

FOCUS ON VOCATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD-BY FR. HIEN

The Church and Vocations

1.1 The Initiative

After more than a decade of having successfully written and published "the Basic Norms for Priestly Formation" by the recommendation of the First Synod of Bishops in 1967, there was a need to "revise it after the promulgation of the new Code of Canon Law, and to include in it some, indeed, very few emendations, as new circumstances require." The formation of the candidates has improved dramatically since the Second Vatican Council. However in recent years, with the tsunami of scandals concerning priests sexual abused and the constant changes of contemporary culture and society, there was, once again, an urge of returning to the theme of the priesthood and its formation. To respond to this need, the 1990 Synod of Bishops initiates the discussion to improve the formation of priesthood candidates who live in the world of rapid and constant evolution. The result was the superior work being produced called *Pastores Dabo Vobis* and the *Program of Priestly Formation*. "Attention has shifted from the question of the priest's identity to that connected with the process of formation for the priesthood and the quality of priestly life." This process of priestly formation rests on the four pillars of human, spiritual, intellectual, and pastoral formations. These pillars are the foundations on which the bishops of many individual dioceses produce their own program of priestly formation. Certainly, these pillars of formation also applicable to all human beings. Let us take a closer look at each of the dimensions.

1.2 Human Formation

Christian vocation is the communion between humanity and God in holiness. It is a dialogue which God initiates the calling and man responds to his invitation. In this dialogue there are two perspectives. The first concerns the objective pole – theological perspective of God who calls – and the second concerns the subjective pole – anthropological perspective of human who responds. It is the latter where we find inconsistency, immaturity, and human contradictory nature. Therefore it is important to prepare the motivation system in candidates to accommodate and respond to the call of God freely without being influenced from utilitarian motives but with selfless love and freedom of heart. This means that the candidate can integrate the two poles and live a life of self-transcendence and maturity.

Human formation then is the basis of all priestly formations. This statement made by the synod fathers suggested that it is necessary to recognize that human being consists of body and soul, that is, it involves all his aspects: physical, psychic, and spiritual. Such a formation must cover and harmonize all dimensions. The Church is ever more conscious of the fact that the discoveries of secular science, primarily psychology and sociology, can help form a person to a greater and purer human maturity.

The basic principle of human formation is based upon the incarnation of Christ who redeems and restores humanity in the "living image of God" (Gen 1:27). Even more so is the candidate of the priesthood who is called to share the mission of Christ. "In order that his ministry may be humanly as credible and acceptable as possible, it is important that the priest should mould his human personality in such a way that it becomes a bridge and not an obstacle for others in their meeting with Jesus Christ the Redeemer of humanity." The priest is an instrument who leads and introduces the people to God. Although he is "a conscious and free being, called to grow in a self-fulfillment leading to self-mastery and in freedom entailing responsibility," he rises

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

MASS will be celebrated at Bevan Village on **Tuesday, May 1st, at 10:00 a.m.**

SINGLE ROSE LADIES: Please join us for a Luncheon in memory of our good friend Matilde on **Wednesday, May 2nd, noon**, at Roseland Restaurant. Please RSVP to Joyce at 604-853-1424 by April 30th.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL MEETING: **Thursday, May 3rd, 7:00 p.m.** in St. Theresa's room.

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

First Friday ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT will be held on **Friday, May 4th** after morning Mass, ending with Prayers for Vocations at 6:30 p.m., Benediction at 6:45 p.m. and then Mass at 7:00 p.m. Please come and spend some quiet time with our Lord in prayer and thanksgiving.

St. Ann's Preschool PLANT AND HANGING BASKET SALE Please pick up your order on **Friday, May 4th.**

K4J (KIDS FOR JESUS): Saturday, May 5th from 10:00am to Noon in St. Joachim room.

St. Ann's Family Group invites all parishioners to a special **PRESENTATION: What About Me? Becoming the Parents Our Children Need - Saturday, May 5th at 7pm.** How do we grow in the face of caring for our children? Is there a reset button? Best-selling author and counsellor Deborah MacNamara is here to answer these questions and more. Deborah teaches on the relational-developmental approach of Dr. Gordon Neufeld. Last year's presentation was very popular - mark your calendars!

Admission is by donation (\$5 recommended) and childminding is available for children ages 3 and up. Please RSVP if you require childcare to stannsfamilygroup@gmail.com

St. James & St. Ann's School – REGIONAL COMMITTEE (REC) POSITIONS: There are currently two positions up to represent St. Ann's Parish on the Education Committee for St. James & St. Ann's Elementary School starting July 1, 2018.

Both of these positions are for one term (two years) with the potential to stay on for a maximum of four terms. If you are interested in putting your name forward, please pick up a Nomination Package from the school office. REC Nominating Committee: Claire Wilkie ecchair@stjameselementary.ca & Daniel Antcil vicechair@stjameselementary.ca

The deadline for nominations is Friday, May 11 at 3:00pm.

continued

above his own interest to look out and care for the people as the *Good Shepherd*. "The priest must never forget that he is a man chosen among men to be at the service of men."

MASS INTENTIONS FOR APRIL 30TH TO MAY 6TH, 2018

Monday	8:00am	Severo Pattugalan, rip.
Tuesday	7:00pm	Anne Oliferchuk, rip.
Wednesday	8:00am	Violet Camire, rip.
Thursday	8:00am	Edna Wagner, rip.
Friday	8:00am	Ed O'Reilly, rip.
	7:00pm	Monique Navarro, int.
Saturday	9:00am	Blanca Hluskova, int.
	5:00am	Harry Dodd, rip.
Sunday	8:00am	Susanna Fussi, rip.
	10:00am	Intentions of the Parish
	Noon	Shirley Rogers, rip.

CWL: Our Fashion Show & Ice Cream Social was another sell-out! We hope you enjoyed the delicious treats, sparkling conversation, and beautiful spring clothes. Our next venture is to create the Marian Display in the Parish Hall entrance from **May 1st- 17th**. We invite all parishioners to add their statue of Mary from home to our display. Please mark your name or initials on the bottom of it, add it to the display on or after the 1st and pick it up by the 17th. It's a beautiful way to honor our Holy Mother in the month of May.

YOUTH MINISTRY:

LifeTeen Social (Gr. 8-12) - May 5th from 6pm – 8pm

For students in Gr. 8-12 we will be having an Evening Social on May 5th from 6pm – 8pm. We will be playing a variety of games in our version of Youth Ministry Olympics! Hang out with your peers and have a great time! Snacks and beverages will also be provided.

LifeTeen Retreat: May 18th – 21st

Our LifeTeen team is going on retreat in May to Kawaka Lake. This year will be again joining with St. Mary's LifeTeen and I know it will be an incredible experience that will be hard to forget in the years to follow. We would like to invite all teens from grade 8-12 to our 2018 Lifeteen Retreat! Please fill in the application (available outside the Youth Ministry Office) and return it to us before May 4th!! **We only have spots for 21 teens so its first come first serve so make sure to register quickly!!!!**

The cost of the retreat is \$210 but if the cost of the retreat is a problem for you please let me know. I don't want anyone to miss the retreat because of it. We want you there!! Please email youthministry@stannsabbotsford.ca to save your spot or ask any questions!!

FEAST DAYS & READINGS APRIL 30TH TO MAY 6TH, 2018

Monday	Acts 14:5-18; John 14:21-26
Tuesday	Acts 14:19-28; John 14:27-31a
Wednesday-St. Anthanasius	Acts 15:1-6; John 15:1-8
Thursday-St. Philip & St. James	1 Corinthians 15:1-8; John 14:6-14
Friday	Acts 15:22-31; John 15:12-17
Saturday	Acts 16:1-10; John 15:18-21
Sunday—6th Sunday of Easter	Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48; 1 John 4:7-10; John 15:9-17

5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 29TH, 2018

Our **SPRING FAIR & GARAGE SALE** is coming up on **Friday May 25th and Saturday, May 26th**. The volunteer sign-up sheets will be in the church foyer ready for you to sign by **May 1st**. While we ask you to give of your time, we believe you will receive so much more in return. This is an important fundraiser for our church to support the Syrian refugee family we have sponsored, to put money aside to enlarge our facility one day and to welcome our beloved Abbotsford community to this event so that we can get to know each other better.

We have **containers** for those **BAKERS** who want to get started early. Come to the Parish Office to pick up as many as you like.



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PARENTS AND GRADUATES: Time is running short to submit your application for one of two \$1000 bursaries offered by St. Ann's CWL. If you are a qualified student, why look a gift horse in the mouth??? For those students applying for monies from other sources, the only additional requirement is a letter from Fr. Hien. As a graduating student it should be a goal for you to ease the financial burden of your post-secondary education on your parents.

FAITH & FRIENDS NIGHT! Is Faith Irrational? Ratzinger, Knowing, & the Leap of Faith—Thursday, May 24th at 7 - 9 pm at Ricky's Restaurant (32080 Clearbrook Road) Time for some adult conversation and a night out! Adults are invited to join us as we celebrate Pentecost and the end of the Easter Season with dessert, appetizers, coffee, and drinks.

St Ann's Adult Faith Formation is sponsoring an evening out with guest speaker Dr. Andrew Kaethler, Professor and Academic Dean at Catholic Pacific College, Langley. A recent convert to Catholicism, Andrew is an engaging and dynamic speaker. Enjoy Ricky's famous appetizers, drinks, or desserts. Cost: Each person can order & pay as they wish from the menu (no cover) RSVP: 604-852-5602 Ex. 227 (we will be in the buffet room)

Fr. Tran is celebrating his **25TH ANNIVERSARY TO THE PRIESTHOOD** on **Saturday, May 19th** at St. Matthews Parish, Surrey. Tickets are **NOW AVAILABLE** at St. Ann's parish office. \$20 per ticket.

Please remember in your prayers the repose of the souls of **ROSE HIBBS** (April 21st), **BEVERLEY REARDON** (April 23rd) and **JOHN PALMER** (January). Mr. Palmer's Funeral Mass will be held on **Friday, May 4th at 11:00 a.m.**



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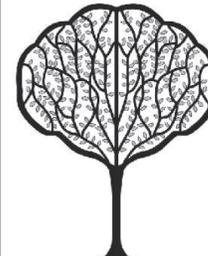


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