



# THE GRRRAPEVINE

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

Number 43

SOLEMNITY OF THE BODY & BLOOD OF CHRIST

June 10, 2007

## PARISH CAMP-OUT



Did you know that the Diocese has a piece of property out at West Lake? Yup, it's true. As a parish, we haven't made use of it recently, but we thought it was high time we did something out there. So, on the Sunday/Monday of the July long weekend (July 1 & 2), we have booked the property for a St. Mary's Parish camp-out. After Mass on Sunday, we're all invited to come out to the property and pitch our tent or trailer or RV on the meadow and stay awhile. More details as the date comes closer. Mark it on your calendars NOW!!!

## ANNIVERSARY MASS



Our next Anniversary Mass for those couples who celebrate anniversaries in June & July, will take place on Saturday, July 21 at the 7:00 p.m. Mass. Goodies will be served in the Conference Room afterwards.

When we did the parish survey about these celebrations, we asked for the month you were married. If you did not fill out one of the surveys, please come and join us for this wonderful celebration. We want to celebrate your commitment with you.

## PARISH PHOTO DIRECTORIES!



The Parish Photo Directories are here!! And they are available for pick-up in the back hallway of the Church. For those of you who had your photo taken, but who did not order a photo package from the company, you still receive a free 8x10 photograph which is included with your directory in the envelope. Only those parishioners who submitted their own photograph or had their photograph taken by the company photographer will receive a complimentary copy of the photo directory. We do have a few extras available for sale. If you are interested, please sign up on the bulletin board form.

## CORPUS CHRISTI

Pope Urban IV first extended the feast of Corpus Christi to the universal Church in 1246. It originated at a time when reception of the sacrament was rare among the people. This gave rise to an already growing sense of devotion to the Eucharist as it was viewed by the faithful during the elevation at Mass.



Over time, this came to be regarded as a principle means of obtaining grace; i.e., seeing (adoring) the Eucharist rather than receiving it in Holy Communion. Today's solemnity combines the medieval feast of the Body of Christ with the nineteenth-century feast of the Blood of Christ. In so doing, the Church proclaims for us the ideal regard that we should have for both species of the sacrament.

At the same time, the Church continues to maintain the importance of Eucharistic devotion. Stemming from the celebration of the Eucharist, in which the Church does what Christ commanded—eat and drink his body and blood in remembrance of him—the Church also honours and adores Christ reserved in the Blessed Sacrament.

## CREATION HIKERS



Our next hike will take place on Saturday, June 23. We'll hike the trail at Eskers Provincial Park. It's 12 km of rolling terrain. People who want to do a shorter hike (5 km) have that option. We'll meet at the school parking lot at 8:30 a.m.

There will be more hikes scheduled throughout the summer. Keep an eye on the Grrapevine and they will be announced. If you have a favourite hike that you would like to share with us, call the parish office and let Giselle know.

Check the bulletin boards for posters of our previous hikes.

## NEW TO THE PARISH??

Are you new to the parish? We'd love to hear from you!! Please introduce yourself after Mass, or fill out a registration form on the bulletin boards.

## PLANT SALE



The latest figures suggest that the proceeds from our Second Annual Plant Sale raised almost \$3000 for St. Vincent de Paul. Thanks for all your help & support!!

## PASTORAL TEAM

Richard: Fr. Richard is somewhere in the Philippines, hopefully having a relaxing and enjoyable holiday. We don't expect to hear anything from him while he is away, but expect him back in a couple of weeks.

Giselle: I'm back from my 5 week jaunt around Germany, Austria and Hungary. It was an awesome trip and the weather was hot and sunny for almost the entire time. We jumped straight from late winter in Canada to early summer in Europe! Along the way, we managed to crawl into a few caves, slide down a salt mine chute, climb the Alps (with the help of a tramway) and visit a concentration camp. It's good to be home but I'm still trying to deal with all of the stuff on my desk!

## LAY FORMATION WANTS YOU!!

The current session of the Lay Formation Program in Prince George is coming to an end, and a new session will be starting in September.

The Lay Formation Program is a two year program, held one weekend a month for ten months each year. The focus is on learning more about our faith, the teaching of the Church, Scripture, Theology, ministry, liturgy, etc. It is a rich and exciting journey discovering in a deeper way what it means to be a member of the Church and a disciple of Jesus Christ.

The object of the program is to help participants grow in their faith as well as in understanding of their faith. For some, this means a greater involvement in the ministry of the parish. For others, it means involvement in other areas of our broader community. In any case, ministry is not the main focus of the program; growth in faith is the main focus.

Is your curiosity piqued? There are brochures available at the main entrance of the church in the brochure holders. You can also contact Susan Campbell at the Diocesan Pastoral Centre if you would like to get more information from the director of the program. There are application forms available—just ask Fr. Richard for one (he has them in the sacristy). It is our hope that we can fill the upcoming session again—there is room for up to 20 participants in each program. So, if interested, register early.

As well... you might get a tap on the shoulder from a member of the pastoral team or perhaps from previous participants in the Lay Formation programme, inviting you to consider this grow experience. Give it some thought!



## FEAST OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS



This solemnity is observed each year on the third Friday after Pentecost. It celebrates the great love of God shown to us through the heart of Jesus. Although devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus became widespread in the later Middle Ages, its origin can be traced to the early Church fathers. Then, various forms of expression of the devotion flourished from the thirteenth to the seventeenth centuries. For example, medieval devotion to the Sacred Heart was linked to mysticism, and from the thirteenth to the sixteenth centuries, the devotion was more private than public. In the sixteenth century, the devotion moved from mysticism to asceticism, with formulated prayers and special exercises. Then in the seventeenth century, it took on a new vigour thanks to the efforts of Saint John Eudes and Saint Margaret Mary Alcoque. Finally, it appears in the universal liturgical calendar in 1856.

This year the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is celebrated on Friday, June 15.

## FRUITS OF THE HARVEST



Do you have fruit trees or bushes in your backyard? Do you have time to pick all of the fruit? If you're already dreading the harvest season, because you have too much fruit and don't know what to do with it... Well, we have a solution that might benefit everybody!!!

There are some people in the parish who love to pick fruit or berries. And there are others who love to make jams, jellies or pies from the aforementioned fruit and berries. If we put all three of these groups together (provider, picker & preserver) we could have some fun and use our gifts to harvest God's gifts to us!

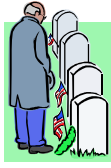
We thought that maybe those of you who have fruit trees or bushes that are too much for you to handle, could phone the parish office and leave your name and number and the type of fruit that is overwhelming you. We could then post this information on the bulletin boards or here in the Grapevine and then the pickers and preservers could contact you and arrange to harvest your crop.

In return, the pickers/preservers could give a portion of their product to the provider and a portion could go to St. Vincent de Paul. Let us know what you think!!!

## REJOICING & REMEMBERING

In faith and in the sure hope of the resurrection we bid farewell to:

Kay McEwen



## VESPERS

Next Sunday, June 17, we will celebrate Evening Vespers at 4:30 p.m. Vespers is part of the Liturgy of the Hours, also known as the prayer of the Church and is celebrated at different times of the day. Come and join us as we gather to pray this wonderful prayer.



## MINISTRIES IN OUR COMMUNITY PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

The role of the Pastoral Associate is flexible and to a certain extent fuzzy. Even the name can change from parish to parish: pastoral associate, pastoral assistant, parish assistant, parish worker. The role of the pastoral associate/parish assistant can range from someone who orders sacristy supplies to someone who has responsibility for different parish programmes. Another factor that comes into play is the background and theological education of the pastoral associate. Within our own diocese, we have some people with no theological experience whatsoever, some who have taken Lay Formation, and others who have a theology degree. Finally, the role of the pastoral associate/parish assistant, depends to a large extent upon the pastor, and the pastor's vision of the parish and pastoral team.

Having said all that, within our own parish, at this time, the role of the pastoral associate is to assist the pastor in caring for the pastoral needs of the parish. A large component of that ministry includes the faith education of children and adults within our community, and those who might wish to become Catholic. At the same time, the role of the pastoral associate is not to "do" everything, but to help the pastor to draw forth the giftedness of the parish community. "People of God, become who you are!"



## LOAVES AND FISHES

The word "eucharist" comes from a Greek word meaning "thanksgiving". It is the central sacrament of Roman Catholic life. Participating in the rite links us with those who shared the Last Supper. It links us with the earliest church, which remembered Christ at a common meal in believers' homes, and with the Church universal throughout the world under the leadership and guidance of our Holy Father, the pope, the bishop of Rome. In today's second reading, we hear how Paul received the tradition and passed it on to the Corinthians.

Roman Catholic tradition typically has given a Eucharistic interpretation to the miracle of the loaves and fishes. The connection is fairly clear in John, but not as evident in Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Many biblical scholars also see a relationship between Jesus' multiplication of the loaves and fishes and the prophet Elisah's feeding people in Gilgal in 2 Kings 4:44. Both the multiplication miracles and the Eucharist nourish the hungry.

It is worth considering the second reading in its larger

context of 1 Cor 1:17-34. In these verses, Saint Paul chides the Corinthians for permitting some members of the church to feast while others go hungry. "The Eucharist is not a Eucharist," Saint Paul is saying, "when the food is not shared equally." In most parishes, the Body and Blood of Christ are distributed equally, so the issue Saint Paul encountered does not arise. However, members of a congregation may feel left out in other ways. Are people with disabilities welcomed into ministries, or do they encounter obstacles? Is it possible, for example, for a wheelchair-bound person to serve as a lector? As we share the Eucharist, let us be sure to welcome all.



- Why do you think that Christ asked that the people sit in groups of fifty?
- How does the Eucharist nourish you?
- Describe how the second reading enhances your understanding of the Eucharist.

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BAPTISM PREPARATION  
FOR INFANTS



When parents ask to have their children baptized, they are accepting the responsibility of training their children in the faith, of helping them to know God and to live as disciples of Jesus Christ within the community of the Church.

The Church places such importance on the sacrament of Baptism, the first sacrament of initiation, that parents are required to take a preparation program before their children are baptized.

At St. Mary's our program consists of two evenings of about 1 1/2 hours, where we explore the meaning of baptism and the responsibilities of the parents, godparents and community. Our next preparation will be on July 9 & 10 at 7:00 p.m. in the parish office meeting room.

Please call the parish office at 564-4097 to register.

WEBSITE

Our website has lots of cool information on past and future parish events.

[www.geocities.com/saintmaryspg](http://www.geocities.com/saintmaryspg)

OUR WORSHIP SPACE: THE ALTAR (PART 1)

The word "altar" derives from the Latin altare (from adolere—burn), and came to be used in the early Christian church to designate the table on which was placed the bread and wine for eucharist. The Greek language used the word thysiasterion (table of sacrifice) to designate an altar. Paul speaks of the "table of the Lord" (1 Corinthians 10:21), and it is at a table that Jesus foretells his death, giving us the sacrificial gift that we will celebrate in his memory until we assemble at the banquet in heaven.

The altar, then, is a symbol of Christ in the midst of the assembly of believers, a table dedicated for both the sacrifice and the paschal banquet.

The altar was a simple free-standing table for the first few centuries of Christian worship, but it was soon affected by changing styles in church architecture and a changing theology of Christian worship. Ornate architectural detail, a more elaborate liturgy performed largely by the clergy and the placing of the altar on the rear wall of the apse meant that the altar was no longer the table of the assembly. It was primarily the resting place for the bread and wine for eucharist, the missal, candles, prayer cards, flowers and, later, the tabernacle.

The Second Vatican Council (1962-1965) revised the norms relating to the altar and used the earliest tradition of the church as its guide. Following this lead, the United States Bishops' Committee on the Liturgy wrote: "The altar, the holy table, should be the most noble, the most beautifully designed and constructed table the community can provide. It is the common table of the assembly, a symbol of the Lord.... standing free, approachable from every side." (Environment and Art in Catholic Worship, #71)

The altar must be a piece of furniture of such beauty that it honors the holy action that occurs there, of such stature that it is worthy of the mystery celebrated there, of such eloquent simplicity that it invites the people of God to participate in a most extraordinary gift of sacrificial love. The altar stands as a worthy symbol of Christ and a holy table where God's people are nourished for their pilgrimage.



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THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY'S

Sun June 10	Mon June 11	Tues June 12	Wed June 13	Thurs June 14	Fri June 15	Sat June 16
9 am—Mass 11 am—Mass	7 am—Morning Prayer 7:20 am—Mass	7 am—Morning Prayer 7:20 am—Mass	7 am—Morning Prayer 7:20 am—Mass	7 am—Morning Prayer 7:20 am—Mass  7 pm—Pr. Group	7 am—Morning Prayer 7:20 am—Mass	7:00 pm—Mass