

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 9/10, 2006

DONATIONS

Regular Envelopes.....	2,592.00
<u>Loose</u>	<u>265.25</u>
Total	2,857.25

Rel.Ed. Nov. Total..... 432.00

Diocesan Appeal.....2,883.00

St. Vincent de Paul Hamper collection total will be listed in next week's bulletin.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

We meet Tuesday evenings at 6:30 in the school. The teaching mass scheduled for last week has been postponed until after Christmas.

MAINTENANCE/HANDYMAN WANTED

A Maintenance/Handyman is required by St. Mary's Parish to perform basic maintenance skills in carpentry, servicing electrical systems and plumbing on an "as needed" basis. Tasks will also include handyman functions such as snow removal, lawn maintenance, yard cleanup and gardening, which may be done by others under the direction of the maintenance/handyman. For details of work and remuneration contact Moe Gannon at 964-6922.

SHEPHERD'S CORNER

We are seeking donations of candies and other sweet treats for our Open House Christmas Party on Dec. 19th. Thank you for your continued generosity and support of Shepherd's Corner. "A friend is someone who knows the song in your heart and can sing it back to you when you've forgotten the words". "Good friends are like stars. Even though you don't see them every day, you know they're there".

When somebody offers you "a penny for your thoughts" and you put your 2 cents in....What happens to the other penny?

Do Lipton's Tea employees take coffee breaks?

MORNING PRAYER 7:00AM WEEKDAYS

MORNING MASS 7:20 AM WEEKDAYS

Sat. Dec. 9	7:00pm	RIP Edward Burby
Sun. Dec. 10	9:00am	For the people of our Parish
	11:00am	RIP Gavin Mohns
Mon. Dec. 11	7:20am	RIP Henri Bachand
Tue. Dec. 12	7:20am	RIP Frances Glasser
Wed. Dec. 13	7:20am	RIP Marie Gervais
Thu. Dec. 14	7:20am	INT Kay McEwen
Fri. Dec. 15	7:20am	RIP Frances Glasser
	9:00am	School Mass
Sat. Dec. 16	7:00pm	RIP Frances Glasser
Sun. Dec. 17	9:00am	RIP Pearl & Lawrence Benoit
	11:00am	For the People of our Parish

YOUTH MINISTRY

PARISH YOUTH – The St. Mary's Youth and Young Adult Groups will be caroling this Sunday (10th) We meet at 6:00pm sharp in the conference room and head out caroling after a little practice! Pick up time is 9:30pm.

YOUNG ADULTS - Anyone Grades 12 and up is invited to meet after Youth Group the 1st, 2nd & 3rd Sunday of each month at 8:30pm We meet in St. Mary's Gym foyer.

UPDATE The Young Adult Group is also invited to join us for caroling on the 10th.

**YOUR YOUTH MINISTRY COORDINATOR,
ROBERTA.**

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS

RCIA meets Mondays, at 7:00 p.m. in the conference room. For more information call Giselle at the parish office 564-4097. This Monday, December 11, we will have no RCIA session. Instead, we will gather at the Domano Renewal Centre on Tuesday, December 12 at 7:30 p.m. for an Advent Prayer Evening with Bishop Gerry. Come and join us.

LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME TO ME!

The Children's Liturgy of the Word is celebrated at the 11:00 a.m. Mass on Sundays.

RAINBOWS

RAINBOWS peer support program for children, teens and adults who have experienced a loss in their lives because of death, divorce, separation, abandonment or any painful transition in their family is now accepting applications for the sessions beginning January 11th. REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS December 15th. To receive a form and schedule please contact Ursula Morris at 563-5584 or Sr. Margaret Quinn at 562-2817. Fax 562-5827

today !!! DON'T MISS IT!!!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ANNUAL PASTA SUPPER DOORS OPEN AT 3:30, SUPPER AT 4:30

Our annual (& yummy) Pasta Supper hosted by the Knights of Columbus takes place **TODAY (SUNDAY)** Your cost for this superb meal is one unwrapped child's gift, which will be sorted and wrapped by our Youth Group and donated to St. Vincent de Paul to be included in their Christmas hampers. This is always a great meal, as well as a worthy cause, so plan to attend with your family and friends. Please call the parish office to let us know how many to expect...we need numbers for the meal preparation.

INVITATION FROM FR. KEN FORSTER

Fr. Ken invites everyone to come and have a cup of Free Trade Coffee (& goodies) after Mass in the conference room. There will be a short and very interesting video about his work in Africa. See you all there.

DOMANO RENEWAL CENTRE- 964-4475

Please call 964-4475 to register for all programs.
COUNSELING

Counseling services at the Renewal Centre for couples and individuals offered by Brian Bulgin.

Dec.12 7:30pm

Advent Prayer Evening

During Advent we prepare to celebrate the first coming of Jesus. We look forward to His Second Coming and we foster His coming within us. Refreshments will follow in Bethany dining room. No Fee. Presentor: Bishop Gerry Wiesner, OMI

Wed. Dec. 20th. 10:00am to 11:30am

Please join us for Christmas coffee
and Open House.

Bethany House # 110.

RSVP, please call 964-4475.

DOMANO RENEWAL CENTRE

The centre is comprised of the Domano Chapel and four attractive houses – a peaceful setting for educational and retreat experiences. Wholesome delicious meals are served buffet-style to groups. For individuals making a private retreat, cooking facilities are available. All of our guest facilities are warm, clean and comfortable.

Programs at the Centre are both educative and experiential in nature, characterized by a contemplative attitude, encouraging participants to develop an awareness of God's presence and action in their lives and to respond to that God in a healthy and life-giving way.

PREPARING THE WAY, FINDING THE WAY

Advent is a season when you feel either “into it” or not. There doesn't seem to be any middle ground. We are being told to prepare the way, which is right and good. However, we all need to find the way; the right way. There are a lot of distractions out there: gift buying, parties, card lists, food. Ironically if they are viewed properly some of these distractions can remind us of the true meaning of Advent, bringing our hearts closer to God. The readings on this 2nd Sunday of Advent encourage us to find the right way. If we rely on God, each Advent day will “prepare the way”, the way directly into our hearts.

WEBSITE

If you've been reading **The Grrapevine** newsletter, you know that we have developed a website for the parish. Check it out!!! www.geocities.com/saintmaryspg

ARE YOU MISSING OUT ON PARISH NEWS?

We publish our Grrapevine Newsletter every two weeks (more or less). It's a place for information on what the Pastoral Team is up to, a place for education and a place for parish information. We can't fit everything into the bulletin, so a lot of it goes into the Grrapevine. If you haven't picked up a copy, give it a try. It's a nice, bright gold colour!

BAPTISM PREPARATION FOR OLDER CHILDREN

We have revised our baptism preparation program for older children. Parents who wish to have their child baptized (age 5 to 12) are asked to register their child in the Religious Education program. During the year they will have special sessions that will prepare them for baptism. Children in Grade 2 and up will also receive preparation for Confirmation and First Communion. Please phone Giselle at the parish office.

CATHOLIC COUNSELING SERVICES AVAILABLE FOR INDIVIDUALS, COUPLES AND FAMILIES

Sr. Tarianne deYonker, OP, a Registered Marriage and Family Therapist and Social Worker, can be contacted at 964-4424) Monday through Friday, 8:30-4:30 for an appointment. One need not be Catholic to receive these services. Care will be taken to make the service affordable. Sessions take place at the Diocesan Centre Counselling Office.

DISTANCE EDUCATION

St. Francis Xavier University Continuing and Distance Education Department offers courses in theology, ministry, spirituality and ;liturgy by distance education. Please call toll free 1-877-867-5562 or email: diplomainministry@stfx.ca for an information package. Website: www.stfx.ca/continuinged/Ministry.html

Temporary Full-time Elementary Teacher position in Vanderhoof

Catholic Independent Schools requires an Elementary Teacher at St. Joseph's Catholic School in Vanderhoof. This is a temporary full-time position from January 8th, 2007 – June 30th, 2007. Applicants must hold, or be eligible for a British Columbia College of Teachers Certificate. A commitment to Catholic education is essential and some background in Religious education is desirable. A letter of application accompanied by supporting documents and the names of three references, including your Pastor, should be forwarded by **December 11th, 2006** to the following address:

Superintendent of Schools

Catholic Independent Schools, Box 7000, Prince George, BC V2N 3Z2

Fax 250-964-2101 Email – cis@pgdiocese.bc.ca

There is nothing more beautiful in the world than a happy, healthy and wise old person.

