

NEW VISION

The Church of Saint-Boniface

Vol. 2 #7 March 2012

Message from Our Archbishop

Dear Friends

Over the past several months, I have made two trips with a view of inviting priests and seminarians from other countries to come to aid us in the Archdiocese, faced as we are and will be for the foreseeable future, with a shortage of priests to minister to our parishes. In August and September of 2011, I went to Ghana and Nigeria in West Africa. Last month, I went to Vietnam and South Korea.

My purpose was to meet with Bishops and Seminary Rectors so as to discuss the ways in which we could best set up a process for such invitations, the best for the respective dioceses, the best for the parishes receiving these men, and

the best for the priest or seminarian themselves.

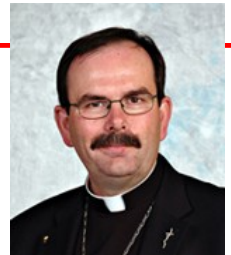
Numerous factors come into play:

- the proper articulation of our pastoral needs and so,
- the choice of the suitable candidates by their bishop or rector;
- their preparation before they come;
- the ways of assuring welcome, practical help and support upon arrival, as well as;
- what we can offer for integration into our culture, our Church in Western Canada and our ways of priestly pastoral ministry in an ongoing fashion.

Also of real importance is what we should do to help host parishes receive and support these latter-day missionaries who have much to bring to us.

Both trips were personally very interesting and enriching, revealing once again the richness of our Church in its great diversity of expressions of faith. As sister Churches, our respective dioceses can indeed be mutually enriched by the “loan” of priests from other countries. Please pray that we progressively develop the best ways to bring this about.

Archbishop Albert



Growing & Nurturing Adult Spirituality

All too often in the busyness of my life, as wife, mother, daughter, catechist and youth minister, mentoring the spiritual growth of those around me, I forget to stop and reflect upon my spirituality.

Dr. Nancy Reeves provided insights on “growing in grace” at the *Growing and Nurturing Adult Spirituality: Partnering with God to Nurture Ourselves and Others* workshop she co-led with Linnea Good. At the Feb 16th session, I realized that I’m not solely in charge of my spirituality but that, “God guides us in the way that is right for us; there is guidance, we need to be open to it” and it “often comes as nudges.”

What helps our faith to grow? What experiences nurture our faith? Each of us experiences loss or change in our lives: moving to a new place, changing work, financial changes, death of a loved one and even positive changes such as the birth of a child which lead to relationship changes. We need to know God is present to the experience of pain we have from loss or change and that he gave us the grieving process so that we can heal. This helps us to become aware of our mortality. It can make us live more fully and allow ourselves to love deeply.

Be thankful to God and daily express this gratitude. Be a

forgiving person, to others and yourself; accept forgiveness from others and yourself too. Be aware that God is with you 24/7 not just on Sunday and that he reaches out to us in a variety of ways, through another person, a pet, at Mass, in nature, in Scripture.

Nancy and Linnea are available for Missions and workshops, including “All Ages” themed workshops. For more information:

<http://www.nancyreeves.com>

<http://www.linneagood.com>

**Michelle Kotak,
Notre Dame du Laus Parish**

Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

Our small Saint Vincent de Paul (SSVP) group at St Timothy's has been very busy this year supplying food to our "friends" all over Winnipeg. Recently, we have been blessed with some new members who are contributing greatly to our efforts. During 2011, we visited 952 families (almost 3 families per day) including 1414 adults and 1810 children. With the addition of our annual Christmas hamper efforts, the total number of families assisted reached nearly 1000. The Holy Spirit truly is alive and well as evidenced through the generosity to SSVP of our parish.

We are also blessed in having such a strong advocate in Fr. Phil Daley both within the church and in the archdiocese. Our wonderful spiritual director Bea Vouriot has provided great spiritual guidance to our group. This year we hope to keep expanding our membership, as we all know that many hands make lighter work! In fact, we look towards to getting other conferences "off the ground" elsewhere in Winnipeg.

Our SSVP group will continue to work through the SSVP Western Region to assist in various world disasters where SSVP International has people on the ground. For more information on getting a group started in your parish, call St Timothy's at 949-3760, or SSVP directly at 949-3766 and leave a message.

***Chris Gillen – President,
SSVP St Timothy Council***

World Marriage Day

This past February 12th, Saint Francis of Assisi (Pinawa) and Notre Dame du Lac (Lac du Bonnet) Parishes celebrated *World Marriage Day* in a wonderful way. Parishioners decorated the Notre Dame du Lac Church with wedding bells and about 45 married couples made a solemn entrance. Flowers were distributed to each couple. They renewed their Matrimonial Vows and received a most solemn blessing from Father Jose Montepeque. Maurice and Lucia Bruneau, the longest married couple with sixty-two years of marriage, brought the Holy Gifts to the Altar. Another younger couple read the Prayers of the Faithful, which included an emphasis on Sacramental Marriage.

We also honoured widows and widowers and remembered those

New at the Resource Centre

Chapman, Gary. *The 5 Love Languages*.

The Secret to Love That Lasts. -
Words of Affirmation - Quality
Time - Gifts - Acts of Service -
Physical Touch.

Hagen, Paula et al. *Moms: Facilitator's Guide*.

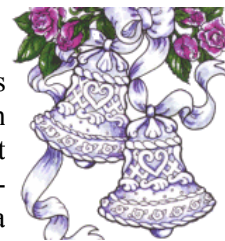
This book is dedicated to all the mothers who have heard Christ's call to reach out to other mothers and have spread the "good news" around the country.

Kelly, Matthew. *Rediscover Catholicism*.

A spiritual guide to living with passion and purpose.

West, Christopher. *Marriage*. DVD.

God's Plan for a Joy-Filled Marriage. A Marriage Preparation Supplement designed to help couples understand and embrace...



from our parishes who had died. Each couple brought their wedding photos and we made a collage of pictures.

This was brought to the front of the Altar, where a single candle was lit and a rose laid at the base.

Afterwards, all the couples gathered in the parish hall and we shared a champagne toast, finger foods and slices of a beautifully and appropriately decorated cake with the words "Happy World Marriage Day." We had a great turn out, the celebration was happy and everyone was pleased with their participation in this memorable event.

Fr. Jose Montepeque

ARISE Information Session

On Sunday February 12, Notre-Dame-de-la-Nativité Parish in Somerset hosted two Information Sessions for the Mountain Pastoral Region. Sr. Marie Cooper and Greg Kremer of RENEW International, accompanied by Julien Fradette of the Archdiocese, introduced "*DEBOUT ensemble dans le Christ*" to 15 French-speaking participants in the afternoon and "*ARISE Together in Christ*" to 50 English-speaking participants in the evening.

Amid an air of joyful expectation, many of the participants expressed their willingness and commitment to this pastoral and spiritual renewal effort. Each parish will now organize a Planning Team in anticipation of the March 18 Training Sessions to be held in Somerset.

Similar sessions were held in each of the Pastoral regions in preparation for the implementation of RENEW in our diocese this fall.

Denise Walley, Holland

Michelle Larose-Kuzenko, Editor
Reach us at bulletin@archsaintboniface.ca

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