

CHRISTMAS, 2006

DONATIONS

Regular Envelopes.....	3,495.75
Loose	409.75
Total	3,905.50

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS DINNER

We will host Christmas Dinner, for those in need, Dec. 25th at Sacred Heart Auditorium. Dinner will be served Christmas Day from 11:30am to 1:00 pm. A work bee is planned on Sunday Dec. 24th from Noon until 2 pm. Potato peelers and turkey carvers are especially needed. Dessert donations are very much appreciated and will be accepted at the hall during the work bee. Volunteers are needed Christmas Day from 10:30 am until 2:30 pm for serving, dish washing and hall cleanup. To ensure sufficient help, please confirm your assistance by calling Bernie at 564-3416

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

We meet Tuesday evenings at 6:30 in the school.

MORNING PRAYER 7:00AM WEEKDAYS

MORNING MASS 7:20 AM WEEKDAYS

Sun. Dec.24	9:00am	RIP Deceased Oblates
	11:00am	For the People of Our Parish
	7:00pm	For the Children of St. Mary's
	9:00pm	For the People of Our Parish
	Midnight	RIP Jack Santos
Mon. Dec. 25	10:00am	RIP Amelia McGraw
Tue. Dec. 26	10:00am	INT Chantelle Desharnais
Wed. Dec. 27	7:20am	RIP Noeleen Courtney
Thu. Dec. 28	7:20am	RIP Marie Gervais
Fri. Dec. 29.	7:20am	RIP Fe & Arnolso Perez
Sat. Dec. 30	7:00pm	RIP Andrew Kenway
Sun Dec. 31	9:00am	RIP Deceased Oblates
	11:00am	INT Lou Veeken
	7:00pm	For the People of Our Parish
	9:00pm	For the People of Our Parish
	Midnight	RIP Jack Santos

YOUTH MINISTRY

PARISH YOUTH – What an awesome end to the 2006 year last weekend! Youth from Sacred Heart, Christ Our Saviour and St. Mary's partied the evening away! No Youth Group on the 24th and 31st due to the Christmas Holidays. We are back to schedule on January 7th.

YOUNG ADULTS - Anyone Grade 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** *** No Young Adults on the 24th and 31st due to the Christmas Holidays. We reconvene on the 7th of January.

ST. MARY'S YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS WISH EVERYONE A SAFE AND JOYFUL CHRISTMAS SEASON! SEE YOU IN 2007!!!

YOUR YOUTH MINISTRY COORDINATOR, ROBERTA.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS

RCIA meets Mondays, at 7:00 p.m. in the conference room. There will be no RCIA on Monday, January 1st. For more information call Giselle at the parish office 564-4097.

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.

2007 DONATION ENVELOPES

Your donation envelopes for 2007 are available at the back of the church today. Please pick yours up. If you do not use envelopes but wish to start, please call the parish office. By using numbered envelopes, you will receive an Income Tax receipt for your donations at the end of the year. Income Tax receipts for 2006 will be mailed out in January for all donations received this year. PLEASE NOTE: Donations dated 2006 but not received until 2007 cannot be receipted until next year. The law requires that these be treated as 2007 donations. One exception is mailed donations. The date received is deemed to be the cancellation date stamp on the envelope.

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.

Retreat Day for Artists (Limit 10 Participants)

Sat. Jan.6 9:30am to 4:00pm

Bring a lunch, beverages will be provided. Fee \$15.

Facilitators: Joy Cotter, Jean Brandel and Donna Dolan RSCJ

The Second Half of Life – Book Discussion

Wednesdays, Jan 24 to Mar 28, 2007 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Fee: \$50.00 (10 sessions)

Facilitator: Brian Bulgin, MEd. Book required. Purchased separately.

Register by January 10th so that books can be ordered in time for you to purchase.

Retreat for Men

Presentor: Bishop gerry Wiesner OMI

Fri. Jan.26 with light supper 6pm to Sat. Jan.27 after supper.

Fee: Live-In \$100. Commuter \$75. Deposit of \$35. with registration by Jan.22.

SHARON'S CHRISTMAS PRAYER

She was five, sure of the facts and recited them with slow solemnity, convinced every word was a revelation.

She said "They were poor, they had only peanut butter and jelly sandwiches to eat, and they went a long way from home without getting lost".

"The lady rode a donkey, the man walked and the baby was inside the lady".

"They had to stay in a stable with an ox and an ass (hee-hee),

But the Three Rich Men found them because a star lit the roof.

Shepherds came and you could pet the sheep but not feed them.

Then the baby was borned. And do you know who the baby was?"

Her eyes inflated to the size of silver dollars....

"The baby was JESUS!"

She jumped in the air, whirled around, dove into the sofa and buried her head under the cushion..... which is the proper response to the Good News of the Incarnation.

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.

SINGLE AGAIN

The topic for the **Single Again** support program for January: "My Life Needs Meaning Again". Adults who are single again after separation, divorce or death of a spouse will gather on **Thursday, 11 January** from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. at Sacred Heart in the Lower Church. The facilitator is Sr. Tarianne DeYonker, OP.

PARISH PHOTO DIRECTORY

Did you miss the photography sessions? Did you plan to submit one of your own photos so that you too can be part of the parish directory? Well, there's still time!!! If you submit your own photo (up to 4"x 6") and a fee of \$13 by Friday December 29, you can have your photo included in the directory AND you will receive a copy of the directory as well. Hurry, before it's too late!!!

A CHRISTMAS TREE BLESSING

Holy Creator of trees:

Bless with your abundant grace this, our Christmas tree as a symbol of joy. May its evergreen branches be a sign of Your never fading promises.

May its colourful lights and ornaments call us to decorate with love our home and our world.

May the gifts that surround this tree by symbols of the gifts that we have received from the tree of Christ's love.

Holy Christmas tree within our home, may Joy and Peace come and nest in your branches and in our hearts. Amen.