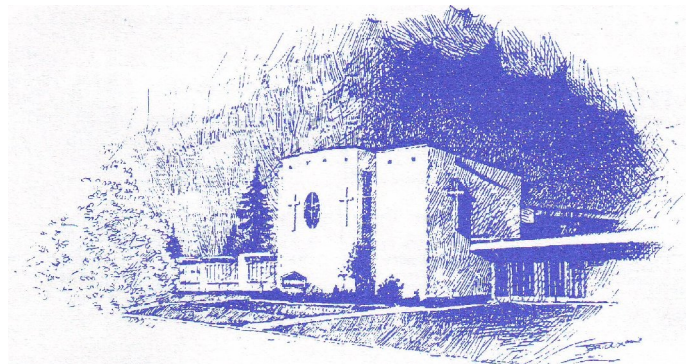

St. Mary's Parish



SUNDAY EUCHARIST

Saturday 7:00 pm
Sunday 9:00 am
11:00 am

WEEKDAY EUCHARIST

Mon to Fri 7:20 am
(8 am on Holiday Mondays)

MORNING PRAYER

Mon to Fri 7:00 am
(no morning prayer on holiday Mondays)

EVENING VESPERS

3rd Sunday of the month 4:30 pm

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 6:15 to 6:45 pm

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We are a community of disciples called together:
To share the life and mission of Jesus, to proclaim the word,
to celebrate liturgy,
to educate and to serve, to see justice and reconciliation.
We confirm the gifts given by Christ to enable each person
to actively participate in the mission of the Church.
We are thus the living Body of Christ,
in an ever changing world.

PARISH STAFF

Richard Beaudette, OMI	Pastor
Giselle Jakobs, MDiv	Pastoral Associate
Roberta Chartrand	Youth Ministry Coordinator
Jeannine Walker	Parish Secretary

SCHOOL STAFF

Brent Arsenault	Principal
Jacqueline Boyes	School Secretary
School Phone	563-7502
School Fax	563-7818
School Email	office@stmaryspg.org

HOLY FAMILY
December 29/30, 2007

Thank You

Thank you to all who contributed to our Christmas celebrations.

Decorators, music ministers, servers, communion ministers, lectors, ushers all gave generously of their time and talents to ensure that our celebrations went smoothly and that they truly were celebrations of prayer and praise.

There were other people behind the scenes who made sure the church was clean, that the linens had been laundered and ironed, that the publications were prepared and in the church, that there were extra chairs available and a myriad of other details provided for.

To everyone who participated in any way (and especially those we may have forgotten at this point), a sincere thanks.

To all the members of the parish and to our visitors who came to celebrate, to you also is due a warm thank you. Without your presence and participation, we would not have been able to celebrate this wonderful feast.

1088 Gillett Street, Prince George, B.C. V2M 2V3
Office Hours—Mon to Fri—8:00 am-11:30 am AND 12:30 pm-4:30 pm (2:00 on Fridays)
Telephone—564-4097 Fax—562-3540 After Hours Emergency—562-4921

Email—stmarys.parish@shawcable.com

Web—www.geocities.com/saintmaryspg

YOUTH MINISTRY

PARISH YOUTH

No Youth Group or Young Adults until January 6th!

HELP US!!

Please support the Youth Group by donating your Canadian Tire money into the collection basket. Every bit helps! Thanks!

Update: We have raised nearly \$100. Thank you so much for your support!!!



YOUNG ADULTS

We meet the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Sundays of each month at 8:30 pm in the school gym foyer. Anyone ages 19 to 30 is welcome!

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please include in your prayers the following people who are sick and suffering: John & Emelia Mauro, Dal Needham, Jeanette Hoksbergen, Agnes Michell, Peter & Lil Derges, Francis Sauser, Kristen Sauser, Elda Garden, Harvey Anderson, Denise Cote, Paula Foley, Eugene Bachand, Bud Walker, Mary Pfliger, Andrew Becker, Derall Amos, James McCloskey, Gordon Meyer, Dick Neville, Ron Roth, Vicky & Greg Gutfriend, Bonnie, Natalie & Doug Marwood, Judy Nelson (Ann Robertson's sister), Josephine Nykoluk, Sr. Margaret Quinn, and her sister, Detta Quinn.

PLEASE NOTE: Our prayer list will be updated every month. Please call the parish office if you would like a family member or friend to remain on the list, or to be added to the list.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Sat	Dec 29	7:00 pm	RIP Paul & Sheila Kenway
Sun	Dec 30	9:00 am	RIP Nangle Family Members
		11:00 am	People of our Parish
Mon	Dec 31	7:00 pm	RIP Pius Simon
Tue	Jan 1	10:00 am	INT The Michaud Family
Wed	Jan 2	7:20 am	RIP Anthony & Agnes Quinn
Thu	Jan 3	7:20 am	INT The Mather Family
Fri	Jan 4	7:20 am	RIP Paul & Sheila Kenway
Sat	Jan 5	7:00 pm	INT The Easson Family
Sun	Jan 6	9:00 am	Lay Led Liturgy
		11:00 am	Lay Led Liturgy

DONATIONS FROM LAST WEEK

Envelopes	\$3883	Loose	\$570	Total	\$4453
School	\$150	Diocesan Appeal	\$295		

Christmas Collection

Envelopes	\$5393.56	Loose	\$2543	Total	\$7936.56
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Just Family Living

Mutuality, respect and care for others are still the backbone of family living. Abuse occurs in too many corners of the world and no group seems exempt from its horrors. Doing what we can in our own family circle to follow St. Paul's advice to "clothe yourselves with love, above all" so peace is the norm for justice in each home.

COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

This coming January (2008) marks the 100th Anniversary of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (Jan 18-25). This year, the ministerial association of the PLURA churches is hosting an evening of prayer on **Jan 20 at 7 pm at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church** at 3590 Dufferin (on Ospika between Massey & Ferry). (PLURA stands for Presbyterian, Lutheran, United, Roman Catholic & Anglican). All parishioners are encouraged to attend and join our prayer for unity.

RACHEL'S VINEYARD

Rachel's Vineyard weekend retreats for spiritual and emotional healing after abortion are held twice a year in Kelowna and Vancouver, B.C. The confidential, supportive retreats are for anyone hurting inside after abortion. For more information, please call Janet at 250-762-2273, or e-mail pr_nelsondiocese@hotmail.com, or call Doreen at 604-525-0999, or e-mail rachelsvineyard@rcav.bc.ca. You can also visit www.rachelsvineyard.org.

THE GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING

Every minute of every day, someone in Canada needs blood. Fifty-two percent of Canadians say that they or a family member, have needed blood or blood products for surgery or for medical treatment. Yet only three percent (3%) of eligible Canadians donate blood. In this Christmas season of gift giving, it can be said that giving blood so that someone else can live must be among the most appreciated of all gifts. If you're between the age of 17 and 71, consider donating the gift of life. Every time you give blood, you can save the lives of three people. It's in you to give!

SPRING IN THE HOLY LAND—March 24 to April 5, 2008

You are invited to join Fr. Arthur Gouthro S.A. and follow in "The Footsteps of Jesus". This first class all inclusive pilgrimage of hope will be escorted by Liz Shachtay who has been to the Holy Land 13 times. For more information, call Liz at: 1-888-565-9922.

DOMANO RENEWAL CENTRE

Please call 964-4475 to register for programs For more info visit: www.geocities.com/domanorenewal or see the bulletin boards or pick up a DRC brochure at the back of the church.

Evenings to Explore Women's Spirituality

Tuesday January 8
7:00 to 9:00 pm

The Story of Ruth-Book Discussion

Mondays—January 14, 21, 28 & February 4, 11, 18
10:00 to 11:30 am or 7:00 to 8:30 pm

Relationships

Tuesdays—Jan 15, Feb 5, Mar 4, Apr 15
7:00 to 9:00 pm

What is Spiritual Direction?

Thursday—January 17
7:30 to 9:00 pm

Gospel of Matthew

Thursday—January 24
7:30 to 9:00 pm

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

NEW YEAR'S MASS TIMES

New Year's Eve—Dec 31—7 pm
Mary the Mother of God—Jan 1—10 am

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Christmas is often the time for engagements and plans for wedding celebrations. If you have just become engaged, congratulations! Our prayers for a long and happy life together are with you as you move toward your wedding day.

The Church asks couples to take a Marriage Preparation program in preparation for celebrating the sacrament. In the city of Prince George, there are a couple of options for this:

Six week program, held on Thursday evenings from 7p.m. to 9:30 p.m. These evenings will begin on January 24 and conclude on February 28 and are held in St. Mary's Conference Room. To register for these sessions, please call your parish office. There will be a cost of \$25-30 to cover materials.

Engaged Encounter – a live in weekend program held at Ness Lake Bible Camp. This year there are to weekends to choose from: March 28 – 30 and May 30 – June 1. To register, Call Jeremy and Anita at 964-2805. The fee for the weekend is \$275 and covers meals, accommodation and materials.

EPIPHANY HOUSE BLESSING

One of the traditions surrounding Epiphany is the *Chalking of the Door*. Family and friends in some countries (e.g. Britain, Germany) gather at the main entrances to homes and ask God's blessing on their dwellings and all who live or visit there. People use chalk to inscribe the following inscription on the lintels or doors: 20 + C + M + B + 08. The numbers stand for the current year (20 + 08). The letters CMB come from the traditional names for the three magi: Caspar, Melchior & Balthazar. Some also suggest that CMB may stand for "Christus Mansionem Benedicat" which means "May Christ bless this dwelling"!

BAPTISM PREPARATION FOR INFANTS

Our next baptism preparation series for parents wishing to have their infants baptized is on Monday January 21 and Tuesday January 22—both evenings at 7 pm. Parents must attend both sessions. Please phone the parish office at 564-4097 to register.

HOUSEKEEPING DETAILS

Every once in a while, it's good to remind ourselves of a few housekeeping details as we come to Eucharist.

1. As the weather gets more inclement, please remember to keep your shoes/feet off of the **kneelers**. When the carpet covering gets wet and muddy, the next person who kneels on the kneeler gets rather unhappy.
2. Out of reverence for the **Body of Christ**, please remember to consume the Communion Host immediately upon receiving it. Don't wait until you are back in your pew.
3. Many people have **allergies** and it is good to remember that St. Mary's School is a peanut-free zone and that includes the Church & Conference Room. As well, many people have scent allergies so please ease up on the perfume & scented body lotions.
4. Out of common courtesy, please turn your **cell phones** off. And leave the **electronic games** at home!

GRR DIGEST

Several parishioners have suggested that we combine some of our Grrapevine articles into a GRR Digest to distribute at the care homes and to those who are shut-ins. We are happy to announce that Volume 1 of the GRR Digest has been published. It includes a sampling of articles from Grrapevines 1 to 20. We have printed a limited number which are available in the literature holders at the back of the church.

The second volume should come out sometime in the New Year. Let us know what you think!!

USHERS/GREETERS

Thank you to all who signed up to serve our parish community as ushers and greeters. We plan to have a training and information session soon. Please don't think that we've forgotten you, but this is a busy time of year! We'll be in touch.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FAMILY HOUR OF PRAYER

On Tuesday January 8 at 7 pm, parishioners are encouraged to attend a Family Hour of Prayer. This prayer service is dedicated to Our Lady of Charity. The prayer service is a graced opportunity for us to reflect on the virtue of charity and to make more widely known the beautiful teaching of the encyclical *Deus Caritas Est* (God is Love), in which Pope Benedict XVI explores the true nature of charity, based on love of God and love of neighbour. May this prayer bring us all to a greater understanding of the virtue of charity and inspire us to carry Christ's love to the world around us.

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY'S

Sun Dec 30	Mon Dec 31	Tues Jan 1	Wed Jan 2	Thurs Jan 3	Fri Jan 4	Sat Jan 5
9 a—Mass 11 a—Mass	(no morning Mass) 7 p—Mass	Mother of God 10 a—Mass	7 p—K of C Exec	7:30 p—Pr. Group	8:30 p—AA	7 p—Mass

NEXT WEEK AT ST. MARY'S

Sun Jan 6	Mon Jan 7	Tues Jan 8	Wed Jan 9	Thurs Jan 10	Fri Jan 11	Sat Jan 12
EPIPHANY 9 a—Lay Led Lit. 11 a—Lay Led Lit.	7 p—RCIA 7:30 p—K of C District Deputies	6:30 p—Rel. Ed. 7 p—K of C Family Hour of Prayer		6:30 p—Rainbows 7 p—Camp Morice 7 p—Par. Council 7:30 p—Pr. Group	8:30 p—AA	7 p—Mass

AROUND THE PARISH

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM PREPARATION FOR INFANTS

Baptism preparation sessions for the parents of infants, are held about every two months. Please contact the parish office for more information. Next series January 21 & 22. Phone to register.

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.

CONFIRMATION & FIRST COMMUNION PREPARATION

In the Diocese of Prince George, Confirmation and First Communion are celebrated together in Grade 2. Our sacramental preparation programme usually begins in January or February for the children in St. Mary's School and for the children attending Religious Education classes. For more information, please phone Brent at the school or Giselle at the parish office.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Various options for marriage preparation are available (see bulletin board for details). Please make an appointment with the pastor, at least 6 months before your intended wedding date.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Individual reconciliation may be celebrated on Saturday evenings between 6:15 & 6:45 p.m. or by appointment. Communal celebrations of the sacrament are generally held during Lent and Advent.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

Are you interested in becoming Catholic? Want to learn more about the Catholic faith. Come and join us! We meet Mondays, at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room. For more info call Giselle at the parish office 564-4097. We start again on Monday January 7.

PASTORAL CARE TO THE SICK, ELDERLY & DYING

If you or anyone in your family is sick, elderly or home bound, and would like to receive communion or anointing of the sick or a pastoral visit, please give us a call.

FUNERALS

Please contact the pastor before making final arrangements with the funeral directors.

FAITH EDUCATION

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education classes are held every Tuesday evening at 6:30 p.m. in the school. These classes are for the children of our parish who attend public school and who would like some faith formation. Please call Giselle at the parish office for more information. 564-4097. We start again on Tuesday January 8.

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. The children celebrate their Liturgy of the Word with their adult leader and are given a chance to hear and reflect on the readings at their own level.

PARISH & FINANCE COUNCILS

Erin Beardwood

Chair, Parish Pastoral Council

Joan Craig

Chair, Finance Council

PARISH GROUPS

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

The CWL is open to all ladies of the parish. We meet on the first Tuesday of each month in the Conference Room (Freeman St. Entrance) at 7:00 p.m. Please phone Barb Marwood (563-0846), Carmen Foucher (564-8091) or Estelle Bachand (964-3836) for more information.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS (COUNCIL 5246)

The Knights of Columbus is open to all men of the parish. Our General Meeting is on the third Tuesday of each month in the Conference Room at 7:30 p.m. The Executive meeting is on the first Wednesday of each month, at 7:00 pm, also in the Conference Room. For more information, phone 964-6785 or 561-9225, or visit their new website: <http://members.shaw.ca/kofc5246/>



CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

We meet every Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in the Conference Room. Please call Bernie or Aime Trotter at 564-8943 for more information.

COMMUNITY GROUPS

THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Our Drop-In Centre is located at 1220—2nd Avenue. We are open:

Mon-Fri 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Sat, Sun & Hol 9 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. & 2:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Phone 564-7871

Our Thrift Store is located at 1180—3rd Avenue. We are open:

Mon-Sat 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Phone 562-5136

SHEPHERD'S CORNER

Shepherd's Corner is a place where people who are experiencing challenges can gather, share their stories and be heard. Our volunteers provide a listening ear and a compassionate heart. We offer coffee, tea and basic personal items to about twenty people a day. Your time as a volunteer and/or donation of the following items is greatly appreciated: toothpaste, shampoo, soap, skin cream, combs, socks, pens, pencils, etc). Thank you and God bless.

RAINBOWS

Rainbows is a peer support program for children, teens and adults who have experienced a loss in their lives because of a death, separation, divorce, abandonment or any painful transition in their family. Sessions usually begin in September and January and fill up quickly. For a registration form and schedule, please contact Ursula Morris at 563-5584 or Sr. Margaret Quinn at 562-2817.

COUNSELLING SERVICES

Brian Bulgin, a registered counselor, offers counseling services out of the Domano Renewal Centre for couples and individuals. Please call 964-4475 for more information.

Sr. Tarianne deYonker, OP, a Registered Marriage and Family Therapist, offers counselling for individuals, couples and families. She 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.

Sr. Donna Dolan RSCJ offers Spiritual Direction. Ongoing Spiritual Direction enables a person to pay attention to God's personal communication in life and prayer, to grow in intimacy with God and to live out of that relationship. Phone Sr. Donna at 964-4475.