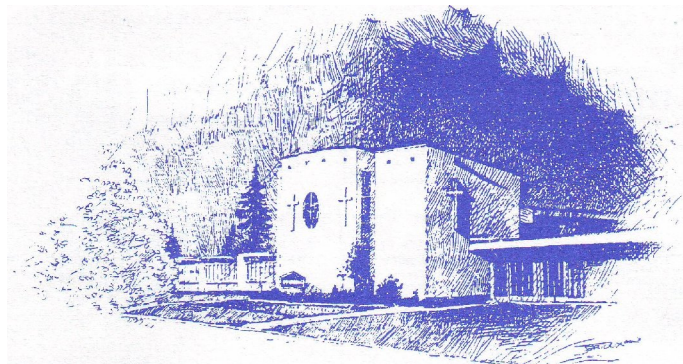

St. Mary's Parish



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

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 8/9, 2007

St Vincent de Paul "Volunteer Help Wanted" Christmas Opportunities

Thursday Dec. 20 — 3:30 to 5 pm

St. Mary's School Gym—1088 Gillette St.
Help unload groceries to be included in the
Christmas hampers.

Friday Dec. 21 — 9 am to 1 pm.

St. Mary's School Gym—1088 Gillette St.
Assist with hamper assembly.

Saturday Dec 22 — 10:30 am to 2 pm

St. Mary's School Gym—1088 Gillette St.
Deliver hampers and/or assist with loading
hampers for delivery.

Monday Dec 24 — 11 am to 12:30 pm

Sacred Heart School Auditorium—887 Patricia
Assist with dinner preparation including turkey
carving, potato peeling, hall setup, etc. Please
bring your favourite apron, potato peeler and/
or carving tools.

Tuesday Dec. 25 — 10:30 am to 2:30 pm

Sacred Heart School Auditorium—887 Patricia
Many volunteers are needed to serve dinner,
wash dishes and help with hall cleanup.

Although it is understandable that people are
very busy at this season, please consider of-
fering even an hour of your time to enhance
the Christmas season for those in need.

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

Regular Youth Group on Sunday December 9 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the School Gym. Bring your friends!

HELP US!!

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

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: Peter & Lil Derges, Francis Sauser, Kristen Sauser, Elda Garden (Fr. John's mother), 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 8	7:00 pm	RIP Maurice Labrosse
Sun	Dec 9	9:00 am	People of our Parish
		11:00 am	INT. James McCloskey
Mon	Dec 10	7:20 am	RIP Victor & Venice Todd
Tue	Dec 11	7:20 am	RIP Deceased Oblates
Wed	Dec 12	7:20 am	RIP Anne Beaudette
Thu	Dec 13	7:20 am	RIP Anne Beaudette
Fri	Dec 14	7:20 am	RIP Bill Brennan
Sat	Dec 15	7:00 pm	RIP Pius Simon
Sun	Dec 16	9:00 am	People of our Parish
		11:00 am	RIP DiBenedetto Family Members

DONATIONS FROM LAST WEEK

Envelopes	\$3448.00	Loose	\$232.50	Total	\$4580.50
School	\$413.00	St. Vincent de Paul	\$50.00		
Holy Childhood Assoc.	\$70.00	\$ Diocesan Appeal	\$5.00		

All Are Called to the Journey

As we travel through life we rub shoulders with diverse people, all from different backgrounds and living in different life circumstances. All of these, Jesus came to invite into closer relationship with God. All of us are called.

What can we do this week to be a welcoming and supportive presence to others on the journey with us?

COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

RAINBOWS

Rainbows is now accepting applications for the sessions beginning on January 10, 2008. These sessions are filling up already so it is important to have your registration form in on time. **REGISTRATION DEADLINE is Dec 15, 2007.** To receive a registration form and schedule please contact: Ursula Morris at 563-5584 e-mail: pandumorris@shaw.ca or Sr. Margaret Quinn at 562-2817 e-mail: mquinn@shaw.ca

SINGLE AGAIN

Bishop Gerald Wiesner will preside at a special Advent Liturgy for any adults who find themselves **Single Again** after separation, divorce or death of a spouse. We will gather on Thursday, December 13 at Sacred Heart Cathedral at 7:00 p.m. Holiday refreshments will follow in the lower church.

CONDO FOR RENT

Sacred Heart Cathedral has a centrally-located rental property available. This 3-floor townhouse has the following features: 3 bedrooms, 1 ½ baths, washer and dryer, dishwasher, off street parking and a balcony. No smoking and no pets, please. This is a strata development which means all yard maintenance is taken care of including shovelling the walkway. Please call the parish office for more information at 564-5225.

REVISED!! ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICES

If you'd like to mark your calendars, the city parishes have scheduled their Advent reconciliation services:

Wednesday Dec 12—7 pm—Immaculate Conception Parish

Thursday Dec 13—7 pm—Christ our Saviour Parish

Monday Dec 17—7 pm—Sacred Heart Cathedral

We will be celebrating Vespers on Wednesday evenings during the Season of Advent—Dec 12 & 19—7 pm in the Church.

THE MYSTERY OF CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The Prince George Conservatory of Music proudly presents the Borealis Chamber Choir and Sinfonia! Prince George in concert Saturday, December 15 at 8 p.m. and on Sunday, December 16 at 2 pm at St. Michael's Anglican Church. Tickets are \$15 and are available at Studio 2880, Books & Co., and the Prince George Conservatory of Music.

MESSE DE NOËL EN FRANÇAIS

Messe de Noël Français/French Christmas Mass 30th Anniversary at 9:00pm, Cantiques de Noël at 8:40 pm. Celebrated by Bishop Wiesner. December 24 at Immaculate Conception Church, 3285 Cathedral Ave. Choir practices: Mondays at 7:00 pm, Dec 10 and 17

Cedars Christian School

Christmas Concert—MK Christmas Special at Westwood MB Church 2658 Ospika Blvd on Dec 14, 2007 at 11:00 am (Seniors welcome) and 7:00 pm. Everyone welcome!

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". We will experience scripture from the Old and New Testament come alive, from the shores of the Sea of Galilee to Nazareth, Jerusalem, Bethlehem, the Jordan River and other significant places. Extension to Jordan and Egypt: April 5 to 14, featuring: "The Footsteps of Moses" (Mt. Nebo, Petra, Mt. Sinai, etc) and "The Flight to Egypt" (Coptic Cairo), Luxor and much more... 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.

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

ADVENT RESOURCES

We have a variety of Advent Resources on the table at the back of the Church. Please take a copy or two!

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve—Dec 24—7 & 9 pm & Midnight (12:00)

Christmas Day—Dec 25—10 am

Feast of St. Stephen—Dec 26—8 am

New Year's Eve—Dec 31—7 pm

Mary the Mother of God—Jan 1—10 am

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

A Special Collection will be taken after Mass today for the St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Hampers for the needy in Prince George. Please be as generous as you can for those who are so much more unfortunate than we are and make your St. Vincent de Paul donations a part of your family Christmas traditions.

THANK YOU!!

A big giant thank you to the Knights of Columbus for the wonderful pasta supper last Sunday. Our St. Mary's community generously donated 148 gifts to the St. Vincent de Paul Christmas hampers. Your kindness and compassion for those in need is very much appreciated. Thank you for helping to make their Christmas extra special this year.

CHRISTMAS HAMPER GIFTS

If you missed the pasta supper and would like to donate a gift to the Christmas hampers before Dec. 15, please leave it in the food donation box at the back of the church or phone Theresa at 562-9426.

INFANT BAPTISM PREPARATION

Our next baptism preparation session for infants will take place on Monday Dec 10 and Tuesday Dec 11. Parents who wish their infants to be baptized must attend both sessions. Sessions begin at 7 pm and are held in the Parish Office Meeting Room. Phone Fr. Richard to register—564-4097.

The fullness of Joy is to behold God in everything.
Julian of Norwich

WHITE RIBBON OF SIGNATURES CAMPAIGN

The White Ribbon of Signatures Campaign this year is focusing on urging Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to monitor the content of the materials their customers provide on the internet. This campaign is addressing those who willfully, or through negligence of their duties, allow the internet to be used to publish astronomical amounts of pornography. More and more children throughout the world on being exploited on a daily basis. These victims face daily torture at the hands of their abusers and then suffer the indignity of having these acts broadcast for the "pleasure" of pedophiles around the world. The CWL urges you to please take the time to sign a ribbon at one of the church entrances. These ribbons will be sent to the CRTC which has a role to play in censuring the Internet Service Providers who do not monitor their customers' content.

There exists only the present instant... a Now which always and without end is itself new. There is no yesterday nor any tomorrow, but only Now, as it was a thousand years ago and as it will be a thousand years hence.

Meister Eckhart

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.

Taizé Evening Prayer—Dec 15

7:00 pm



Please join us for
Christmas Coffee
and Open House
Bethany House #110

Thursday December 20, 2007

10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

RSVP please call 964-4475 or
email at drc@netbistro.com

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY'S

Sun Dec 9	Mon Dec 10	Tues Dec 11	Wed Dec 12	Thurs Dec 13	Fri Dec 14	Sat Dec 15
9 a—Mass 11 a—Mass 2 p—1st Nation's Sunday School	7 p—Infant Bapt. Prep 7 p—RCIA	7 p—Infant Bapt. Prep 6:30 p—Rel Ed.	7 p—Vespers 7 p—IC Recon- ciliation Service	7 p—COS Recon- ciliation Service 7 p—Camp Morice 7:30 p—Pr. Group	8:30 p—AA	7 p—Mass

NEXT WEEK AT ST. MARY'S

Sun Dec 16	Mon Dec 17	Tues Dec 18	Wed Dec 19	Thurs Dec 20	Fri Dec 21	Sat Dec 22
9 a—Mass 11 a—Mass 4:30 p—Vespers	7 p—SHC Recon- ciliation Service	7:30 p—K. of C. General Meeting	7 p—Vespers	7:30 p—Pr. Group	9 a—School Mass 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 is on Dec 10 & 11 (need to attend both sessions).

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.

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

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.