

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FEBRUARY 15, 2009

Mark 1:40--35

- Lord, you warned the leper to keep your mission a secret.
What mattered for you was your inner sending, your contact through prayer with the Father.
- Preserve me, Lord, from the cult of image and from wanting to publish what I am about.
I want to be like you, drawing inner strength rather from prayer and my link with God.



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 16TH

Wednesday	9:00 a.m.	
Friday	9:00 a.m.	Ginette Leblanc by Pearl
Saturday	7:00 p.m.	Ted MacMillan by John & Family James Bowers by Catherine & Harold Darcy
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Leo Quintal by Barbara & Family
	11:00 a.m.	Kae Donnelly O'Connor by Pete & Ellen Gravelle & Family 4 th anniv. Jeffrey Romain by his Family

WEEKEND COLLECTIONS: \$2,287.27 Thank You!

Our Music Workshop led by Heather Reid

Two Saturday mornings (January 24 and February 7), Heather Reid was with us to conduct a workshop on Music in our Worship, especially in the Sunday Eucharist. Participation in it was respectable.... The workshop was not meant exclusively for musicians; so it was nice to see some non-musicians from our parish take advantage of the fact that we had Heather Reid with us. She is a member of the National Liturgical Committee and specializes in liturgical music. The music in our worship first belongs to the congregation, to the assembly. And the assembly does not come to listen to the musicians, but to be led and supported by the liturgical musicians. That is one of the first principles of Catholic Liturgy. It is well expressed in the ***Guidelines for Liturgical Music*** which the Canadian Bishops published in ***A Companion to the Catholic Book of Worship III:***

"The primary minister of music is the assembly itself. Every member of the assembly is called to participate in the liturgy by way of acclamations, responses, psalms, antiphons and other songs. With the support of competent music ministers, the entire assembly is enabled to voice its song of praise to the God of salvation. By joining their voices in song the members of the assembly express their unity in Christ, acclaim Christ's presence in word and sacrament, and exercise their baptismal priesthood, offering a living sacrifice of praise to God."

We are getting there, but we can still make some progress. Wouldn't it be great to see everybody sing - at our Sunday Eucharist - the parts that belong to the assembly!

An insightful view on Ordinary Time

*That is the period of the liturgical year we are in now when no great festivals or fasts are unfolding. **Ordinary Time:** It is a telling phrase; inevitably most of the time in the year is "ordinary" – yet all of it is the time won for us by Jesus Christ, all of it is gift, and in that sense extraordinary. It can never be strictly ordinary time, since it is the time in which day by day we are brought into the story, the drama, of God's action in Jesus. And the secret of living through the liturgical year lies in remembering the extraordinariness of the time that simply unfolds day after day, because it is the time in which we are constantly called and enabled to move and grow, in whatever circumstances face us. Here we are daily, not necessarily attractive and saintly people, along with other not very attractive and saintly people, managing the plain prose of our everyday service, deciding daily to recognize the*

prose of ourselves and each other as material for something unimaginably greater – the Kingdom of God, the glory of the saints, reconciliation and wonder. And we embody our decisions in both prayer and relation, inseparably, giving to both the attention they claim, so that together we begin to know ourselves found by God.

Rowan Williams in *Where God Happens*



Anyone interested in participating in Think Fast 2009?

That is the Lenten activity that *Development and Peace* organizes especially, but not exclusively, for youth. It consists of a 24-hour fast together with a sleep-over at the church, and this year it will be held on March 13-14 (Friday evening and Saturday). It is a 24-hour fast combined with various activities that focus on development and social justice issues. Actually, it is a beautiful way of doing something by choice (going without food) as a gesture of solidarity with the many in our world that have no choice in the matter because they simply have little or no food.

This *Think Fast* is part of the preparation for Confirmation for our younger members, but other youth are most welcome to participate. So here is a challenge! If interested, please contact Chris Santillan @ 819 684-6374.

Parish Pastoral Council – Priest – Wardens are jointly responsible for...

Last Sunday's bulletin had an insert that covered the responsibilities that PPC, Priest, and Wardens jointly have for the church, for our parish community. Of course, much depends on what we understand church to be. That same insert captured it in the four poles that make up parish life. Rowan Williams has a different way of describing the same reality. It is just another way of identifying what we are as church, and what as a result PPC, priest, and Wardens have to sort of look after.

*The church is a community that exists because something has happened that makes the entire process of self-justification irrelevant. God's truth and mercy have appeared in concrete form in Jesus and, in his death and resurrection, have worked the transformation that only God can perform, told us what only God can tell us: that he has already dealt with the dreaded consequences of our failure, so that we need not labour anxiously to save ourselves and put ourselves right with God. The church's rationale is to be a community that demonstrates this decisive transformation as really 'experienceable'. A healthy church is one in which we seek to stay connected with God, one in which we 'win God' by converting one another, and convert one another by our truthful awareness of frailty. And a church that is living in such a way is the only church that will have anything **different** to say to the world; how deeply depressing if all the church offered were new and better ways to succeed at the expense of others, reinstating the scapegoat mechanisms that the cross of Christ should have exploded once and for all.*

Nostalgia? Wistful Thinking? Makes Sense?

In many monastic communities, the angelus bells ring three times a day. The noon bell in particular is rung for peace, and the accompanying prayer is the Angelus. It is one of the church's lovely prayers of remembrance in honour of Mary's encounter with the angel when she is told that she is going to give birth to the Prince of Peace. I have vivid memories of praying the Angelus in the fields of my childhood farm. When the Angelus bell rang at noon, everyone stopped working and stood in silent prayer. This is a good hour to be reminded that each of us has the potential to give birth to whatever our world most needs. As Gandhi reminded us, "We must be the change we wish to see in the world." To that I add: We must be the peace we wish to see in the world.

*Macrina Wiederkehr in **Seven Sacred Pauses***



Wardens: Tuesday, February 17th at 7:00 pm

Baptism Preparation: Wednesday, February 18th at 7:30 pm

First Communion: Saturday, February 21st at 9:00 am (children & parents)

INCOME TAX RECEIPTS: *It's that time of year again* – If you would like a receipt for your 2008 contributions to St. Mark's parish, please drop a stamped self-addressed envelope in the collection basket and one will be forwarded to you. For those of you who do not use church envelopes, perhaps this may be an opportune time to consider getting into the habit. It is the principal source of income for the church.



We would like to thank everyone for the many masses, cards, phone calls and messages of sympathy on the recent death of our mother Olga. A special thanks to Father Bill for his presence and visits to mom in the hospital and for his explanation at different points during the mass service which brought positive comments from many in attendance. Also, thanks to the CWG for their dedication and service as well as parishioners for the lovely luncheon. You are a caring parish. *Mary Tessier and family*

CALLING ALL THE YOUNG AND... THE YOUNG AT HEART!

To adults, teachers, volunteers and families interested in learning more about our Youth...the Gatineau Diocese will be holding an “**Information gathering session**” to explore the needs of our Youth today. Open to ages 12 to 35 who wish to share their dreams, hopes, ideas and ambitions. **Saturday, February 28th** at College St-Alexandre, 2425 St-Louis, Gatineau – **PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN LUNCH.**



Next week you will find included in your Bulletin a “Lenten Lifestyle Awareness Calendar”, produced by Development & Peace and for many years a family favourite. The calendar invites us to reflect on the wealth we enjoy as part of our lifestyle on each of the forty days of Lent. Each family is invited to make donations recognizing our relative affluence. Please spread the word about the calendar to people you know (extra copies will be made available at each entrance to the church). The Development & Peace Annual fundraising collection will take place on Solidarity Sunday, March 29, 2009.

URGENT NEED OF VOLUNTEERS:

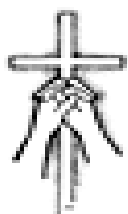
ACCÈS (Action Volunteer Centre) is in dire need of volunteers, most particularly for their Transportation/Accompaniment Program. This program consists of driving an elderly or other person in need to their medical appointment. We pay .40¢/per km and respect your availability. If you have a few hours per week to spare, please contact Marie-Josée: at 819 684-2242.



YOUTH OF ST. MARK'S:



- ❖ **Youth Group:** Young Men and Women (grades 7 and up) retreats are taking place every two weeks at the Church. To know more about this contact Mitch @ 819 684-4882 or by email mitch899@hotmail.com or Jessica @ 819 682-8397 or by email j_rosesmith@hotmail.com
- ❖ We're always looking for **New Youth Leaders**. If your 18 years or older and are interested in helping organize and/or lead youth group and other youth events contact us!
- ❖ We're always looking for **New Choir Members**. If you love to sing to the Lord, come out and join us on Sundays and/or come to choir practice (Times may vary for practices, so contact us).



PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Kindly remember Bernie Cain, Claude Lavigne, Gilles Benoit, Pat Burns and their families in your prayers.

PRAYERS & SYMPATHIES: are extended to Jean-Francois Landry on the loss of his father, and John Foran on the loss of his father, and Sarah & Paul on the loss of their grandfather.

And I said to the one who stood at the gate of the year, "Give me a light that I may tread safely into the Unknown". And he replied, "Go into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way".

~ Minnie Haskins