



2. Vocation Culture in the Family
2.2 Prayer

The only way our children can hear God's call is to know how to listen to God and to talk to God, or simply to pray. How can we expect our children to hear when they are "deaf" and to talk when they are "dumb"? We need to teach them to communicate with God, and an effective way is to gather as a family and pray. There are families that get together every evening, light a candle, say the Confiteor, the Creed, a decade of the Rosary, and conclude with a period of silence. The whole duration only takes about seven minutes which will not be a burden for the young (babies) and prolong the interest for the old (teenagers). The practice of family praying together will develop a habit for the children to pray and learn how to pray even on their own.

The family can also help the members to appreciate and enter more deeply into the Sacred Words of God through sharing stories particularly of the Bible and the Saints. Stories telling are an effective way to communicate specially to the young. Their natural curiosity and imagination absorb what being read or told. Pictures are also a good method to share with them about the faith that can express thousand of words and imprint in them long-lasting memories. I still remember not only stories about my patron saint that my parents told me but also the patron saints of my siblings that I also heard. Every feast-day, we celebrate our patron saints like a birthday celebration with a special meal, a cake, and Mass. Currently, we replaced birthdays with parties and gifts and teaching our children to indulge and consume. I still remember the exciting Bible story of Joseph and how he rescued his brothers and family; Moses' escape and walk through the Red Sea; the miracle of water being changed into wine; the multiplication of bread and fish; Peter walking on the water, etc. Parents should encourage the children to read by making Catholic Bibles available to them. Parents must provide books and magazines that exemplify the lives of the saints who can inspire the children to follow their footsteps and make them their role models. There are Catholic Bibles trivia games that the family can spend time together at recreation for a fun learning experience.

Another way to help the children immerse in Sacred Scripture is to have the *Breaking of the Word*. Parents can simply spend fifteen minutes in one of the evenings during the week and instead of having evening prayer together use the Sunday Mass Gospel to have the family listen. Afterwards, allow each member to share their life experience in the light of the Gospel. In this way, the children are prepared and look forward to the Sunday Mass. This is an opportunity to help the children to understand better about the teaching of the Church through the Word and its application in life.

Continued on 4th column

[2017 TAX RECEIPTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR PICKUP IN CHURCH FOYER](#)

Welcome to St. Ann's Parish

Our Vision Statement: to be a Christ-centered community of missionary disciples.

Our Mission Statement: to work and pray to be a welcoming, Eucharistic community that spreads the good news of Christ. We each strive to share our gifts within and beyond the parish for the glory of God.

THIS WEEK AT ST. ANN'S

MOMS & TOTS GROUP meet every **Monday at 9:00 a.m.** in St. Monica's lounge. No registration needed just drop in for coffee/tea and some social time for you and your young children.

COMMUNION SERVICE will be held on **Thursday, February 22nd at 10:00 a.m.**

ONE BODY IN CHRIST PRAYER MEETING: Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m. in St. Joachim room.

MASS will be celebrated at the Menno Hospital Chapel on **Friday, February 23rd at 10:00 a.m.**

MASS will be celebrated, **Sunday, February 25th at 4:00 p.m.** in the Sacred Space at Abbotsford Regional Hospital.

Attention all Youth ages 9-14yrs: It's time again for our annual Knights of Columbus Council 6767 **BASKETBALL FREE THROW COMPETITION.** This fun event takes place **Monday, February 19th** at St. James and St. Ann's Elementary gymnasium. Starting time is **2:30 p.m.** but late comers will still be able to throw. For questions please call Gord DeLong at 604-504-0323 or e-mail gdelong1@shaw.ca.



K4J (Kids for Jesus) Program needs a **MUSIC VOLUNTEER** for a minimum of 15 mins per session to teach the kids some interactive songs/hymns for their age group". K4J meets on the 1st & 3rd Saturdays of each month, except July & August. We would love to add a musical dimension to our sessions. Please contact Roslyn at 604-556-6243 or Sr Suzana.

St. Ann's CWL cordially invite all Ladies of the Parish to join them for the "**Gifted by His Grace**" **RETREAT** on **Saturday, March 3rd, beginning with Mass at 9am and retreat from 10am to 3pm.** Tickets are \$10 (includes morning coffee and lunch). Available at the Parish Office. **TICKETS ON SALE AFTER ALL MASSES THIS WEEKEND.**

ST. ANN'S PRESCHOOL is now accepting registrations for September 2018-2019. Packages are available at the Parish Office.

4yr old classes
Mon/Wed/Fri
9:00am - 12:00pm
Tuition: \$160 per month

3yr old classes
Tues/Thurs
9:00 - 11:30 am
Tuition: \$130 per month

Please bring the following -
Baptismal Certificate
-Inoculation record
-Birth Certificate
-\$40 non-refundable Registration fee (\$20 if brought in by March 1)
-10 post dated cheques dd July 1/18 (for Sept) and Oct 1/18 to June 1/19
For more info call Jo Ann Nixon at 604-852-5602 ext 237

MASS INTENTIONS FOR
FEB. 19TH TO FEB. 25TH, 2018

Monday
8:00am Peter Cavacece, rip.

Tuesday
7:00pm Marie Van Prattenburg, rip.

Wednesday
8:00am Ed O'Reilly, rip.

Thursday
8:00am Andrew Um, int.

Friday
8:00am Dec. mem Navarro Family
7:00pm

Saturday
9:00am Dorothy O'Reilly, int.
5:00pm Rene & Monique Navarro, int.

Sunday
8:00am Marie Van Prattenburg, rip.
10:00am Intentions for the Parish
Noon Mrs. Anh Thu Truong, rip.

FEAST DAYS & READINGS
FEB. 19TH TO FEB. 25TH, 2018

Monday
Leviticus 19:1-2,11-18; Matthew 25:31-46

Tuesday
Isaiah 55:10-11; Matthew 6:5-15

Wednesday
Jonah 3:1-10; Luke 11:29-32

Thursday-Chair of St. Peter
1 Peter 5:1-4; Matthew 16:13-19

Friday
Ezekiel 18:21-28; Matthew 5:20-26

Saturday
Deuteronomy 26:16-19; Matthew 5:43-48

Sunday-2nd Sunday of Lent: Genesis 22:1-2,9-13,15-18; Romans 8:31b-35,37+;; Mark 9:2-10

STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be held as follows:

- 1) **Monday mornings after 8:00 a.m. Mass-Vocations**
- 2) **Wednesday mornings after 8:00 a.m. Mass-Mary's Way of the Cross**
- 3) **Every Friday evening at 6:30 p.m.**-priest led
- 4) **Every Friday during Lent there will be 2 Masses celebrated at 8:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.**-Confessions at 6:00 p.m.; Stations of the Cross at 6:30 p.m.
- 5) **First Fridays during Lent: Mass at 8:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.**-Confessions at 6:00 p.m.; Benediction at 6:20 p.m.; Stations of the Cross at 6:30 p.m.

Mark your calendars for **May 25th and 26th**. This is when we will come together with our time, talents and treasures for our **PARISH SPRING FAIR (garage sale etc.)**. Please start by saving your extra plastic bags. More information to follow!

Continued from 1st column

LET'S WELCOME THE YAZAJI FAMILY TO ST. ANN'S PARISH



Arrived at Vancouver Airport on Thursday, February 8th



Celebrating Majd's 9th Birthday on Wednesday, February 14th

experience in the light of the Gospel. In this way, the children are prepared and look forward to the Sunday Mass. This is an opportunity to help the children to understand better about the teaching of the Church through the Word and its application in life.

Symbolism also helps instill in the family members the significant meaning it represents. Just like sacrament and sacramental are visible signs of the hidden realities that give grace. It is important then to have in the home these sacred signs. There should be a place in the home where a small altar or shrine dedicated to be a worshipping place, a prayer center (a focal point) where family can get together to pray each day. A cross, a statue, a painting that reminds us of the Lord, our Mother, and the saints are strongly encouraged. Each room should have a cross and other helpful sacramentals such as a blessed palm, a rosary, an icon, a bible, etc. These will remind us of the significant meanings that inspire us to live our faith. I remember one of my younger brother favourite things was to light the candle on the home shrine before family prayer and blow it out afterward. Another beautiful sign of sacramental is a cross-chain, a scapular, a religious medal that one can wear on the body to be inspired. We need to bring back sacred signs into our family home and life. It is unfortunate to see that the religious symbols in the home have been replaced by the contemporary signs of prosperity and commercialism: wide, flat screened Televisions, computers, immodest arts, etc.

CHALICE Easter gift catalogues have arrived. Available in the Church & Parish Centre foyers.

St. Ann's Meals for Moms program: If you are an expectant mother please contact: MothersatStAnn@gmail.com

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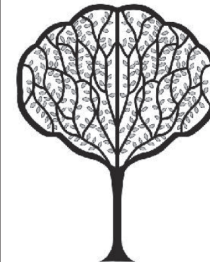


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