BAPTISM OF THE LORD 11 JANUARY, 2015

"Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God ... everyone who thirsts, come to the waters."

St. Columban Parish

36 Fourth St. West, Cornwall, ON K6J 2R6

Masses: Sat Vigil: 7 p.m., Sun: 7:30, 9:30, 11:00 a.m. Weekdays except Tuesdays: 7:30 a.m.

Today's Readings:

Isaiah 55:1-11 Isaiah12:2-3,4bcd,5-6 1 John 5:1-9 Mark 1:7-11



Further Reflection from the Catechism:

CCC: 1234, 1265, 1267 CCCC: 188 - 190

YOUCAT: 195, 200

Why Are So Many Catholics Afraid to Talk About Jesus?

Sherry Weddell, author of *Forming Intentional Disciples*, relates the following story about Sara, raised by a non-practicing Catholic mother and Jewish father in New York. At age 28, a powerful experience of God's presence moved her to an intense exploration of Catholicism. After completing RCIA, she was received into the Church at Easter 2010. Sara shared part of her experience with Weddell:

About six weeks into the [RCIA] program, I met with Sister and told her that I thought I was missing something because we didn't seem to be talking much about getting to know God or Jesus. I didn't feel like I had a good understanding of who Jesus was to me. I assumed that this was because I was coming from a non-Christian background and everyone else already "got it." ... I had to go out and ask Catholic friends to talk to me about these things, one-on-one. Some were willing to tell me—but all but one of them also got visibly upset first and didn't know why I'd want to know about their experiences. I sensed that they resented being asked.

Sara, had come face to face with the "don't ask, don't tell" culture so pervasive in too many Catholic parishes: don't ask anyone about their faith life, interior life, experience of Christ, and certainly don't share your own faith experience with anyone. "We're Catholics: we don't do that; that's a Protestant thing—you know, to talk about 'Jesus'."

Sadly, this is what generations of Baptized Catholics have had bred into them. And when generations of Catholics see their forebears being silent, this just perpetuates the silence. Nor should we forget that there are, tragically, plenty of Catholics out there who don't even know or believe that a personal friendship with Jesus Christ is possible—it's just never been part of their experience of Catholicism.

Much of the witnessing to the faith that we are called to do is non-verbal: our works of charity, our soup kitchens, our aid to the homeless, to those in need. But too often this "Catholic way of witnessing to the faith" becomes a copout. Words are necessary. The world needs to know (and hear from us) that we are disciples of Jesus Christ (and not merely "nice" people helping out at the local soup kitchen).

Our deliberate witnessing to Jesus begins in the home: praying as a family, before meals, at bedtime, or an occasional family Rosary. We can even give a witness by wearing Christian jewelry—something that might provoke a conversation with a friend.

(Article continued inside)



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Mrs. Kelly Poitras

OFFICE HOURS

Mon. toThurs. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Evenings by appointment

BAPTISMS

By appointment 1 month in advance

MARRIAGES

Please give 6 months notice

CONFESSIONS

Saturday 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. Saturday 6:15 to 6:45 p.m. Also by appointment

OFFICE PHONE 613-932-9616

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stcolumban@cogeco.ca

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FOR TIMELY PUBLICATION, PLEASE E-MAIL BULLETIN NOTICES TO stcolumbanbulletin@outlook.com BY 4 P.M. FRIDAY

(ONE WEEK PRIOR TO REQUIRED WEEKEND PUBLICATION)

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

Saturday, January 10th

3:00 - 4:00 p.m. Confessions

6:15-6:45 p.m. Confessions

7:00 p.m. LouAnna MacDougall by Eleanor Villeneuve

Sunday, January 11th

7:30 a.m. Intentions of the parishioners

9:30 a.m. Leonard Kingston by St. Columban's Choir 11:00 a.m. Claude Ouimet (18th anniversary of death) by Richard & Carole Pilon

Monday, January 12th

7:30 a.m. Sonny Herrington by Shirley Wadsworth

Tuesday, January 13th No Mass

Wednesday, January 14th

7:30 a.m. Eileen Mondoux by the family

Thursday, January 15th

7:30 a.m. Special Intention for Fr. Matthew Brunet by Ron Welsh

Friday, January 16th

7:30 a.m. William Chubak by his friends at Heartwood

Saturday, January 17th

3:00-4:00 p.m. Confessions

6:15 - 6:45 p.m. Confessions

7:00 p.m. Paul Rose by Cathy Miron

Sunday, January 18th

7:30 a.m. Mae Lapierre & deceased family members by the estate

9:30 a.m. Intentions of the parishioners

11:00 a.m. Lionel Tessier (1st anniversary of death) by wife Doris Tessier & family

Monday, January 19th

7:30 a.m. Shawn Kelly by his Dad

SNOW REMOVAL CHURCH ENTRANCES & WALKWAYS

Please check the diagram (on bulletin boards) which shows church entrances & walkways where snow removal will be carried out on weekends when there is a major snowfall.

There are 5 entrances to be cleared and our custodian is not scheduled to work weekends. This will help eliminate some overtime work for him when a major storm occurs.

Thank you for your understanding

CONTINUED FROM FRONT COVER

There will come the tougher situations where we are called on to witness, with friends, fellow students, neighbours, relatives, or work colleagues - times when we have to muster all our conviction and love of God, and be ready to explain why we are not going to the bachelor's party, why we do not wear certain kinds of very immodest clothing, why we do not watch certain movies, why—no thanks—we are not going to look at certain videos one of our buddies just downloaded on his computer, and so on. "Sorry, I don't do those things because ... I don't believe it's Christian to do those kinds of things. I know you disagree. Maybe we can talk about it sometime."

And then we have to be ready to bear the ridicule, scorn, dismissiveness or even anger that our words might provoke. But if we have succeeded in planting the seed of faith in someone's heart, despite their reactions—is that such a high price to pay?

Such witnessing to the faith becomes much easier and natural if we do it on the impulse of fidelity: being faithful to my Friend, to Jesus. Witnessing will be tepid if our relationship with Jesus is tepid. Witnessing—verbally—will make more sense to us, will become easier, and a cause of profound peace and joy, to the extent that it is a natural expression of our friendship with Jesus. All the more reason to keep working on that friendship.

Excerpted from an article by Fr. Thomas Berg

FATHER HALLE NEEDS PASTORAL CARE VOLUNTEERS

to assist him in the many nursing homes which he services. Pease call Fr. Halle at 613-933-6097.

2015 Parish Envelopes

If you haven't done so already, you may pick up your Box of 2015 Envelopes at the 4th Street entrance to the Church.

If you are new to the parish and would like envelopes, please contact the Parish Office.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY - IS TAKING A BREAK

Due to low participation the program at the 9:30 a.m. Sunday Mass is suspended while the parish contemplates alternate approaches to this ministry.

PLEASE KEEP US IN YOUR PRAYERS

as we discern the Lord's will for this important ministry.

Don Smith, our Parish Leader for this area,

welcomes your input.

e-mail: media.ministry@live.ca or

telephone: 613-932-8952.

UPCOMING EVENTS

EXCITING CATHOLIC YOUTH CONFERENCE STEUBENVILLE TORONTO 2015

Great youthful speakers, fantastic music, beautiful celebrations of faith with other groups on fire. Registration information available soon.

SAVE THE DATE AUGUST 7th TO 9th, 2015

YEAR OF CONSECRATED LIFE

Pope Francis has declared that a
Year of Consecrated Life be celebrated
throughout the world.

Our Diocese has prepared a series of events, in particular, a Mass at St. Peter's Church on **2 FEBRUARY AT 2 P.M.**

Other initiatives iclude a video on the religious communities in the Diocese, a project to help our students understand consecrated life, and an exhibit in conjunction with our Diocese's 125th Anniversary.

THIS YEAR THE DIOCESE OF ALEXANDRIA-CORNWALL CELEBRATES ITS' 125TH ANNIVERSARY

Over the next several months we will have a number of activities to mark this important milestone and to celebrate our history and legacy of faith.

LIFT JESUS HIGHER RALLY

SATURDAY, 7 MARCH, 9 A.M. TO 5:30 P.M. at Metro Toronto Convention Centre, 255 Front St W Theme this year "THE HAPPINESS FACTOR" will fill you with certainty of the abiding love & joy God has for His people.

Keynote Speaker, Al Kresta, CEO of Ave Maria Catholic Radio, and host of Kresta in the Afternoon, aired on EWTN, will be joined by the Renewal Ministries team of Ralph Martin, Sr. Ann Shields, and Peter Herbeck. In addition to compelling talks and uplifting music, there will be prayer ministry, inspiring personal testimonies, Cnfession, a Divine Mercy celebration and Eucharistic procession.

Closing Mass will be celebrated by Archbishop Thomas Cardinal Collins.

A SEPARATE YOUTH RALLY (13-18 YRS.)

will be held simultaneously in the theatre next door to the Adult Rally. Tickets are \$10 for the Youth Rally and \$20 for the Adult Rally. Be sure to get yours for what will be a memorable day. And, even better, evangelize by bringing a friend.

For general information, call 416-251-4255 or email LJHR@rogers.com or visit www.lift-jesus-higher-rally.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

COME AND SING

As WE PRAISE OUR LORD THROUGH MUSIC.

At St. Peter's Church - Open to all who love God & love to sing. God gave us our voices, good and not so good... we give them back to Him with our Praise and Worship music.

6:30 TO 7:30 P.M., JAN. 15

ALSO, FEB. 19. MARCH 19. APRIL 16TH

St. Francis de Sales K of C

ROAST BEEF DINNER – THURSDAY, 15 JANUARY
in the parish hall. Two sittings to accommodate all:
4:30 & 5:30 p.m. - Adults \$10; children \$5.

St. Francis de Sales Parish
FAMILY BREAKFAST,
Sun, 25 Jan. - 8:30 a.m. to 12 Noon
in the parish hall. All are welcome - \$7/person

NEW LIFE COURSE

6:30 TO 8:30 P.M. - 8, 9, 10, & 15, 16 MARCH
At St. Francis de Sales Church
Open to all who want to experience the fullness of life that Jesus has offered.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP CAMP

A unique dynamic and interactive Salesian Youth Leadership Camp will take place FRIDAY, MARCH 6 UNTIL SUNDAY, MARCH 8, It is for youth in grades 8 to 12. The program aims at building leadership skills useful in family, school, work, social and Church context! Cost: \$30 per participant. Place: Camp Tibériade, near St. Jerome, Que. Only 20 places available – Register a.s.a.p. For information please contact Sister Francine, FMA (youth ministry coordinator) or activ8faith@gmail.com

ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS

Renown Catholic speaker, Ralph Martin will preach

MINI RETREAT - 27 AND 28 MARCH

at the Agora Catholic Centre

A great opportunity to grow in faith during the
Lenten season. As a best-selling author, TV host
and President of Renewal Ministries, Ralph travels
the world bringing the Good News of Salvation far
and wide. All are welcome.

NEW EVANGELIZATION SUMMIT - 24 & 25 APRIL

This exciting conference will be live-streamed from Ottawa to the Agora Catholic Centre. Over 4,000 people in a dozen different sites will learn from this gathering of 8 top Catholic speakers from across North America. Don't miss it.

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