

FOCUS ON VOCATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD-BY FR. HIEN

2. Vocation Culture in the Family

2.1 Domestic Church: The Foundation

Pope John Paul II in many of his writings and homilies has mentioned numerous times that "the Christian family is the first place where vocations develop. It is a seminary or novitiate in germ." In light of this it is vital for families to nurture, encourage, and promote vocations. Pope J.P. II described the family in his writings often as the *domestic Church* where the parents have the responsibility and right through their union of love give birth to their children and provide them the basic rights, needs, faith and charity in cooperation with God to build His kingdom. In the Apostolic Exhortation *Familiaris Consortio* Pope J.P. II expressed this point beautifully:

For Christian parents the mission to educate, a mission rooted, as we have said, in their participation in God's creating activity, has a new specific source in the sacrament of marriage, which consecrates them for the strictly Christian education of their children: that is to say, it calls upon them to share in the very authority and love of God the Father and Christ the Shepherd, and in the motherly love of the Church, and it enriches them with wisdom, counsel, fortitude and all the other gifts of the Holy Spirit in order to help the children in their growth as human beings and as Christians.

It is in this *domestic Church* where a child is first developed and learned the basic human dignity. Home is not intrinsically the physical building but the foundation that builds through the members of the family. "It is here that the father of the family, the mother, children, and all members of the family exercise the priesthood of the baptized in a privileged way by the reception of the sacraments, prayer and thanksgiving, the witness of a holy life, and self-denial and active charity. Thus the home is the first school of Christian life and a school for human enrichment. Here one learns endurance and the joy of work, fraternal love, generous – even repeated – forgiveness, and above all divine worship in prayer and the offering of one's life."

There are two necessary and immediate steps we can take to foster the vocation culture in the family. First, we need to teach our children to pray. Second, we need to help our children to cultivate a spirit of willingness to make a sacrifice and self-denial. To be continued

JOHN PAUL II, *Homily in Pune – Apostolic Pilgrimage to India*, February 10, 1986, 7.
VATICAN COUNCIL II, *Dogmatic Constitution on the Church Lumen Gentium*, ed. FLANNERY, A., New York 1996, 362, n.11.
JOHN PAUL II, *Familiaris Consortio*, Rome November 22, 1981, n. 38.
THE CATECHISM OF CATHOLIC CHURCH, New York 1994, 462, n. 1657.

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

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, February 12th for Family Day. Mass will be celebrated at 9:00 a.m.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST will be prepared by our Knights of Columbus today, **February 11th** after the 8:00 & 10:00 a.m. Masses. Come and enjoy a delicious breakfast with family and friends.

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY AND VESPERS today, **February 11th at 3:00 p.m.** in the Sacred Space at Abbotsford Regional Hospital Please join us in praying for the Doctors, Nurses, hospital workers, and most especially the patients and their families.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING: **Tuesday, February 13th at 8:00 p.m.** in St. Joachim room.

ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES celebrated at **8:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.**

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

MASS will be celebrated at the Cottage Pavilion on **Friday, February 16th at 4:00 p.m.**

CWL GENERAL MEETING: **Saturday, February 17th at 10:00 a.m.** in the gym.

WELCOME ALL KIDS ages 3 to 5 and children from grades 1 to 4 to our Kids for Jesus Program held on **Saturday, December 1st from 10:00am-12:00 pm.** in St. Joachim room.

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 Saturday 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.

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. Each competitor will get three warmup shots, followed by 15 throws from the free-throw line [12 ft for ages 9-11 and 15ft for 12-14]. Gold, silver and bronze medals will be awarded to the top three of each age and gender. A great time, fueled by enthusiasm and sportsmanship, is had by all participants. This event usually lasts between 1 to 1 1/2hrs. For questions please call Gord DeLong at 604-504-0323 or e-mail gdelong1@shaw.ca.



ST. ANN'S PRESCHOOL is now accepting registrations for September 2018-2019. Packages are available at the Parish Office. Come to our OPEN HOUSE AND REGISTRATION on **Sunday, February 18th** between **9am & 2pm.**

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. 12TH TO FEB. 18TH, 2018

Monday
9:00am Roger Parent, rip.

Tuesday
7:00pm Peter Francisco, rip.

Wednesday
8:00am Kim Howell, rip.
7:00 pm Sara Guandique, int.

Thursday
8:00am Marie Hlusek, rip.

Friday
8:00am Dorothy O'Reilly, int.
7:00pm Pantaleon Ilomin, Jr., int.

Saturday
9:00am Sharon & Carl Hehn, rip.
5:00pm Lena Costantino, rip.

Sunday
8:00am Doreen Sullivan, int.
10:00am Ray & Marlene Lisafeld, int.
Noon Intentions for the Parish

FEAST DAYS & READINGS
FEB. 12TH TO FEB. 18TH, 2018

Monday
James 1:1-11; Mark 8:11-13

Tuesday
James 1:12-18; Mark 8:14-21

Ash Wednesday
Joel 2:12-18; 2 Corinthians 5:20—6:2;
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday
Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Luke 9:22-25

Friday
Isaiah 58:1-9a; Matthew 9:14-15

Saturday
Isaiah 58:9b-14; Luke 5:27-32

Sunday—1st Sunday of Lent: Genesis 9:8-15; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:12-15

We witnessed the RITE OF ACCEPTANCE for our RCIA catechumens last week at 10:00 am Mass. Please pray for: M'aury Farrington, Samuel Meyer, Steve Neilson, Jaehaeng Kim, and Hyjung Youn. We welcomed candidates Ross McLeod and Shannon White who are coming into full communion with the Catholic Church. Next weekend they will attend the Rite of Election at Holy Rosary Cathedral

THE HOLY SEASON OF LENT: As we begin this season of preparation on **Wednesday, February 14th, ASH WEDNESDAY**, the Church reminds us of our need to intensify our spiritual lives with **increased prayer, fasting and almsgiving** so that we may better celebrate the fullness of our Catholic faith, namely the Easter message--Christ suffered, died, and rose for the salvation of every person. Therefore, in order to unify ourselves with what Christ did in the desert



to spiritually intensify His redemptive mission for forty days and forty nights, it is important that we are all clear with what the Church asks of its members with regards to **penance**.

The forms of penance that are asked other than personal sacrifices are **fasting and abstinence which are to be observed on Ash Wednesday & Good Friday**.

FASTING requires Catholics from 18 to 60 years old. The Church defines a fast as one regular meal and two smaller meals that do not exceed the amount of a regular meal; and no snacks.

ABSTINENCE requires Catholics from 14 years of age and up to abstain from eating meat on **all Fridays** in honour of the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Two Masses will be celebrated on **Ash Wednesday: 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.**

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.

YOUTH MINISTRY ACTIVITIES

Youth Alpha (Gr. 5-7 & Gr. 8-12) – Every Saturday 6-8pm

Youth Alpha focuses on our personal relationship with God and our faith and is a wonderful program for anyone wishing to develop a deeper connection. The program will run weekly at our normal time on Saturdays from 6-8pm. Alpha (for 18+, Parents, grandparents, etc) will also run at the same time (Contact Jody Garneau regarding the adult program and babysitting). Dinner is provided and there is no cost to attend! This would be a wonderful experience for the whole family and I highly encourage you to join us. **We will be dividing the youth into age groups for videos, discussions, games, and more.** Contact Kirsten at youthministry@stannsabbotsford.ca for more information.

Youth Ministry Study Team

We are excited to announce that on **Thursdays from 4-7pm** LifeTeen is starting a homework group. If there is a subject that you are struggling with and you would like some help feel free to come by and join us. Email Kirsten if you would like more information and let us know if you have a subject you would like us to cover.

- if anyone would interested in volunteering to help with this program please contact Kirsten also*

CHILDCARE SUBSTITUTE NEEDED

The Endow women's study group is looking for a substitute childcare helper to fill in occasionally if their regular childcare helpers are away/sick. The group will be meeting every **second Wednesday, from 9:30-11:30 am, from February-May.**

LECTOR & EMHC SCHEDULES are ready for pick up in the Sacristy.

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

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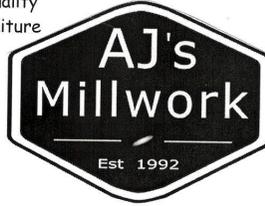
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