



THE GRRRAPEVINE

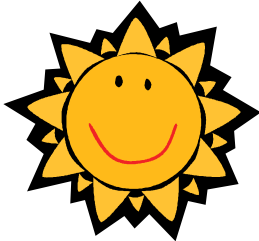
"I am the Vine, you are the branches" (Jn 15:5)

Number 20

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 2, 2006

SUMMERTIME SIESTA



Summer is almost here and with it comes the usual slow-down in parish ministry. A couple of items which might be of interest to you:

During July & August, the Grrapevine will only be published once a month. We'll resume biweekly publication in September.

If you are a Lector, Server or Extraordinary Minister of Communion, please check in at the sacristy before Sunday

Mass during the summer to see if your services are needed. We don't schedule these ministries during the summer, and it helps if people volunteer ahead of time, rather than Fr. Richard having to nab people at the last second.

A Sunday evening Mass is offered at 7:00 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Parish.

If you're traveling during the summer, please continue to contribute using your Sunday envelopes. As long as you place it in a collection basket somewhere in Canada, your Sunday envelope should make its way back to St. Mary's Parish!

Have a Safe & Happy Summer!!!

CREATION HIKERS

Our next hike is on Saturday July 8. This hike is relatively easy! We'll hike the Giscome Portage Trail near the Huble Homestead north of Prince George. The trail is 8 km one way and is flattish to gently rolling. The hike should take about 3 to 4 hours. And there's the opportunity to get a cold treat at the Huble Homestead General Store once we're done. We'll meet at 8 am in the St. Mary's Parking Lot (a bit earlier so we can hike in the cool morning). Don't forget to bring: sturdy shoes, bug spray (a necessity!), at least one litre of water, a small backpack, and a bag lunch. Phone Giselle at the parish office for more info.



We also have a more STRENUOUS hike tentatively planned for July 22 to Sugar Bowl or Viking Ridge. This is a mountain hike and not for the faint of heart or lungs or knees. For more info, contact Giselle at the parish office.

And of course we'll plan some for August, September and October as well. More information in subsequent editions of the Grrapevine.



Check out the bulletin board or website for pictures of our last hike to Ft. George Canyon!

LOOKING FOR GOOD SUMMER READING?

Many of us get most of our reading done during the summer. If you're looking for some good summer reading, why not try a few of these books:



Tuesdays with Morrie (Mitch Albom)—short but very touching love story

The 5 People you Meet in Heaven (Mitch Albom)—also in DVD or VHS—it's the little things we do in life that make an impact

The Purpose Driven Life (Rick Warren)—how to live a life based on divine values not on cultural values

I Don't Know How She Does It (Allison Pearson)—a humorous but poignant fictional story of a working mother trying to juggle her busy life

At Home in Mitford (Jan Karon)—first in a fictional series that chronicles the life of Fr. Tim, an Anglican priest in a small-town parish—soothing & uplifting

Our World in Transition: Making Sense of a Changing World (Diarmuid O'Murchu)—an interesting mix of science and spirituality which argues that we can't go back to the past, but must move ahead

MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Below is the synopsis of the June financial statement. The detailed financial statement is posted on the bulletin boards for your information.

Bank Balance:	84.79
DDF Balance:	172644.03
<u>Accts Receivable:</u>	<u>823.60</u>
Total Assets	173552.42



INCOME		EXPENSES	
Donations	17873.75	Administration	20146.40
Fees	550.00	Programs	1016.24
Programs	0	Operation/Maint	4293.54
Other	535.53	<u>Rental Operation</u>	<u>1822.89</u>
<u>Rentals</u>	<u>4300.00</u>	Total Expense	27279.07
Total Income	23259.28	Net Income	-4019.79

FINANCES, MAINTENANCE, ETC.

Our month end (and year end) balance doesn't look too good, but in fact, we are in a good financial position. We had three payroll periods in June instead of the usual two, which increased the June payment in that area. Also, we had a substantial bill to correct the payroll expenses for one employee. We have begun our summer maintenance projects, and that added to our costs for this month.

We gratefully received a substantial donation from the Knights of Columbus to help cover the costs of the roof repairs that need to be done this summer. Over the course of the summer, you may notice changes here and there as the maintenance work is completed. We need to care for our facilities in order to be able to use them ourselves as well as to hand them on to future generations of our community.

Thank you to all members of the parish for your continued support for the financial needs of our parish community. As we move into summer we continue to rely on your generosity.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

This past year our new council members have been learning the ropes and spending time in formation. We've been studying the US Bishop's Pastoral Letter on Stewardship, which has been very enlightening. Along the way we've also brainstormed ways in which we can improve communication within the parish, and ways in which we can foster a sense of community.

We'll reconvene again in September. If you have any questions or suggestions for ways in which we could communicate more effectively, let us know! We're always open to suggestions. Maybe you've got a bright idea on how we could enhance our sense of community? Let us know!

PASTORAL TEAM TIDBITS

Richard: The time in Fort Ware, as usual, was a time to visit elders, celebrate Eucharist, baptize, visit the sick, do some maintenance and work on the winter firewood supply. All in all, it was a full week. The next trip there will be near the end of August.

As school ends and summer begins, I look forward to a bit more time relaxing in the garden or the workshop, as well as preparing for the fall in the parish. It looks like an exciting time coming up from September on.

Who knows, there may even be time for a hike or two between weddings and other celebrations. I wish everyone a wonderful summer.

Giselle: No more Lay Formation! RCIA and Baptism Preparation for Older Children is also finished for the summer. So, there's a bit more time to look ahead and plan activities for the fall.

I'll be around Prince George most of the summer, taking a week off here and there to do some local hiking, camping, berry-picking and canning. I'm also expecting visits from my mother, father and sister this summer (not all at the same time though). They should keep me busy entertaining and showing them the sights.

SEMINARIAN TIDBITS

Vener and Rector: My email has not been working the past couple of weeks, so I have not had any recent news from Vener and Rector. They started classes again two weeks ago, and are happy to be back at university with their friends and classmates. Vener's father was in hospital, so he planned to spend weekends at home with his family. Rector was doing weekend ministry in his home parish during June, and will be involved in weekend ministry in a Manila parish near the university beginning in July. Please continue to hold them in prayer as they complete their academic requirements for ordination and prepare for their return to Canada.

WEBSITE UPDATES

Our website is a great place to find information on what's happening in the parish and what's coming up. We have photos of past events as well as pdf copies of past issues of the Sunday Bulletin and the Grrapevine. Check us out!

<http://www.geocities.com/saintmaryspg/>

MOVING?
AWAY FROM THE PARISH?
INTO THE PARISH?

If you're moving away this summer, Farewell and Good Luck! Please let us know your new address so we can forward income tax receipts to you.

If you're moving into the parish, Welcome! We hope that you will feel welcome in our community. We'd love for you to introduce yourself to the Pastoral Team. Give us a phone call, or drop by the parish office. And please, fill out a parish registration form so we know who you are!

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

Please remember the sick and suffering in our community and families, especially:



Marvin Lane
Josephine Nykoluk
Joseph & Frances Glasser
(Kathy Labonte's parents)
Anne Beaudette
(Fr. Richard's mother)
Alfredo doCouto
Jennifer Willocks
Kay McEwan
Don Binnie
Romulo Sabacan
(Vener's father)
Elaine Hodgson

REJOICING &
REMEMBERING

We welcomed the following member in the sacrament of Baptism:

Bridget Alexander

No weddings the past couple of weeks, but watch for the weddings and anniversaries at the end of the month!

ORDINARY TIME—SUMMER

A great deal will happen in people's lives during the span of weeks that lies ahead, in the season of Ordinary Time. Graduations, weddings, transition times, summer vacations, seminars, travel, work, play, school, business meetings, plans and projects, hellos and goodbyes, births, deaths, and everything in between. Crops will grow and be harvested. The days will lengthen, then will grow shorter again. And "the mystery of Christ in all its aspects" will find expression in the praying Church.

Ordinary Time invites us to discover connections between the events of our own lives and God's Word revealing in Sacred Scripture and celebrated in the liturgy. By attending to the scripture and the liturgical action, we find our story in God's story. We find it most especially in the story of Jesus. The mystery of Christ is our own mystery, for we are members of his body, the Church. St. Augustine understood this, and urged the newly baptized to identify with the mystery of Christ, in these words:

If you are the body and members of Christ, then it is your sacrament that is placed on the table of the Lord; it is your sacrament that you receive. To that which you are you respond "Amen" ("yes, it is true!") and by responding to it you assent to it. For you hear the words "the Body of Christ" and respond "Amen". Be then a member of the Body of Christ, that your Amen may be true.

We say a true Amen when we live as the Body of Christ. Those who carefully follow the unfolding of Ordinary Time will find their discipleship challenged and strengthened by the actions, encounters, miracles, and teachings of Jesus. Part of Ordinary Time this summer will be devoted to the Bread of Life discourse from the Gospel of John, inviting reflection on Jesus and the Eucharist.

With the coming of summer, many things change in our daily lives and schedules. No matter what our experience of the season, the liturgy continues to call the community to prayer, praise and thanksgiving. The liturgy and season roll on, like an ever-flowing stream. Schedules may vary. Personnel may shift. Attendance may shift, but the liturgy continues. The same can be said for the celebration of the others sacraments. Conversion knows no season; neither does sin, or sickness or love. Therefore the Church must always be ready to celebrate the liturgy, as the community lives its life. (*adapted from Sourcebook for Sundays and Seasons*).

VESPERS

We will not be celebrating Sunday Vespers during July and August. We'll resume our celebrations on the third Sunday of September (the 17th). Until then, have a good summer!

BAPTISM PREPARATION
FOR INFANTS

Our next session will be on Tuesday, July 11, at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room. We probably won't have another until sometime in August.

FAIR TRADE COFFEE

Fair Trade coffee will now be available after the Sunday morning Masses on the 3rd Sunday of the month. Come and have a taste and buy some of this delicious coffee. Your support helps Third World farmers receive a living wage.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The religious formation of our children is very important and is the responsibility of the entire Christian community.

Do you have a good rapport with children? Would you be willing to help us form them in their Catholic faith?

We are looking for religious education catechists for the fall. Maybe think it over during the summer... You don't need a theology degree!!

LISTENING CENTRES

The Listening Centres are taking a break over the Summer, but will resume in the Fall. Stay tuned!

RESULTS OF THE THEO TIDBITS SURVEY

Thanks to all of you who filled out the Theo-Tidbits survey over the last couple of weekends. We received about 90 surveys and have tabulated the results. We'll try to keep your preferences in mind as we plan our fall schedule!

★★★★★	Very Popular!!	Votes		Votes
	How to read the Bible	39	The Sacred & the Secular	18
	World Religions	34	Theology of Church	17
	Moral Reasoning & Conscience	33	Old Testament Overview	17
	Faith & Reason	31	Common Ground (Liberal/Cons. Dialogue)	16
	Sin & Grace	29	Annulments & Divorce	16
	Writing your Will/Living Will	29	Liturgy (Overview)	16
	The End of Time	28	Modern Church History (1565 to present)	15
	Angels	27	War & Peace	15
	Miracles & Apparitions	26	Bioethics	15
	Women in Ministry	25		
	Vision of the Church Today	23	★★★	So-So
	Mary in the Life of the Church	23	Holy Spirit	14
	Early Church History (30 to 800 AD)	23	Liturgical Art & Environment	14
	Medieval Church History (800 to 1565 AD)	22	Johannine Literature (Gospel & Letters of John)	14
	Sacraments	22		14
	Creation & Evolution	22	Letters of Paul	13
	Trinity	21	Holidays: Secular or Religious	13
	Our Christian Siblings	21	Paschal Mystery (Death/Resurrection of Jesus)	12
	Stages of Faith Development	21	Death Penalty & Euthanasia	12
	Book of Revelation	21	Theology of the Priesthood	11
	Planning a Funeral	20	Theology of the Laity	11
			Stewardship 101	11
★★★	Popular		Matt/Mark/Luke (Gospels)	11
	God is Love	19	Popes & the Papacy	10
	Roman Catholic > Latin Catholic	19		
	The Saints	19	★	Not Very Popular
	Pastoral Care to the Sick & Dying	19	Eco-Theology	9
	New Testament (Overview)	19	Planning A Wedding	9
	Harry Potter: Friend or Fiend?	19	Collaborative Ministry	8
	Jesus the Christ	18	Theology of Incarceration (Imprisonment)	7
	Overview of Vatican II	18	Liturgical Seasons	7
	Sexual Ethics	18	What is the RCIA?	7

Now, don't lose hope if your favourite topic is only "So-So" or even "Not Very Popular". We'll try to pick and choose across the popularity categories and across thematic topics as well (e.g. something from Scripture, something from Theology, something from Church, etc.).

We'll work on the schedule over the summer. Keep your eyes on the bulletin board and on the Grapevine for times, dates and places. In order to reach the broadest audience possible, we'll probably rotate the dates of the sessions. For example, the first trilogy might be on Tuesday evenings in September. The second trilogy might be on Wednesday evenings in October, etc. It'll be interesting trying to juggle schedules and venues!

