

FAITH FORMATION

CYCLE A, JANUARY 16, 2011

READING THE SIGNS



Like generations of Jews before him, John the Baptist grew up looking for the Messiah. Waiting, preparing his heart for the day God would send a Redeemer. But even as the "voice in the wilderness" John needed God's guidance to recognize the Chosen One. He was given a sign: "On whomever you see the Spirit come down and remain, he is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit." So John started on the long road of his ministry. He listened and heard God's call to preach repentance, baptizing those who came with water. And John waited, watching for the sign, until the day his Messiah appeared on the banks of the Jordan. His obedience and faithful reading of the signs enabled John to fulfill God's promise in his life. Just like John we need to be faithful watchers today. Take a moment to ask yourself: Have I heard God's call to my special task in life? Am I busy on the banks of my Jordan? Am I watching for the coming of Jesus?



WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY JANUARY 18TH TO 25TH, 2011

The roots of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity go back to the 1800s; it is one of the oldest, most widely observed ecumenical events in the world.

WHY THIS WEEK

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is held from January 18 to 25. This is the octave proposed because it begins with the feast of St. Peter and ends with the feast of the conversion of St. Paul. Finding ways to pray together during this January week means that we are in harmony with people around the world, which brings its own graces; in this way, we join with all who are praying, reflecting, studying, and even eating and drinking together to celebrate and pray for Christian unity.

UNITED WE STAND

The Lord prayed "that all may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you." Many churches today live in disunity because they argue about unimportant issues. To truly become a unified body, the church must examine three criteria: First, do we ask the right question, focusing on how our decisions impact Christ's calling? Second, do we focus on a purpose greater than ourselves? Finally, do we work with our ministries to ensure they have a servant's heart? All these questions help us focus on what truly matters in our Christian faith.

MASS INTENTIONS /REQUESTED BY

Jan. 17-23, 2011

Mon.	8:15am	+Paz Mamisao /Emma M. Isaac
Tues.	8:15am	+David K. M. Cheung /Winnie Cheung
Wed.	8:15am	Special Intention for Piero Flecchia /Gemma Scotton & Family
Thurs.	8:15am	PARISHIONERS
	7:00pm	Special Intentions for Rose Kamm & Kathleen Hong / C W L
Fri.	8:15am	+Guido D 'Angelis / Wife & Family
	7:30pm	+Andria Generalic /Anna Sulentic & Family
Sat.	9:00am	+Jessie Cabling /Arnold & Katharine Cabling
	5:00pm	+Mary Kish /Connie & Gerry Perras
Sun.	8:00am	+Virginia Itabay (1st Anniv) /Parishioners
	10:00am	++Seamus Allen & Guido Babuin /Babuin Family
	12 Noon	Thanksgiving & Special Intentions for Ben Castillo, Jr. /Family
	7:30pm	Special Intentions for Mr. & Mrs. Schaffen (25th Anniv) /Demare Family

PARISH ACTIVITIES

Jan. 17-23, 2011

Mon.	7:00pm	Baptism Course (RCIA Room)
	7:30pm	Holy Cross Prayer Meeting (Music Room)
Tues.	7:00pm	PREP (School & Church Basement)
Wed.	7:30pm	Gospel of Matthew (Basement)
Thurs.	7:00pm	CWL General Meeting (Basement) Holy Cross Youth (Gym)
Fri.	7:30pm	Divine Mercy Novena (Church)
Sat.	9:00am	Divine Mercy Cenacle (RCIA Room)
	3:00pm	RCIA (Basement)
Sun.		CWL Religious Articles Sale (after all Masses)

Money Counters Jan. 23 Marissa Costales & Liliana Sartori

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

	Envelopes	Loose	Total
Additional Christmas	\$ 135.00	\$ 42.00	\$ 177.00
New Year's	\$ 196.00	-	\$ 196.00
Initial Offering	\$ 520.00	-	\$ 520.00
Jan. 8/9	\$6,849.89	\$1,022.49	\$7,872.38
Grand Total	\$7,700.89	\$1,064.49	\$8,765.38

Sunday Donation Envelopes for 2011

Please pick up in the church foyer. Please bring or send your envelopes regularly. To those who have not used their envelopes regularly in 2010, please call or come to the Rectory Office to request a box. If you are absent, remember the church expenses go on just the same. Kindly write the amount clearly on your envelopes.

Thank you for your generosity!

HOLY CROSS WORLD YOUTH DAY GROUP



Not to be confused with the Holy Cross Youth which consists of Highschool students, the Holy Cross World Youth Day Group are Young Adults aged 19-30 years. The members of the group are Cristina Alfonso, Darryl Costales, Dia Lopez, Florian Clacer, Gino Lopez, Josh Nacar, Teresa Yeung, and Vida Lopez. You may see us as lecturers, choir members, altar servers, extraordinary minister, youth ministry leaders, Knights of Columbus and Catholic Women's League members, and Divine Mercy devotees.

Together with our pastor Father Maciej, we will represent Holy Cross during the World Youth Day Pilgrimage in Madrid, Spain this August 2011.

Since the Summer of 2010, through fundraisers such as the Bottle Drive, Pancake Breakfast, Car Trunk Sale, Christmas Market, and Hockey Night, along with generous donations from the Knights of Columbus, CWL, and our fellow parishioners, we have raised a total of \$4,341.58! Thank you for your overflowing support! The Bottle Drive is still ongoing and we will have other fundraising events in the near future. Also, we are now accepting donations of Aeroplan/Airmiles points to help us with our airfare.

Last week, we had our first meeting with Father Maciej to discuss our concrete plans for our itineraries and logistics. We will continue this monthly meeting, especially for spiritual preparation up to the day of our pilgrimage to Madrid.

Please pray for us as we prepare our hearts, minds, and souls for the spiritual journey ahead of us that is 7 months away.

"Planted and built up in Jesus Christ, firm in the Faith".

You could reach us at wydholycross@gmail.com for any inquiries.

Gino Lopez
Holy Cross WYD Group Member

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

My cross became lighter and suffering became sweet when I knew that Jesus was going to be with me...
He who comes to suffer with those who suffer, to cry with those who cry. ~ Saint Bernadette



Especially for: Aldo Caon, Giuseppe Capozzi, Cyril D'Souza, Lew Glavina, Kathleen Hong, Harold Hopkinson, Francis Javier, Jim Kagan, Rose Kamm, Steven Kastro, Irma Kowalczyk, Ines Cappon-Lomas, Donna Losorelli, Diana Marino, Giovanni Mauro, Marcy McCarthy, Franciso Nery, Alice Quek, Margaret Rozario, Carmela Sorace, Ronald J. Scott, Hy & Bill Yang.

SCHOOL CORNER

Wednesday, January 19, 1pm - SPELLING BEE (Gym)
Parents are welcome to attend!

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATIONS for prospective new families ends Monday, January 24. Parishioners interested in enrolling their child should come to the School Office.

HOLY CROSS SCHOOL GALA FUNDRAISER, "PASSPORT 2011: A FIRST CLASS EXPERIENCE", will be taking place at the Italian Cultural Centre on Friday, February 4, 2011. The event will include dinner, dancing, silent and live auctions. Tickets can be purchased for \$75 at the Holy Cross School Office. We would appreciate any donation of items to be used in the auction. If you have any questions, please contact Carmen Curman, 604-220-4347 or email carmensrdan@hotmail.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The ST. THOMAS MORE COLLEGIATE OPEN HOUSE will be held on Tuesday, January 18th, at 6:30pm in the school gymnasium. This evening is open to both parents and Grade 7 students. PLACEMENT EXAM for students entering Grade 8 in September 2011 is scheduled for Monday, January 24, beginning 1pm. For more information on school admission, please visit www.stmc.bc.ca.

In recognition of the 19TH WORLD DAY OF THE SICK, Archbishop Most Reverend J. Michael Miller will celebrate a Mass of Anointing on Friday, February 11th at 11:00am at Our Lady of Sorrows Church, 555 S. Slocan Street, Vancouver. The Mass will also include a special blessing for caregivers. Everyone is welcome to attend.

On the weekend of February 11-13, 2011 there will be a VOCATION LIVE-IN for boys or young men interested in the priesthood or the consecrated life, at the Seminary of Christ the King, in Mission, B. C. Fifty three young men and boys came to the Vocation Live-In in November 2010. For more information, call 604.826.8715.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE GENERAL MEETING will be held on Thursday, January 20, beginning with Mass at 7pm. RELIGIOUS ARTICLES SALE will be held on Saturday, January 22nd and Sunday, January 23rd, following the Masses. ANNUAL VALENTINE DINNER is on Saturday, February 12. Once again, we are asking for help from our members and parishioners with food and bath items for gift baskets for raffles and silent and live auctions. We appreciate your support in the past and hope you will join us for an evening of good food and live entertainment. Tickets: \$30 each will go on sale January 23rd.

EPIPHANY SACRED ARTS GUILD Steve Knight, V. P. of the Guild and Holy Cross parishioner, is offering a workshop on writing (painting) an icon as a fund raiser for the parish. The course will run 30+ hours. All materials will be supplied. 50% of the course fee will be donated to the Parish to help fund its programs. Space is limited to about six. Depending on the response, more workshops can be arranged. If you are interested in participating or are just looking for info, contact Steve Knight, 604-294-5958.