是西人，用英文講道，可卻道出大陸同胞及我们这一群旅居外地的遊子，不畏艱辛，依然能在信仰上保持热忱，勉励有加，也显出他对我们團體支持的意愿。弥撒后，拍过了大合照。一众就到地下室开大食会。会友把地方布置得充满了春節气色。主教更大派利是，內有一九八四年教宗訪加紀念金章等，而聂華坤兄弟亦献出聖教三字經墨宝，並石印予主教，让我们大开眼界。教友们親自下廚，做了不少富中国风味的食品，跟大家分享。主教也和我们一起边吃边聊，歡笑满堂，乐也融融。期间教友们歌兴大发，合唱多首贺年歌。一时间，大伙兒就像回到从前过年的时光，令人留恋懷念不已。你当天是否也是我们同慶的一份子？還是因事错过了机会？可没关系，我们每月第三個星期六下午三時半至六時半在花地瑪聖母堂聚會見好了，不用等到明年春節呢！

# Every Life’s Worth Living

by Anastasia Pearce

On February 6, 2015, the Supreme Court of Canada unanimously struck down the laws against assisted suicide. This decision affects the wellbeing of all Canadians, not just those who are currently in vulnerable positions, but all of us who are connected with them and need to reach out with our support. Whether we realize it or not, the ramifications of this decision will continue to impact us in the future as we face our own vulnerable circumstances. It is imperative that now, more than ever, we unite in our efforts to uphold the value and dignity of every human life. In order to show our country that every life’s worth living, British Columbians will rally together on Thursday, May 14, 2015, for the annual Victoria March for Life.

Ending life, whether in the womb or on their death beds, is a direct affront to the sanctity of human life and to the values that Canada’s constitution is supposed to uphold. It undermines the values of those who are disabled and those who are suffering: it assumes that their conditions are hopeless and therefore their lives are not worth living. What our society truly needs is not life-ending choices, but rather more life-affirming choices that help Canadians live lives of dignity.

The March for Life starts with 12pm Mass at both St. Patrick’s Catholic Church and St. Andrew’s Cathedral. We will then begin the March at 1:45pm, proceeding from Centennial Square to the BC Legislature. The Rally for Life will take place on the Legislative lawns at 2:15pm, featuring music and speakers from different walks of life.

The day concludes with a banquet at 5:30pm, hosted by National Campus Life Network (NCLN) and Youth Protecting Youth (YPY, the pro-life club at UVic). Funds raised will help NCLN support pro-life students in their efforts on campus and will also fund the YPY Bursary for Single Student Mothers. The guest speaker will be Bishop Gary Gordon.

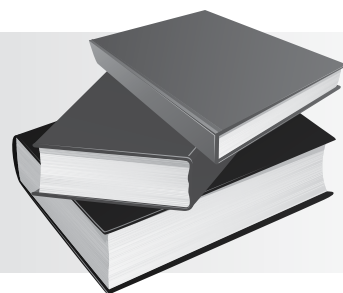
We encourage all British Columbians to join us at the March for Life as we work to support, protect, and uphold the dignity of all Canadians, especially those who are most vulnerable. ✠

For further information about the speakers, travel arrangements, banquet, and other details, please visit the Victoria March for Life website: [www.m4lvictoria.ca](http://www.m4lvictoria.ca).





# Island Catholic Schools



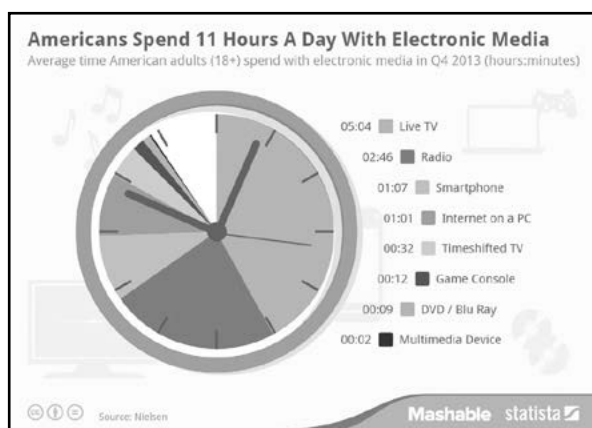
## Techno-Tethered?

by Glen Palahicky, Director of Religious Education

*“Attachment is the great fabricator of illusions; reality can be attained only by someone who is detached”*

~ Simone Weil

Are you or a loved one addicted to the internet or an electronic device? Most of us have been worried about how much time our children or grandchildren seem to be attached to screen time. Internet Addiction Disorder (IAD) or iDisorder, has been a serious subject of study since 1995 and has been forwarded by many as a recognized mental disorder similar to gambling addiction. There are many online self-administered tests a person can take to see if they are addicted.



Even if one isn't truly addicted, the amount of time people spend on electronic media is staggering and needs to be addressed. According to one recent report, Americans (we aren't far off) spend 11 hours a day with Electronic Media. Yes, that was 11 hours! We are literally tethered to our devices; they are very quickly becoming permanent extensions of our person. This much electronic media cannot be good for the individual or society, especially when used just for entertainment. It keeps us from doing so many other things; good things. Passivity and dissipation are often its fruit. To paraphrase Marx's famous line; Screen Time is the opiate of the masses!

Some neuro-imaging research is suggesting our brains are being negatively changed by too much screen time. *Gray Matter Atrophy* is a term describing more impulsivity and *Reduced Cortical Thickness* is making it more difficult to multi-task. Many people wonder if there is a correlation between screen time and the dramatic rise of ADHD, which is now diagnosed in 20 % of high school boys in the USA.

Technology is here to stay and we can't go back to another era. Moderation of use is the goal. But to achieve moderation means moving to just a few hours of use per day, and for some that is a radical shift. It will take grace and discipline to create good habits or virtues around our electronic media use. We need to learn to shut off our devices and detach ourselves from their use at certain key times of the day. Maybe a weekend free of screen time is the Lenten desert experience God is calling us to. Simone Weil's quote above is good advice during this season of Lent. If we are to break free from some of the illusions created by our attachments (addictions) we will become more real. Lent is a time to become more real and value the *real* persons living in front of you—not images on a screen.

May we have the grace to power-off more often. ✂

Source: <http://mashable.com/2014/03/05/american-digital-media-hours/>

## Stay Connected

by Victoria Robinson

2015 marks an exciting milestone: The 50th Anniversary of education at Queen of Angels.

In honour of this major anniversary we are planning a celebration May 15 & 16, 2015. We will be taking this opportunity to reflect on the history of Queen of Angels and share the remembrances of those who were present during the development of our school.

We are gathering information, stories and pictures for our celebration. If you have any memorabilia to share please connect with Liz McKinnon at [lizmck@shaw.ca](mailto:lizmck@shaw.ca). We look forward to sharing with you the achievements of the past 50 years.

The festivities will begin with a Mass on Friday, May 15 celebrated by Bishop Gary followed with an opportunity to mingle with former students and staff while enjoying wine and cheese. On Saturday, May 16 we will celebrate 50 years with an afternoon of history and guest speakers, followed by a family barbeque.

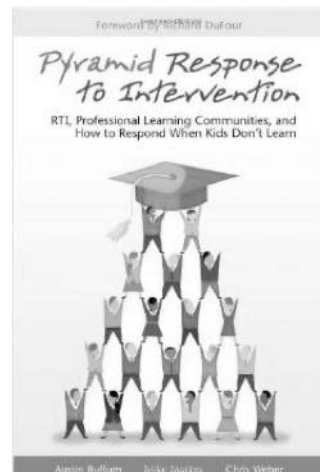
### Join us on Facebook

“Like” our Queen of Angels Alumni Facebook page and reconnect with friends and former staff. ✂

## What is ‘RTI’ Anyway?

by Beverly Pulyk, Superintendent of Schools

Each year staff members in our schools attend professional development days. These days are important and essential if school employees are to stay abreast of current research and trends in education. On February 26 and 27, Island Catholic Schools hosted a Response to Intervention (RTI) workshop for all school teachers and educational assistants in the Diocese.



Last year about ten school employees went to a workshop on RTI. Following that workshop, it was decided that every school employee needed to be trained on the subject. Over the two days, Dr. Austin Buffum, co-author of *Pyramid Response to Intervention*, led workshop participants through such topics as: the ‘why’ behind RTI, Professional Learning Communities (PLC) as the foundation for RTI, ineffective and effective intervention strategies, flexible timetables, sample school models, and planning for the five essential elements. Dr. Buffum is an experienced educational leader who has delivered training and presentations to school districts throughout North America and around the world.

So what is RTI? RTI is a systematic, multi-tiered approach to address learning gaps; it focuses on the early identification and support of students with learning and/or behavioural needs. According to Dr. Buffum, the goal of RTI is “to create a systematic process that ensures every child receives the additional time and support needed to learn at high levels.” It is really about what we all want for our students—to master the “essentials” at each grade and to be able to successfully do something else beyond high school.

Implementing RTI cannot happen overnight. Professional Learning Communities (PLC) must exist in our schools for RTI to work. “A PLC is an ongoing process used to establish a school-wide culture that develops teacher leadership explicitly focused on building and sustaining school improvement efforts.” (Center for Comprehensive School Reform and Improvement website.) It focuses on student learning, teacher learning, institutional support, a culture of professional collaboration and improved results for students.

Island Catholic Schools is committed to implementing effective PLC and RTI in all schools in the Diocese. ✂

“The task of the modern educator is not to cut down jungles, but to irrigate deserts.”

~ C.S. Lewis



### Employment with Island Catholic Schools

There are possibilities of 2014-15 teaching and/or support staff positions being required within Island Catholic Schools.

Preference will be given to candidates with the following qualifications:

- Identification with and participation in the life of a Catholic parish
- Commitment to Catholic Education
- Valid training and/or certificate relative to the position
- Successful school experience
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Ability to work collaboratively with others.

Interested persons are invited to monitor our website for future positions, application forms and application requirements. <http://cisdv.bc.ca/employment-opportunities.php>





# The Joy of God's Presence

by Deanne Paulson, Principal, St. Patrick's School Victoria

Lent is a special time in our Catholic school community when we prepare for the coming of Easter by strengthening our relationship with Jesus. Or, to quote Fr. Harrison Ayre, "Fast, Pray, Alms!"

Even the youngest children understand and enjoy participating in Lenten activities. We take time every day for Lenten reflection and devotions.

Each child has a Holy Childhood Association (HCA) carton and calendar for 40 days of guided activities, donations and reflections. All HCA donations will go towards the Church's children's missions in Namibia, Africa.

Glen Palahicky, Director of Religious Education for Island Catholic Schools, distributed a Lenten trivia contest for children nine and older to complete online. The children are very engaged in the activity and excited about the prospect of possibly winning a Tablet. In addition to HCE donations, students give freely of their time in the service of others. Some of these activities have included making Valentines for veterans and visiting residents at local care facilities.

On Ash Wednesday, everyone was encouraged to bring a basic lunch and to be mindful of the less fortunate who may not be having any food for lunch. For the entire Lenten period, the community promotes living a basic lifestyle, devoid of excessive consumption of screen time, shopping and indulgent foods.

If you are considering how to observe Lent at home, here are some suggestions:

## Fast

You may choose to fast from soft drinks, desserts and snacks and give the money that you save to a worthy cause. Fast, or limit, the use of social media and technology. Use the time that you've freed up to talk, read and/or pray together.

## Pray

Create a family Lenten calendar. Learn a new prayer to say at bedtime. Be more intentional in expressing gratitude; just say thank you. Send a handwritten note to a distant loved one.

## Alms

Pick one nonperishable food item each day to put in a box to be delivered to a food bank at the end of Lent. Sort through toys and clothes and donate items that no longer fit or aren't being played with. Donate the service of time by helping elderly neighbours with yard work or make a bird feeder and keep it filled for your feathered neighbours.

May you live Lent intentionally and attentively and participate fully in the celebration of Easter. ✠



Valentines for Veterans at St. Patrick's School

# CSW at St. Joseph's

by Simon Di Castri, Principal

Catholic Schools Week at St. Joseph's Victoria was a time to celebrate our school with students, parents and the wider community.

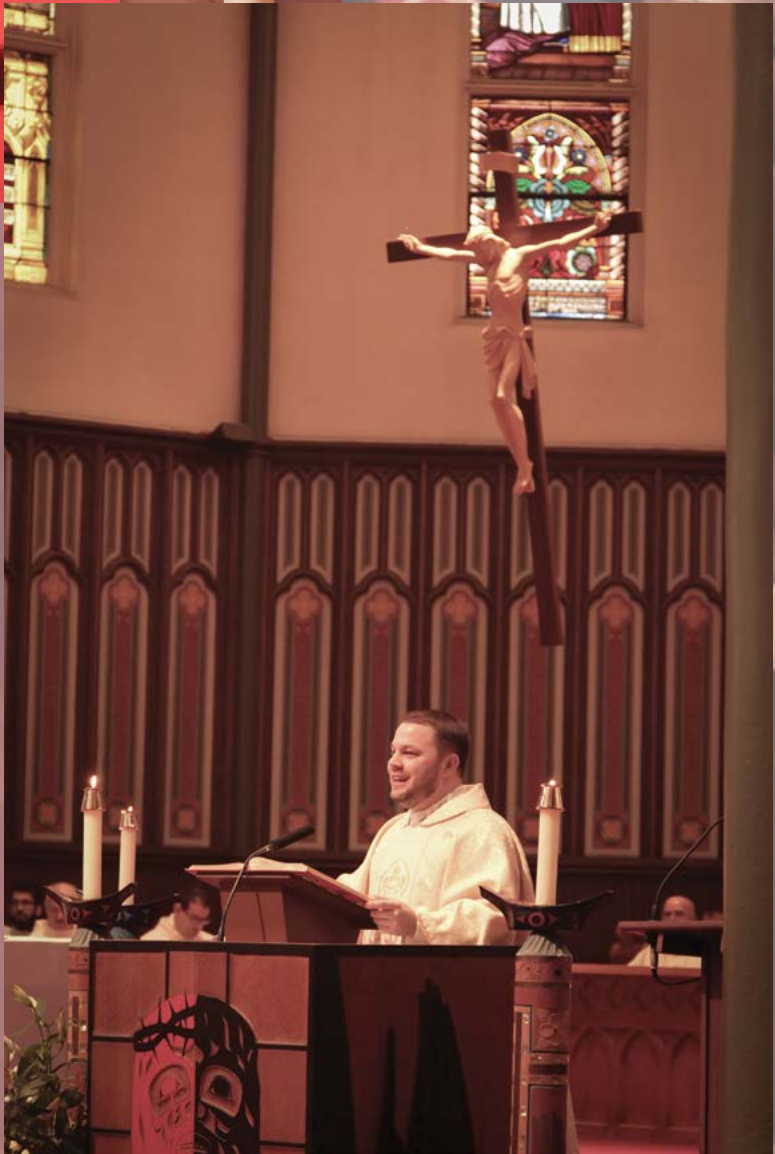
Our Open House was well attended, with very many new families expressing interest in our school. The new school shows very well, as does the renovated old wing, and our guests were impressed with what they saw.

Students enjoyed House Games competitions, and we presented our Peace Play as part of being a PeaceQuest School. This play was written by students in collaboration with Mme. Harbor and Lina de Guevera, a playwright and theatre consultant. The play was derived from students' writings and reflections on war and peace, and held the audience enthralled. The whole student body was involved in some way with the play, and we are grateful to Arts in Schools and the Sisters of St. Ann for their financial support of our PeaceQuest play. ✠

# CSW at Queen of Angels







# THE DIOCESE

## WELC

### FR. HARRI

*by Joan Ripley*

On Saturday, February 7, 2015, the long awaited and much anticipated Ordination of Priests took place at St. Andrew's Cathedral in Vancouver. Fr. Harrison was ordained in a joyful celebration that warmed the hearts of all in attendance. Fr. Harrison is the first priest to be ordained by Bishop Gary. He will be the last.

Great excitement and anticipation were also evident at St. Patrick's Cathedral. A gigantic banner emblazoned above the entrance of the church proclaimed the Ordination of Fr. Harrison.

During the Mass of Ordination, Bishop Gary's deep love for the Lord was evident. His homily, delivered in his usual warm, informal style as he sat at the altar, was a source of comfort to one attendee (who prefers to remain anonymous). According to him, Fr. Harrison and adore him as his priest, he should remember that he is the one who is the source of consecration in the Holy Eucharist. "I will never forget it," she said.

Following the Ordination all were invited to a reception at the new St. Andrew's Cathedral. The Coordinator of the Cathedral Reception Committee, Joan Vezina, had a variety of treats in store for all who would attend. However as the initial trip to the reception the estimate fell somewhat short as close to 500 attended to congratulate Fr. Harrison.

Many visiting clergy and seminarians were in attendance, including Fr. John Laszczyk, former Rector of St. Joseph Seminary in Edmonton.

Fr. Harrison is the animator of the popular Theology on Tap, a weekly event. During his years of formation for the priesthood he spent time with the Missionary Sisters of Charity in Pacifica, California. Fr. Harrison was also a member of the RCIA and Great Britain. He is fondly remembered from his early days as a seminarian under the careful supervision of Fr. John Laszczyk.



# OF VICTORIA OMES SON AYRE

anticipated ordination of Deacon Harrison Reynolds Ayre to the Victoria. The Most Reverend Gary Gordon, Bishop of Victoria, the hearts of all who attended the Mass, filling the cathedral to y for the Diocese of Victoria, and we sincerely hope he will not

's Parish, Victoria, where Fr. Harrison is the Assistant Pastor. A proclaimed the upcoming event and offered congratulations to

ord, for the Eucharist and for his priests was much in evidence. close to the nervous priest-to-be, brought tears to the eyes of er, the Bishop said that when Fr. Harrison comes to hold Jesus ne who has brought Jesus to the people by means of the words said.

earby gym of the former St. Andrew's Elementary School. The a, anticipated a large crowd of 350 people and had wonderful ckle of people turned into a tsunami, it became apparent that ratulate the young priest and to receive his first blessing!

ling Fr. Shayne Craig, a member of the Formation Team and

a monthly gathering of young adults to discuss faith and life t a considerable length of time working with Mother Teresa's is also a seasoned traveller having visited frequently in Europe at St. Andrew's Cathedral where it all began when he attended





# Focus on Youth

## How to be “Wild and Free”

by Jan Benedict Bitara. Photo credit: Sarah Kopriva

The most beautiful thing about our Catholic faith is that God the Father loves us, has always loved us, and will never stop loving us, no matter who we are or what we do. We may stop loving him, but He’s always there, waiting for us with open arms whether we are the prodigal son come home covered head-to-toe in pig filth, or the elder brother who’s remained faithful our entire lives, but let our piety and jealousy obstruct us from receiving His unending love.

The question posed to all the students for the weekend was, *What does it mean to be ‘Wild and Free?’* “[It] means being uninhibited, embracing who you are in your entirety,” says Sarah Kopriva, one of the many students from the Catholic Students Association who spent a weekend of prayer, fellowship, and self-reflection at Christ the King Parish in the Comox Valley in January. She continued, “I would associate it with meaning embracing the person that God wants you to be, head-on with no doubts or hesitations.”

This is the first winter retreat I have attended in the three years I’ve been a member of the UVic CSA. Comparing it to the fall retreat, I would have to say that it felt more personal and meditative—less catching up with old friends and making new ones, and more time and energy focused on thought and reflection about who I am, and what my current relationship to God the Father is like, and how I can improve that. The talks given by CCO (Catholic Christian Outreach) coordinator Chantal Castelino focused on what it truly means to be children of God, and how in being faithful to Him we gain all the rewards He could possibly give, and lose nothing that makes life beautiful—only things that make us stray into suffering, pain, vice and death.

The Catholic Students Association would like to thank the Knights of Columbus and all the volunteers at Christ the King Parish who provided us with breakfast, lunch, dinner and a home for a truly Holy and Blessed weekend. ✕





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VICTORIA DIOCESAN YOUTH CONFERENCE

# MAY 22-24, 2015

ST. ANDREW'S REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, VICTORIA BC

MORE INFO AT [FACEBOOK.COM/VICDYC](https://facebook.com/VICDYC)



TO GAURANTEE REGISTRATION, SIGN UP BY APRIL 30



## Camp Homewood’s ‘Chosen Generation’

by Terri-Ann Wynans. Photo credit: Kelly Bourke

Youth and chaperones/leaders gathered from across our Diocese the weekend of January 30 – February 1, 2015, for the annual Diocesan Youth Retreat at Camp Homewood on Quadra Island. The 2015 theme was “Chosen Generation”. Coordinators Bonni Roset (St. Patrick’s Campbell River) and I (Notre Dame, Port Alberni) were happy to welcome nearly 150 people from Parishes up and down the island.

Ken Yasinski and the Face to Face Ministries Team (Jon, Monique, Ryan, Dominic) from Saskatoon were the retreat leaders and did a fantastic job of sharing Jesus’ message to the youth, inspiring them to lead a life dedicated to Him.

Bonni and I would especially like to thank Bishop Gary for making time in his weekend to come and celebrate the Sacraments with everyone. Also thanks and blessings to Fr. Jan (Campbell River) and Fr. Sean (Mill Bay) for their support and assistance with the Sacraments and a heartfelt thank you to the St. Patrick’s Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Foundation of Vancouver Island for their monetary support towards this retreat.

It truly was a weekend to celebrate and learn about our Catholic faith and make lasting friendships with each other. ✕





# Remembering ... Sacred Heart School

by Ben Pires

Sacred Heart parish school began in 1942 when the parish acquired a house on Palmer Road for a new rectory. That spring, the Sacred Heart Parish School opened in the basement under Bessie Weber, a teacher for three months. Ruth George succeeded her in September.

In July 1943, four Immaculate Heart of Mary sisters, fondly known as the “Hollywood Sisters,” arrived by boat from Los Angeles, California, to teach at the school at the invitation of Bishop John Cody. The four were Sr. Mary Rita Clark, the Superior, and Sisters Jane Frances Lenahan, Mary Maureen Regan and Mary Elizabeth-Ann Agnes Flynn, all now deceased. Sr. Rita was Sacred Heart Elementary School’s first principal and taught the senior pupils while Sr. Frances handled the junior students. The two sisters received a salary of \$35 per month with the parish paying for hydro, fuel and water. Sisters Maureen and Elizabeth-Ann made daily trips to the Tsartlip and Tsawout reserves on the Saanich Peninsula to teach the First Nations children and Sr. Mary Socorro Meza [d] joined them in 1946. Sr. Mary Corita Kent [d] taught art, and designed the frontispiece of the new altar for the church in 1950 and the embroidered dove on the canopy over the altar.

In June of 1944, eight children received their first Holy Communion and the first graduation class received their diplomas. In 1946, pastor Fr. Thomas Mangan spoke of plans for a new school building. Property near the top of Palmer Road was bought but zoning regulations forced its sale. This prompted the parish to buy a site at 880 McKenzie Avenue and Bishop Cody turned the sod in 1946. Hardly had the foundation been poured when sharply rising costs forced postponement of the work.

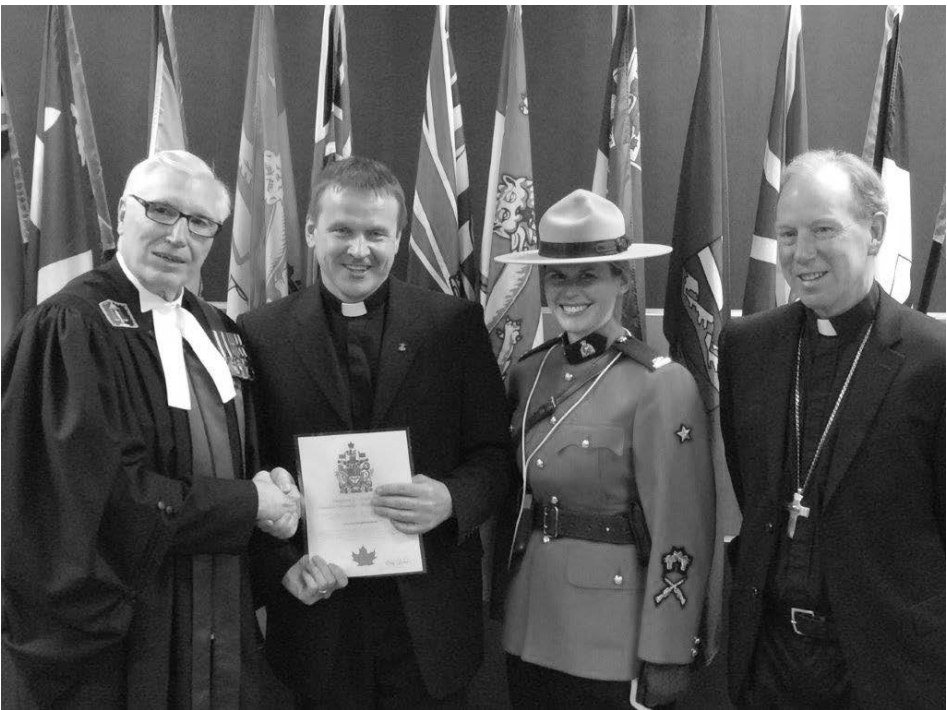
Fr. Geoffrey Penfold of Sacred Heart initiated a drive in 1957 to raise \$40,000 for the new School on McKenzie Avenue and a group of parishioners under the late Maurice Connor campaigned to raise funds to proceed with the school building program. In 1958, the Diocese authorized a \$90,000 loan and a further loan of \$18,000 in 1959. Work began on St. Patrick’s Day in 1958. Five months later in September, the new school building opened with 152 students in four classrooms. Sr. Mary Paula Kraus [d] was principal and conducted the girl’s choir. The Sisters moved into a new convent next door and in October Bishop James Hill blessed the new school and convent. The house on Palmer Street, vacated by the Sisters, was returned in December for use as church rectory, a parish hall and a small lending library. That year, the school got two new classrooms to accommodate 205 students. The students’ first uniforms were a Royal Stuart tartan jumper and white blouse for girls; and grey pants, white shirt and a navy-blue tie for boys.

Sr. Kraus announced her departure at the end of the 1960 school year and Sr. Catherine Rose Babbitt took her place. ✂

*This is the first of two installments of this story. The next installment will be in the June edition of the Diocesan Messenger.*



# Fr. Jan Grotkowski SDS Receives Canadian Citizenship



Fr. Jan Grotkowski SDS (second from left) is joined by Bishop Gary Gordon (far right) on the occasion of receiving his Canadian Citizenship. Congratulations, Fr. Jan!

# Faith in Action: Stories from the North Island

by Margaret Macintyre

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul has two Particular Councils on Vancouver Island: the Victoria PC; and the North Island PC, which includes Nanaimo, Port Alberni, Courtenay and Campbell River. The northern conferences are involved in a variety of services for the poor: home visits to provide emergency assistance and ongoing help such as running soup kitchens and taking food to people living on the street; and donating furniture and start-up kits of household goods to housing projects. Our Vincentians from the North Island are very enthusiastic and dedicated. Mike O’Gorman, former president of the Notre Dame Conference in Port Alberni, shared this inspiring story:


“We would like to share an account of our involvement with a young family. Their plight was brought to our attention and we gently approached them with an offer to help them explore possible solutions. Vincentians strive to protect the dignity and privacy of our neighbours in need, so involvement with a family’s affairs must be handled with love and respect. The young couple, who have two young children, could be described as the working poor. Faced with unmanageable mortgage payments as a result of a decision to retrain for a career change, they couldn’t see a way forward. We met with them a number of times to discuss possible options before formulating a plan of action. With the plan in place, we enlisted the help of eight members and seven volunteers (including our priest and deacon). Essentially the project entailed giving their home a substantial makeover to make it more saleable. This was accomplished over a period of a month, involving 250 hours of labour, but surprisingly little expenditure for materials. The shared experience embodied our mission to serve Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice and joy.

The husband expressed his sincere gratitude for what we had done. Even more importantly, he said, our involvement had had a profound effect on him personally. Being around people motivated by love and concern for neighbour, based on Gospel values, had been transformative. This was Christianity in action, and he liked what he saw. As a result, he said, he had made a personal commitment to be a better person, become a Catholic, join RCIA, and take Bible Study classes. And he was happy for his story to be shared. What a wonderful outcome—thanks be to God!”

Another story of personal transformation came from Paul Bertrand, the new president of Our Lady of Guadalupe Conference in Campbell River: “From Tsawwassen to Campbell River in 2006. From a 40-year church absence to weekly Mass participation, and from retirement to active parish and community service, little did I know the course of my journey, from Mainland to Island. Who knew? God knew. I didn’t have a clue.

“It all began with church bulletins. A year after arriving in Campbell River, parishioners Clay and Jean Wells asked me to help hand out the bulletins after 5pm Saturday Mass at St. Patrick’s. A small task, right?! I should have known better. To a great and big God, nothing remains small. My journey from Mainland to Island has now changed its course. It has become my faith and spiritual journey. With much gratitude, I have not traveled alone. Christ has directed me and has led me to Father Jan; to the encouragement and support of parishioners like the Wells; from the Vincentians, Scotty and Sheran MacLaren; and to the love of my Parish and the Vincentian families. Finally, with much humility my journey has led me to the heartbeat of our less fortunate in Campbell River. May my story bring you encouragement too! Blessings to you!” ✂

*For more information or to donate please contact SVDP at 250-727-0007 or go to the website—<https://svdppvictoria.com>—or ask at any of our thrift stores.*



### INVITATION

**St. Joseph’s General Hospital Foundation  
2015 Charity Golf Classic  
June 17, 2015  
(25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event)**  
Crown Isle Resort and Golf Community  
399 Clubhouse Drive, Courtenay

St. Joseph’s General Hospital Foundation, in partnership with Hollis Wealth, hosts the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Charity Golf Classic with proceeds to support patient and resident care at St. Joseph’s General Hospital.  
Annual fund raising goal of \$40,000

Registration: 11:30 a.m. - \$175.00  
(includes golf, use of power cart and buffet dinner)  
Tee Off: 1:00 p.m. – Buffet Dinner: 6:00 p.m.



# Out of the Archives

by Theresa Vogel

## February's Answers

Thank you to all who submitted responses to the February *Out of the Archives* column. The number of terms advanced for the 'What Am I?' portion were entertaining, to say the least – contraption, gizmo, device and gadget.

February 3 is the feast day of St. Blaise (Blase), Bishop of Sebastea (Armenia) in the 4th century. His intercession in diseases and illnesses of the throat comes from a legend that a boy who was choking on a fishbone was brought to him, and was healed by a blessing from Blaise. Blaise is also the patron saint of wild animals, because he was widely known in his time for his care of forest creatures.



In the 'Who Am I?' column, the picture is of Kathryn Fitzmaurice, 'Researcher Extraordinaire'. Kathryn has worked at the Pastoral Centre and in the Archives in a variety of roles since 2005, while pursuing education at UVIC. She is completing her Bachelor of Education in elementary education, and is on her final practicum. Kathryn wishes to work in a Catholic school, and would love to stay on Vancouver Island. However, she admits that she will go "Wherever the call leads her!" ✂



## April's Query

For this issue, the 'Who Am I?' column features a late, local cleric. Seldom does a March 17th pass but what we are reminded of this 'Son of Ireland' who was much hailed during his tenure in Victoria, at St. Andrew's Cathedral and St. Patrick's church. At the time of his passing in 1989, he was lauded in the *Island Catholic News* for his kindness and generosity to all who came to him in need.

These will take you back! In the 'What Am I?' category, a picture of just one of a number of these in the Archives, most of them not seen since the time of Pope Paul VI, and the *Novus Ordo Missae*. ✂



## Sister Helen Gertrude Worth, (Sister Mary Gertrudis)

Born April 27, 1916 in Devonport, England died February 27, 2015 at Mount St. Mary Hospital, Victoria, BC.

Born of English-Irish parentage Helen was the third of four children. She entered the Sisters of St. Ann in 1940 and pronounced her vows on September 8, 1942. She dedicated her life to God for 45 years through the ministry of education that began as a teacher at St. Ann's Academy, Nanaimo. In Kamloops and Kuper Island Residential Schools as well as at St. Ann's Academy, New Westminster, she was directress of junior and senior students. She ministered as local superior at St. Ann's Academy, Victoria. Helen taught at Sacred Heart School, Prince George. In Vancouver Sr. Helen taught at St. Augustine's School serving as principal while providing SSA community leadership. Also in Vancouver at Little Flower Academy she served as teaching principal of the elementary school for 12 years. Sr. Helen concluded her teaching career at St. Patrick's School, Victoria. Seldom idle, Helen's ministry became one of hospitality at Queenswood Spirituality Centre.



Sr. Helen Gertrude Worth

Her artistic gifts of music, poetry, calligraphy and art served her well in her teaching ministry as well as in her retirement years. Following her retirement she lived at Mt. St. Angela and then St. Ann's Residence doing volunteer work at Mount St. Mary Hospital and with the Society of the Friends of St Ann's Academy, Victoria. This provided Helen the opportunity to express her kind nature with all those she met.

Predeceased by her parents, Ernest Charles Worth and Annie Theresa Hayes, her brothers, William, deceased as a child, and Ernest Gerald Worth and his wife, Edna, her sister Eileen Nyren, a niece, Theresa Barron and her great nephew, Travis. She is survived by many nieces and nephews, especially Kevin Worth (Kathy), Kathy Siefert (Daryl), Mary-Ellen Purdy (Albert), Ken Worth (Janet), 5 great nieces and nephews, as well as her own community of Sisters of St. Ann. ✂

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The courses are held in Saskatoon, though if there is enough interest we will also hold a satellite group in Victoria. Our hope is to have representation from around the diocese. Bursaries are available.

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**For More Information and to Apply for a Bursary Contact:**

Kelly Bourke  
Youth Office - Diocese of Victoria  
Pastoral Centre  
1-4044 Nelthorpe Street,  
Victoria, BC, V8X2A1

Phone: 250-479-1331 ext. 230  
E-mail: kbourke@rcdvdvictoria.org



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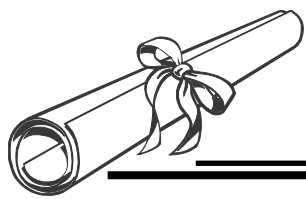
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# The Campus Mission



by Kasia Lach, Full-time Missionary for CCO at UVic

## Building Leaders for the Renewal of the World

When André Regnier stepped onto the University of Saskatchewan campus, he asked a bold question, “Who’s first?” The full question was more like, “Who will be the first person whose life is transformed by Christ? Who will help us transform the world?” God inspired André to reach out specifically to university students, and he had just co-founded Catholic Christian Outreach (CCO) to do just that.

CCO’s focus on university students is interwoven with the desire to share the Gospel message with all nations. It started from an eagerness for all people to receive salvation through Christ. The “what” was clear, but the “how” was a bit of a mystery. The answer soon became clear, and it was going to include many others. CCO’s outreach could be multiplied by building up leaders who would share the Catholic faith. The next step was to figure out where to find these leaders.

As a recent graduate of the University of Saskatchewan, André saw the solution all around him. University campuses are places of discovery and high ideals. Young souls are asking themselves big questions. *Who am I? Who do I want to become? What and Whom do I believe in?* These questions can drive powerful idealism. CCO’s mission is to invite young people into a relationship with Christ and to harness this energy to transform the world.

The attraction to high ideals can be firmly rooted in faith. The Roman Catholic Church calls her young people to live courageous lives for Christ, because he will lead to true freedom. CCO, as a movement of university students, works to build up strong young people. Ultimately, the hope is for all people to live in the fullness of the Catholic faith. With this, they discover their identity as missionary disciples and bring about the renewal of the world.

“Who’s first?” The full question was more like, “Who will be the first person whose life is transformed by Christ? Who will help us transform the world?”

Turning to campuses across the country, we find the future doctors, lawyers, educators, politicians, fathers and mothers. We find many young people who will shape our nation. We must not shy away from sharing the Gospel with them and inviting them to live their lives for Christ. ✠

“Christ’s resurrection is not an event of the past; it contains a vital power which has permeated this world. Where all seems to be dead, signs of the resurrection suddenly spring up. It is an irresistible force.”

~ Pope Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium*, 276



## Connections

by Greg Van Dyk



## A Challenge for Lent: Becoming a Church of Mercy

Since the start of his papacy, Pope Francis has spoken frequently about mercy. But what does he mean when he calls us to be a church of mercy?

This pope’s most quotable sound bites seem to speed across the globe, complete with #hashtags, as fast as you can hammer out 140 characters. This can be a useful tool for evangelization, as the Facebooking faithful no longer necessarily wait for lengthy encyclicals to hear the words of the pope. But it can also lead to unfaithful media spin that distorts the Pope’s messages to the point of absurdity.

Yet when it comes to mercy, the Holy Father makes himself quite clear: this must be a priority for the Church.

“I am convinced that the whole Church will be able to find in this Jubilee the joy of rediscovering and making fruitful the mercy of God, with which we are all called to give consolation to every man and every woman of our time.”

“I think we too are the people who, on the one hand, want to listen to Jesus, but on the other hand, at times, like to find a stick to beat others with, to condemn others,” said Pope Francis in a homily during the first year of his papacy. “And Jesus has this message for us: mercy. I think—and I say it with humility—that this is the Lord’s most powerful message: mercy.”

For those who might have been slow to catch on to his plan, Pope Francis authored a book last year entitled *The Church of Mercy: A Vision for the Church*, published by Loyola Press. In the book, the Pope discusses mercy as well as topics like solidarity for the poor and turning our focus away from idols of power and money.

If things weren’t obvious enough, the Holy Father just announced an extraordinary Jubilee to start at the end of the year. The theme? Mercy.

“I am convinced that the whole Church will be able to find in this Jubilee the joy of rediscovering and making fruitful the mercy of God, with which we are all called to give consolation to every man and every woman of our time,” Francis said at the unofficial announcement on March 13.

Catholic commentators—bloggers, writers, priests and journalists—have picked up this theme of mercy and likewise brought it to the forefront of current discussions in Catholic forums, both online and offline. One could even say that it has become a buzzword in some circles.

In some less-than-faithful corners of the interwebs, however, calls for “mercy” typically translate into the inevitable and eternally pestering pleas that the Church scrap the teachings of Jesus and bow to the mess of the modern world. For these folks, Francis’ calls for mercy provide an excuse to push the false notion that a ‘true’ Church of mercy is one that no longer challenges people with the daring demand to “be a saint,” but with the mediocre message of “I’m okay; you’re okay.”

As one Cardinal of the Church put it, “It simply makes no sense to talk about mercy which doesn’t respect truth. How can that be merciful?”

Indeed. Yet the Catholic Church is not particularly lacking in mercy. Rather, the Church is overflowing with the mercy of Jesus; it just isn’t in the places that some want to look—myself included, at times! Those that cry for “mercy” need look no further than one place that Pope Francis has clearly pointed towards: the Confessional.

“Someone may say: ‘I confess only to God.’ Yes, you can tell God: ‘Forgive me,’ and say your sins,” said Francis. “But our sins are also against the brothers, against the Church, and for this it is necessary to ask forgiveness of the Church and of the brothers, in the person of the priest.”

“Do not be afraid of Confession!” he added.

In a recent Lenten initiative called *24 Hours for the Lord*, Pope Francis invited every single parish around the world to open its doors for 24 straight hours so that people could encounter the mercy of Jesus in Confession and Adoration. Pope Francis kicked off the Roman branch of the event in St. Peter’s Basilica; the global initiative took place around the world from March 13 to 14.

In Confession, we receive the true mercy of Jesus. He forgives us of our sins and provides us with a ‘clean slate’—a fresh start in our rough and rocky journey of becoming saints. The freedom and joy that come from this Sacrament are testament to the fruits of real mercy.

The Sacrament of Confession is open to all and it is where so many saints have found the mercy of Jesus over the centuries. Testimonies abound that all point back to Confession as the common moment of conversion and decisive commitment to Jesus. The Sacrament is particularly powerful and often life changing, as penitents receive healing and peace through God’s merciful forgiveness.

This Lenten season, may we become a true ‘church of mercy’ by turning to the Confessional. Jesus patiently waits for us to return to him, seeking mercy in the sacrament of Confession. In the words of Pope Francis, “He always awaits us, loves us, has pardoned us with His Blood and pardons us every time we go to Him to ask His forgiveness. Let us trust in His mercy!” ✠







## Giving Up or Giving In: Why the Resurrection Matters

by James E. O'Reilly, Office of Religious Education

Now that we are well into the New Year and most of us have long ago resigned our New Year's resolutions to the mists of time, Lent provides a new opportunity for "getting our act together." But, human nature being what it is, we may lose steam and focus, especially if our focus is on what we were "doing," as in "resolutions" and "giving up" for Lent. Why is this so hard?

Any mature Catholic (let's say, anyone who is no longer a child!) can easily slip into a rhythm that may have started as a good healthy routine, but which gradually crept into a numbing familiarity. With all the external demands of family and the workplace, not to mention being surrounded by a culture in overdrive with skewed priorities, the interior life can get lost, or at best compartmentalized, as just another part of a busy schedule. Ten minutes for prayer in the morning and ten minutes before going to bed—symbolically squeezed in at the extremities among all the "important stuff." And how easily that "perfect" schedule can be thrown off by the unexpected: the sick child, bad news, or even a poor night's sleep.

Routines are good and schedules are necessary; they help us get organized, be focussed, and make the messiness that's life a little more manageable and predictable. But if the organizing principle of our schedules is just the ordering of the busy-ness, we may have designed an elaborate system based on a slippery foundation, and one which may be bound for failure. Yes there is so much to be done; but like the proverbial cart and horse, we do well to put our "horse power" in the proper place, so that the road is clear of our cartload of work before we push on, so as to not risk all by going "off the road." Continuous "do-ing" without time for reflecting on what we are doing, and most especially why we are doing what we are doing, can lead to a disheartening drill of daily drudgery (pushing and getting nowhere), but more seriously, to an unproductive and ineffective way of living.

So, then, it is a matter of priorities, but can "being" be more important than "doing?" Well, here we have a tension, and both are important. It is in fact a healthy tension, because we need to be attentive to and attend to both.

If we reflect on who we are—our "being"—we realize we were (and are) first a child of God, before we could even "do" anything. If we look to Genesis 1:27 we are reminded that our being is rooted in God; we are in fact made in the image and likeness of God. What does this mean? In the ancient world, the king or emperor erected statues (an image) in every city to remind the populace who was in charge,

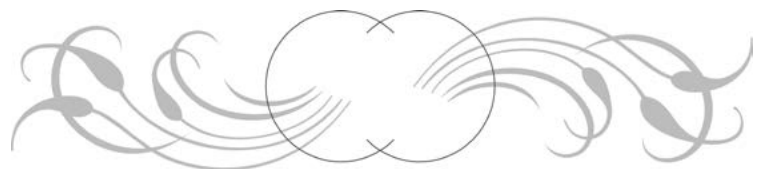
and, as the ruler could not be in every corner of his domain, he would appoint a governor as his local representative, exercising his authority (the likeness). So, by God's design and intent we are "images" of God, not God, but reflections of God who is love—selfless, compassionate love. We have also been appointed as His representative, His "likeness," with dominion, God-like care, "over every living thing" (Genesis 1:28). Therefore our wellbeing is in fact dependent upon never forgetting that we are called to be "imaging" God by our lives of care and compassion, and exercising His authority of that same care and compassion by being His "likeness" in our relations with all those we encounter. This, then, puts a particular purpose and frames with a certain perspective, all that we "do."

Our model, our exemplar for God of course is Jesus, God revealed to us, as one of us. However, unlike us, there was no tension between his "being" and his "doing," because as God, Jesus was always in perfect communion with Love, being One, and being Love itself.

This Easter Season puts into sharp focus what God, and by extension, what we are all about. The high point of the Liturgical Year, the high point of the Christian message, is symbolized by the empty tomb, Freedom and New Life. But the "key" to opening the tomb is the Cross. Jesus' redeeming us, his saving "doing," is rooted in a profound "being," an unshakable, constant abiding in Love which overcomes all sin and death.

Let us not be so focussed on our "doing" as to forget our "being," and so be mindful of the "why" behind all the "whats" that we have to do. As we face all of our tasks, with all their challenges and all the inevitable obstacles—in a word, our crosses—let us abide in Jesus who not only is our model of abiding in Love, but also is our guide in "being," calling us to "being one" with him. Jesus, the Love of God, is the Why of our whats!

So, as we delight in the warmth and glow of the Resurrection, may we carry its full freedom to our all-important planning, not losing sight of its meaning for fullness of living: with God as the ground of our "being," we will be saved from being ground down by our "doing"! ✠



## The Cross of the Way

by Jean Allen

One Sunday I was sitting in church contemplating the big crucifix at the front and the more I stared at it, the more I was struck by the dynamic action of its shape. You've probably heard of the analogy that the vertical part of the cross signifies the spiritual and the horizontal bar signifies our human existence, but what really hit me was that the vertical doesn't just come down and touch the horizontal; it plunges through it and goes deep, way beyond the conscious flow of the horizontal. And where the vertical intersects the horizontal, there's a crossroad. It occurred to me that if I extended my arms so my body formed the shape of a cross, the crossroad would be near my heart.

How apropos.

Anyone who is serious about growing spiritually knows that the journey to the kingdom is not composed of a series of pleasant pathways; rather, it is a series of crossroads, or crises, where our human existence is penetrated by the vertical plunge of the cross and where we are brought face to face with broken horizontal lines. This is where our control is gone and our dreams are shattered. This is where the unexpected completely changes everything we thought we knew. This is where our comfort zones suddenly no longer exist. This is where everything that always made sense suddenly no longer makes any sense at all.

But wait. Does this mean that God creates wounding and confusing circumstances, plunging the cross into our lives again and again, to create gaping wounds for our spiritual edification? I don't believe that. The world is a broken place and God has given everyone freewill; life itself is quite capable of tearing up the fabric of our horizontal lives. What I see is that when life thrusts a dagger into our existence, God immediately fills the gaping, bleeding hole with the vertical part of the Cross of Christ, which staunches the critical loss of our life blood, initiates healing to prevent the wound from mortifying and creates a conduit, a stent into the depths of our beings where our treasure lies, where the Trinity dwells and where the Kingdom can be found – if we choose to go there.

A crossroad is created and a choice is offered where, without God's grace and absolute love, we would only have hopeless chaos and brokenness. A crossroad always involves a decision but we are never forced to follow the downward conduit to the depths. In fact, God graciously allows us to stay where the pain is the harshest, knowing that it takes a while before we are ready to let go and move downward instead of staying with the grief and pain. God is infinitely loving and patient, even when we feel that we have been abandoned and wonder where He is.

God is there. Christ is there. The Spirit is there. The Trinity waits with merciful love in a place of great simplicity – the depths of our beings. The journey downward can begin when bulky expectations and preconceived ideas of 'what should be' are abandoned. On the path of the cross, there is only room for our naked souls to move down the conduit to the Kingdom within.

The cross is a gateway to simplicity, pilgrimage and transformation. God takes a raw hole that makes no sense and from it creates a door to the depths, a road to new life, a conduit to the oil of gladness. The cross is a sign of Jesus' words, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life."

Paul prayed a powerful prayer in Ephesians that God would "grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God." (Ephesians 3:16-19)

Where there's a Cross, there's a Way. ✠





# Face the Day



by Bonnie Landry

I would like to go a little deeper into Lent with some thoughts on why fasting is good. Fasting is a form of mortification. Mortification is a self-imposed suffering, a challenge, a penance of some kind. We can offer up any form of suffering, including self-imposed suffering, to be united with the suffering of Christ. In this way, our suffering, imposed or elected, becomes fruitful.

Fasting is an act of thanksgiving in solidarity with Christ, like a husband who might give up wine while his wife is pregnant as an act of thanksgiving, in solidarity for something she must give up.

“We can practice only taking what we need—and not more.

Fasting provides an opportunity to die to self. This affects so many areas of our life, simply by giving us the opportunity to train ourselves not to constantly act out of impulse. Learning to control, on a daily basis, something as regular and necessary as our eating habits, can affect so many areas of control in our lives: how we shop, whether we gossip, how we respond to the demands of raising children or any of the small opportunities we exercise on impulse.

Fasting creates an environment in which we act intentionally. We choose when we eat, rather than just constantly grazing on that which presents itself to us. Every little decision is practiced with discernment. We learn to find the difference between a want and a need.

Fasting is freedom. We are really only free when we have internal discipline. Fasting is good modelling. It models self control and internal discipline for children.

Fasting allows us the opportunity to think about God. We think a lot about food—at least, I do. Food is one of life’s lovely pleasures, a gift from God. We should rejoice and be glad to feast, but when we fast, we can literally take a break from thinking about food and think more about God and all the blessings we receive from Him.

The practice of “mini fasting” can prepare us spiritually not only for our daily challenges, but for more challenging fasting, at times in our life when we are better able to practice strident fasting. The primary mode of fasting is of denying

oneself food. We also benefit from the practice of waiting for food. We live in a culture of constant and instant gratification. By contrast, when we fast and we feel like having that cup of coffee, those couple of cookies, even that apple, we can say to ourselves, “I’ll just wait. I’ll sit down and read some stories to the kids, then I’ll have that little thing.”

We can set small goals for ourselves that require putting off what we want right now, and get used to waiting patiently for something we want. *I’ll just get the dishes done and wipe the counters down; then I can sit down with a cup of tea and a muffin.*

We can practice only taking what we need—and not more. Or practice allowing ourselves to feel a real hunger before we eat. We can practice not cleaning off our children’s plates. It needn’t be wasteful; put leftovers in the fridge, or into little re-heatable containers right away. Remove the temptation to eat it simply because it’s there. We actually don’t need to eat every half a cookie lying around the house.

It seems like the more we handle food (which happens about every hour, on the hour, with small ones) the more unlikely it is that we can avoid actually eating it. Some would put a no-snacking rule into play; the option of no preparation of snacks is also effective. It might require some planning, like having healthy snacks made weekly, or better yet, a full fruit bowl so mom doesn’t need to be handling food all the time.

What about mamas who are nursing, pregnant, or for whatever other reason need to be eating every twenty minutes? Forgo something that we want for something that will suffice. A small mortification, but still ... a few almonds instead of a fig newton. Perhaps a few crackers instead of carrot cake.

Small practices yield big results. The result is mastery of our will.

Every single fast, little tiny mini fasts, little things we give up are all types of the fasting before we feast at the great banquet: the Eucharist. The liturgical year is punctuated with fasting and feasting. Our day, too, can become an opportunity to celebrate both the fast and the feast, and renew that relationship with our Lord in it. Fast and feast represents death and resurrection. He died for us, and rose again, conquering sin.

We die to self and in doing so, even in such very tiny ways, we learn to conquer sin in our lives. ✠

## A Lesson From Youth

by Kelly Bourke

Some of my favourite stories are about a return to simplicity and remembering the basics. I am constantly searching for simplicity in my own life, though it eludes me at times as evidenced by my hectic schedule and need for dragging no less than four bags along with me some days.

I had a copy of Robert Fulghum’s *All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten* taped to my desk as a young adult (an early form of ‘desktop wallpaper’!). In it the author points out that making the world a better place might be as simple as remembering to be childlike in our approach, remembering to put into practice the simplest rules taught to us by our parents and teachers.

My favourite story in scripture is of Martha and Mary from the Gospel of Luke, not because it is simple, but because it gets to the heart of the matter—Jesus. Martha is running around organizing everything for his visit, something she does with great love and attention, leading her to be annoyed by those who are not helping. Jesus knows her heart is in the right place, but points out to her that she is going to miss what is right in front of her—Jesus. Jesus’ response is to call her by name, ask her to stop, to open her eyes and just be present with him. Okay, literally, he asks her to see that Mary has made a better choice with her time and energy. A frustrating suggestion given sibling rivalry and other tensions in that moment, had it not been for the great love she had for Jesus that fueled her efforts in the first place. I was always very intrigued by this story as young person, and often tried to figure out who was right or who was better, but I realize I was missing the point—Jesus. Jesus the teacher is calling us by name and asking us not to forget the most important thing is to be present in relationship with him.

How often are we simply present with Jesus? Do we even know how to slow down and sit at Jesus’ feet? Why is it that youth sometimes seem to know how to do this better than we do?

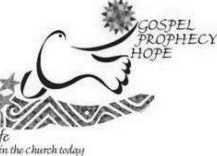

Simplicity of heart! Pope Francis speaks about evangelization saying, “It is often the most simple of hearts that express true joy, and evangelization depends on this joy.” In evangelizing our youth, we must share our inspiration in the faith in a relationship that is open to be inspired through them too. It is God who sparks our faith, not something we can deliver to youth. In advocating for youth, we begin with the perspective that youth have something valuable to say and contribute now, not just in some well-formed future.

And so, in our lives, and in our parishes, let us remember to value the perspective of our youth, one that brings with it simplicity of heart. So often we as adults can say (or think), “I wish the youth would ...” but if we stop and open our eyes, we might notice that they are already at Jesus’ feet. We might notice that their hearts may well be more open than ours and that they have some wisdom to share. How

are we making room for the voices of youth? Or are we missing out on their inspiration and wisdom?

Sometimes the best thing to do is to stop, open our eyes and hearts, and simply remember that *in God we live and move and have our being* already. We are too busy trying to find God, make the right space for God and wonder why God is not following our lead that we don’t seem to notice that He is already here.

Right in front of us. Calling us by name. ✠



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### BURSARY

The Sisters of St. Ann are offering a Bursary named in honour of their foundress, Blessed Marie Anne Blondin. This bursary offers assistance to women seeking education in theological and ministry studies that promote justice, peace, integrity of creation, healing, holistic living and a healthy life style.

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# National & International News



## Holy See: Women's Unique Gifts Must be Better Appreciated

The world is called to “better appreciate the full greatness of woman”, which does not just include those attributes she shares with men, but also the “unique gifts that pertain to her as woman such as her capacity for motherhood - understood not just as a reproductive act, but as a spiritual, educational, affective, nurturing and cultural way of life” said Archbishop Bernardito Auza, Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations, at a panel discussion on The Family As Agent for Women's Equality and Human Rights: Fulfilling the Promises of Beijing Defending Human Dignity in Reproductive Health. <http://www.indcatholicnews.com/news.php?viewStory=26985>

## Agencies Rush to Aid Devastated Vanuatu, Call for Action on Climate Change

The devastation caused by Cyclone Pam to Vanuatu in the Pacific on 13 and 14 March has provoked an immediate humanitarian response from Christian agencies and calls for urgent action on climate change - Ellen Teague writes in the Tablet on-line. Cafod, Christian Aid and Tearfund have launched appeals, advocacy actions and prayer alerts. At least eight people are known to have been killed - a figure set to rise as remote islands are contacted - amid winds of more than 170 mph and destructive storm surges around eight metres high. <http://www.indcatholicnews.com/news.php?viewStory=26980>

## Campaign Urges Pakistani Government to Protect Christians

In the wake of church bomb attacks in Lahore, human rights campaign group Release International is calling on Pakistan to step up security for Christians to prevent mob violence. As provincial governments declare a day of mourning and protesters clash with police, Release urges Pakistan to urgently address the culture of intolerance that leads to church attacks. The campaign is urging Pakistan to step up security for its vulnerable Christian minority, amid concerns that terror attacks against churches could lead to inter-communal violence. <http://www.indcatholicnews.com/news.php?viewStory=26975>

## Sow Much Love to Give

by Madge Weber, Parishioner, St. Edward's Parish, Duncan

On February 20, 2015, the World Day of Social Justice, it was fitting that we would host in the Cowichan Valley, our Solidarity Visitor Fr. Edwin Gariguez SJ, who is the Secretary General of Caritas Philippines. Fr. Gariguez, affectionately known as Fr. Edu, visited St. Ann's community and enjoyed a seafood luncheon with several elders of our First Nations people.

Later at St. Edward's, he gave us a perspective of the plight of the Filipino people who struggle to feed their families and continue to farm on their land. Reclaiming land after the catastrophic Typhoon Yolande is one of the immediate needs that Fr. Edu is engaged in.

We saw graphic pictures that he took three days after the Typhoon, none that we would see here on our National News. Clearly, everyone has been affected to some extent. Perhaps those of us in the Western World can become so desensitized to this kind of tragedy that the numbers of people affected become almost meaningless. 4.4 million people were displaced. What does that look like to us?

Fr. Edu assured us that the Filipino people, regardless of their pain, suffering and loss, are resilient due to a deep faith in a God of mercy and

compassion. Together in solidarity and grief, they are facing the future with a sense of hope while building new communities.

Through the aid of Caritas Philippines/NASSA, the people of the Philippines have an opportunity to rebuild their own homes. The small houses already built in the 37 parishes of nine dioceses, are sturdy wooden structures that will be able to withstand violent storms. In a video clip we saw a child with her family, who expresses admiration and ownership as she explains, “My father helped build our house.”

How will we remember Fr. Edu? He is a humble and courageous prophet in our time who continues to work tirelessly and fearlessly, advocating for the dignity and human rights of each individual in all situations, especially where human rights and the environment are being violated. At the end of the day, “It's all for the glory of God.”

Fr. Edu gently reminded us that we put our faith in action when we seek and



choose companies that are accountable and ethical when investing our money, and by being aware when making purchases: where the product is made, how it was made, and by whom. His parting words were, “Pray for us.”

Thank you to Kyla and Jenaya in Mrs. Mann's grade 6 class at Queen of Angel's School who made a beautiful welcome sign for Father Edu.

Thank you for supporting our Share Lent Campaign and respecting the voice of the Poor. You all have Sow Much Love to give. ✠

## Sacred Heart Parishioners Have Big Hearts for the Needy

by Ben Pires

“How I long for a poor church for the poor,” said Jorge Bergoglio soon after becoming Pope Francis on February 28, 2013, as he called on Catholics to devote greater attention to the poor.

In heeding his call, nearly 30 Sacred Heart parishioners showed up to help in setting up, prepping, cooking, serving, bussing, dish washing and clean up for the “Friendship Dinner” for the city's needy on February 20 at the Philippine Bayanihan Community Centre in downtown Victoria.

The dinner, during Lent, was one of numerous activities planned for the year-long observance of the 50th anniversary of the First Mass celebrated at Sacred Heart Church at Nelthorpe Street on September 5, 1965. The St. Vincent de Paul Society issued the free tickets to the needy for the two sittings of the dinner.

Parishioners donated \$1,205 towards the meal and other items. Expenses totalled \$561.30, enough for more such dinners.

While Bishop Gary Gordon, who wanted to help in serving the meal to the needy, was unable to attend because he was presiding at a funeral, Sacred Heart pastor Friar Dan Gurnick; former Sacred Heart pastor and now pastor at St. Patrick's Church in Oak Bay, Fr. Alfred Alilio; and visiting Filipino priest, Fr. Edwin Gariguez, were there to help in serving the dinner. ✠





# Earthly Love, Divine Love

by Myra Charlie

In yester-years, blankets were woven for their earthly travels, sometimes in very 'trying times'. However, many steps were taken to get to the point where the goat wool used in the Cowichan area was ready to weave. Community members and family members worked together. Early peoples wove blankets to protect the people they loved. Preparations and work was the key to get the work done: the motive—love.

*Thuy't tun shqwaluwun* (prepare/fix your thoughts and feelings), is a phrase we often heard as children and still hear today at gatherings. *Thuy'thut tseep th'itth'uhwunt tseep* (those that have been asked, please help out with their skills to help their fellow people, get ready for the work that they have been asked to do)! And so, at this time of preparation, family, Elders, Srs. Elisa and Vinda and Fr. Jose Prakash shared their skills to help prepare the children of St. Ann's Parish to participate in Holy Mass leading to the sacred time when they will receive the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion.

“*Huy ch q'u, Tsitsulh Siem* (Thank you, High Respected One), for your Divine Love.

On Sundays, except for the third Sunday of the month, children go to the front of the congregation to receive the book of The Word and proceed to our “big hall” (very small room) to learn about Jesus. They go there to prepare their thoughts/feelings. On the third Sunday, the children participate at Mass by reading and bringing the gifts up to the ‘spiritual table’. As the children journeyed up the aisle carrying the gifts, they gained more and more confidence. As our children continued their work, we, also, were preparing our own *sul'suli* (souls) so that we can accompany them spiritually on their journey of faith.

Before each phase of work in the preparation of woven blankets, a prayer of thanks was always said to Our Creator for the gifts given to us for personal use and to use for the good of all people. During our Children and Youth Ministry, the young people learned to thank our *Tsitsulh Siem* (High Respected One: God) in the *Hul'q'umi'num'* language. Also, Elders and youngsters shared their talents during the programme for all people to learn how to work together.

The gathering of the family of our Creator's people is sacred. On February 15, 2015, at St. Ann's Parish, the “gathering” happened. The assembly was to celebrate Sunday Mass, the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion with Bishop Gary Gordon. Without Bishop Gary, the work was not yet complete.

The congregation was welcomed, visitors were acknowledged, then, with Bishop Gary Gordon presiding and Fr. Jose concelebrating, and the children participating, the purpose of the gathering commenced. At the appropriate time, the red blanket with black designs of a salmon was placed on the floor where the candidates for Confirmation were to stand. The salmon that travels back to where it was born is a reminder to the people to always work on the journey with the Creator: always working on the journey of walking with Jesus. The blanket is a symbol of love, the colour red is a symbol of protection given by the Holy Spirit, and black is a symbol of strength (we receive strength from the Holy Spirit). When Confirmation was completed, the blanket was picked

up with an oral reminder that although the blanket will not be visible, the protection and strength of the Holy Spirit is always with His people. Also, it is a reminder that with receiving the Holy Spirit, this is a beginning of another phase of life: journeying with the Holy Spirit on this earthly pilgrimage. Nineteen St. Ann's children are on this journey.


Just before Holy Communion, an announcement was made regarding a white, soft, fluffy blanket. It is another symbol of love: the Divine love of the Creator for His people, the Divine love of Jesus for his human brothers and sisters. It was placed in front of Bishop Gary where the first communicants received Jesus in this very special gift from the *Tsitsulh Siem*. Seven children journeyed up to the white blanket: the divine gift of Holy Communion.

This was a point in time that was very special for the young people and for the rest of St. Ann's Parish where symbols were used to enhance the understanding of the sacred sacraments to help the young members of the church. First Nations culture was woven into the sacred work of the church for the benefit of all. People worked together for the young people to assist them on their faith journey. Thoughts and feelings were fixed. Skills were shared.

*Huy ch q'u, Tsitsulh Siem* (Thank you, High Respected One), for your Divine Love.

*Myra Charlie teaches the Hul'q'umi'num' language to the children and youth group of St. Ann's every Thursday after school.* ✂





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# Impressions



by Connie Dunwoody

“What greater thing is there for human souls than to feel that they are joined for life—to be with each other in silent unspeakable memories.

~ George Eliot

John and I were strangers a week ago.

We didn't even meet until that day. And then, in the quiet of the ICU waiting room at the Royal Jubilee Hospital, in an instant of recognition, we weren't, bound together in a reality we each experienced as our hearts united in rebellion against fact.

*“No, oh no, not this.”*

The ICU waiting room is muted; plump leather couches and soft shadows soothe bodies tired beyond exhaustion and exhausted beyond comprehension. The lights are gentler than they are in the corridor, and conversations happen in whispers. Mindless diversions meant to while-away time that moves oh-so-slowly with every clock-tick go unheeded in the silence. Grief overflows hearts torn by a horrible truth the mind can't quite grasp—and doesn't want to.

We were strangers. And then we weren't. A brief introduction, a hug of acceptance and it was like we'd known each other for years. We knew him, the young man lying in unnatural stillness in the other room: *his son. My beloved niece's boyfriend.*

*We knew him.* We proved it with our presence. When we spoke of him, it was with love and deep admiration for who he is to us, what he means to us. Our sorrows were theirs; their laughter affected us like rain in the desert, weary spirits refreshed by shared memories. Our experience of this loved one was widened by stories; their acceptance increased with every word we spoke.

John looked at me. “Take care of her,” he said, gesturing with his head to the ICU door, his generous love embracing my niece even as pain crumpled his face. “Make sure she's all right.” I promised, my heart breaking with this too-fast-growing-up she must endure.

He gave us to each other.

We were strangers, John and I. And then we were family, bound by a compassion tragedy and death could never overwhelm, an unbreakable oath rooted in hope and united by love. Now we will never again be strangers, for we are connected by his son through the mystery of sorrow and the amazing grace of congregation. Our hearts unite with healing comfort and joy ...

They, too, were strangers.

They didn't even meet until that day. And then, in an instant of recognition, they weren't, bound together in a reality they each experienced as their hearts united in rebellion against fact.

*“No, oh no, not this.”*

The hill was dark; strange wooden shapes stretched incomprehensibly upwards. Tired beyond exhaustion, exhausted beyond comprehension, no diversions could distract them from each hammer-pound that tore at the silence. Time moved ever more slowly, grief overflowing hearts torn by a terrible truth the mind couldn't quite grasp—and didn't want to.

They were strangers. And then they weren't. A brief introduction, a hug of acceptance, and it was like they'd known each other for years. They knew him, the young man lying in unnatural stillness in the tomb. *His Son. Their Beloved.*

*They knew him.* They proved it with their presence. When they spoke of him, it was with love and deep admiration for Who he was to them, what he meant to them. Their sorrows were shared; their laughter ran like rain in the desert, weary spirits refreshed by shared memories. Their experience of this loved One was widened by stories; their acceptance increased with every word they spoke.

He looked at her, generous love embracing them all even as pain squeezed breath from his body. “Woman, behold your son.” Then he said to the disciple, “Behold, your mother!” They looked at each other, hearts breaking with this too-fast-growing-up they must endure.

He gave them to each other.

They were strangers. And then they were family, bound by a compassion tragedy and death could never overwhelm, an unbreakable oath rooted in hope and united by love.

And us? We were strangers, you and I. And now we're Family, for we are bound together in an instant recognition of His love and grace. We are connected by His Son through the mystery of the Cross and the amazing truth of Congregation. Our hearts unite with healing comfort and joy ...

We can never again be strangers, you and I. ✠



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# Holy Week/Easter Mass Schedule

Parish	April 2 Holy Thursday	April 3 Good Friday	April 4 Easter Vigil	April 5 Easter Sunday
St. Andrew's Cathedral, Victoria  Seats fill up quickly; please plan to arrive earlier.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>7:30am Office of Readings / Morning prayer</li><li>7:30pm Mass of the Last Supper (Incense) Adoration following.</li><li>10:00 pm Night Prayer.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>9am Office of Readings / Morning Prayer</li><li>11am Stations (&amp; Veneration) of the Cross with Children</li><li>3pm Solemn Afternoon Service</li><li>7pm Stations of the Cross</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>9am Office of Readings / Morning Prayer.</li><li>8pm Easter Vigil / First Mass of Easter (Incense)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>8am</li><li>9:30am</li><li>11am (Incense)</li><li>5pm</li></ul>
Christ the King, Courtenay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>7pm</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>3pm</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>8:30pm (Incense)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>8:30am</li><li>10:30am</li><li>2 pm (Holy Cross, Hornby Island)</li></ul>
Holy Cross, Gordon Head	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>7pm</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>3pm</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>8pm</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>8:30am</li><li>10:30am</li><li>4pm</li></ul>
Holy Family/Notre Dame, Port Alberni	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>7pm</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>3pm</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>8pm</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>9am</li><li>11am</li></ul>
North Island (Our Lady of Assumption, Alert Bay; St. Bonaventure, Port Hardy; St. Mary's, Port McNeill; St. Theresa's, Port Alice)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>7pm, St Bonaventure, Port Hardy</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>3pm, St Bonaventure, Port Hardy</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>9pm, St Bonaventure, Port Hardy</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>9am, St Mary's, Port McNeill</li><li>11:30am, St Theresa's, Port Alice</li><li>4pm, Our Lady of Assumption, Alert Bay</li></ul>
Our Lady of the Rosary, Langford	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>7pm</li><li>8pm Adoration in the Chapel (lower level of the Parish Centre) until 10pm</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>3pm</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>7:45pm</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>8:30am</li><li>10:30am</li></ul>
Our Lady Queen of Peace, Esquimalt Incense used - Holy Thursday, Holy Saturday, Easter Sunday (English & Latin Mass)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>7pm</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>2pm Stations of the Cross</li><li>3pm Mass</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>8pm</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>10am (English)</li><li>12pm (Traditional Latin)</li></ul>
Saanich Peninsula (Services are at St. Elizabeth's unless otherwise noted)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>7:30pm</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>3pm</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>8:30pm</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>8:30am (Our Lady of the Assumption)</li><li>10:30am (St. Elizabeth's)</li></ul>
Sacred Heart, Victoria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>6:30pm (Adoration to follow till 10pm in Pope John Hall)</li><li>8:30pm (Korean)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>10am Stations of the Cross (English)</li><li>1pm Stations of the Cross (Spanish)</li><li>3:00pm</li><li>7:30pm (Korean)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>12 noon Blessing of the Food</li><li>7pm</li><li>10pm (Korean)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>8:30am</li><li>10:00am</li><li>12:30pm (Polish)</li><li>3:00pm (Korean)</li></ul>
Saltspring Island (Our Lady of Grace, Ganges and St. Paul's, Fulford Harbour) Incense used (lightly) on Holy Thursday and Easter Vigil (Holy Saturday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>7pm (Our Lady of Grace)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>3pm (Our Lady of Grace)</li><li>7pm Stations of the Cross (Our Lady of Grace)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>8pm (Our Lady of Grace)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>8am (St. Paul's)</li><li>10am (Our Lady of Grace)</li></ul>
St. Columba's (Ordinariate Parish), Victoria  Incense will be used (non-hypoallergenic)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>7pm followed by a Vigil until midnight</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>3pm</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>9am – Matins and Ante-Communion</li><li>8pm Easter Vigil</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>9am Matins</li><li>10am</li></ul>
St. Edward's, Duncan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>7pm</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>3pm</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>9pm</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>10pm</li></ul>
St. Joseph the Worker, Saanich	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>7pm (Incense)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>3pm</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>8:30pm (Incense)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>6:00am</li><li>10am</li><li>12 noon</li></ul>
St. Joseph's, Chemainus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>6pm</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>3pm</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Service will be at St. Mary's, Ladysmith</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>10:30am</li></ul>
St. Leopold (Various Locations)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>7pm (St. Leopold's, Victoria)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>3pm (St. Leopold's, Victoria)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>9pm (St. Leopold's, Victoria)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>11am (St. Leopold's, Victoria)</li><li>2:30pm (Trinity, Nanaimo)</li><li>5pm (Holy Family/Notre Dame, Port Alberni)</li></ul>
St. Louis de Montfort Church, Lake Cowichan				<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>8am</li></ul>
St. Mary's, Ladysmith	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>7pm</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Service will be at St. Joseph's, Chemainus</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>7pm (no 5pm Mass)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>9am</li></ul>
St. Patrick's, Campbell River (and surrounding area). Services are at St. Patrick's, Campbell River, unless otherwise noted. Please contact the Parish Office to find out if Incense will be used.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>7pm</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>11am</li><li>3pm (St. Peter &amp; St. Paul – Gold River)</li><li>7pm (St. Joseph's - Tahsis)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>8:30pm</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>9am</li><li>11am</li><li>3pm (St. Bernadette's – Sayward)</li></ul>
St. Patrick's, Victoria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>7pm (Natural Incense)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>10am Stations of the Cross</li><li>3pm Mass</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>10am Blessing of the Food</li><li>8pm Mass (Natural Incense)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>8:30am</li><li>10:30am</li><li>1pm (Vietnamese)</li></ul>
St. Peter's, Nanaimo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>7pm followed by Adoration until midnight</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>3pm</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>11am Blessing of the Food</li><li>8pm Easter Vigil (Incense)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>8:30am</li><li>10:30am</li></ul>
St. Rose of Lima, Sooke	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>7pm</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>3pm</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>8pm</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>10am</li></ul>
Trinity Catholic Church, Nanaimo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>7:30pm</li><li>8:30pm Adoration (Children, Youth &amp; Families)</li><li>9pm Adoration (Ladies Group &amp; Pro-Life)</li><li>9:30pm Adoration (Knights of Columbus &amp; Spouses)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>3pm, followed by individual Confession</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>12 noon Blessing of the Food</li><li>8pm</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>8am</li><li>9am</li></ul>
West Coast Catholic Communities and Missions (Holy Family, Ucluelet; St. Francis of Assisi, Tofino; St. Lawrence, Ahousat)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>7pm, St. Francis of Assisi, Tofino, followed by Adoration until 9pm</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>3pm, St. Francis of Assisi, Tofino</li><li>5pm, Holy Family, Ucluelet</li><li>7:30pm, St. Lawrence, Ahousaht</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>8pm, St. Lawrence, Ahousaht</li><li>9pm, St. Francis of Assisi, Tofino</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>10am, Holy Family, Ucluelet</li><li>11am St. Lawrence, Ahousaht</li></ul>