

## Sacred Heart Catholic Church - Bellingham, WA.

This past week, I spent an evening with those journeying through the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) and talked about the priesthood. A thought-provoking question was raised: When a priest is ordained, it leaves an indelible or permanent mark on his soul; what happens when a priest leaves the priesthood? Is he still a priest? It is certainly a sad situation not only for the laity, but also his brother priests when for one reason or another, a priest walks away from his vocation as the mediator between the people of God and God Himself. It is often the case that the priest asks from the Holy Father the permission to return to the laity state and it is granted. However, under situations of emergency, he may celebrate the Sacraments licitly and validly. This affirms the permanent mark that is placed on his soul as a priest. In heaven the priest is still a priest.

Two other Sacraments have this mark of distinction: Baptism and Confirmation. They mark us permanently as sons and daughters of God. When our Blessed Lord entered the Jordan to be baptized by John, He forever changed the transitory act of cleansing by pouring water over our heads into a permanent act of God that cleanses us of our sins and makes us sons and daughters of our Heavenly Father. There is no such thing as, "I used to be a Catholic", for once a Catholic, always a Catholic. In other words, once we have been claimed for Christ, we are permanently His children no matter how far we have strayed away from His love. If this is not hope, I don't know what is.

Fr. Qui-Thac Nguyen

**Pro-Life Prayer Vigil:** Come and pray with us once a month on the third Sunday from 2-3 p.m., at Whatcom County's abortion clinic: Mt. Baker Planned Parenthood (1530 Ellis Street). Our monthly vigil will be Sunday, January 17, rain or shine. Let us pray for an end to all abortions and healing for all women suffering from Post-Abortion Syndrome. For more information call Kathy St. Hilaire 671-4836.

**Marriage Encounter:** Married couples, are you looking for a special Valentine's Day gift? Give a gift that will last a lifetime! A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is for husbands and wives who want to strengthen and enrich their marriage. The rewards continue to grow through the years! Register today for the upcoming February 26-28 weekend in Seattle. For more information contact Kay and Mike Gougeon, 671-6955.

**Prayer Vigil for Peace in the Middle East:** Monday, January 18, 5:30-6:00 p.m., at Assumption Catholic Church 2116 Cornwall St. Bellingham. 360-733-1380.

**Mass & March for Life:** Pro-Life Events Tuesday, January 19, 2010, 10:00 a.m., Pro-Life Mass St. Michael Church, Olympia, WA 1055 Boundary SE, (360)-754-4667, followed by procession from church to State Capitol Building to participate in the Washington State March for Life. Limited transportation provided to and from Capitol. March begins at Noon. After the march, all marchers are invited back to St. Michael Church for complimentary lunch provided by Knights of Columbus.

**Knights of Columbus Coming Events:** The Knights of Columbus have two events coming up in January and early February. On Saturday, January 30, join us as a cooker or an eater in the annual **Chili Cook-Off**, to be held at Sacred Heart. If you want to enter the contest, contact Joe St. Hilaire, 671-4836. The second annual **Super Bowl Party** will be held at Assumption Gym on Sunday, February 7, starting at 2:00 p.m. Watch the game on the big screen, enjoy good food, buy a chance on the pool.

**Young Catholics of Bellingham:** We are a group of young Catholics that invites anyone ages 23-40 to join us for some fellowship in our shared faith. We meet from 7-8:30 p.m., on the first and third Tuesdays of the month. We gather at Sacred Heart's Parish Center and will often move from there to another close-by location in Fairhaven. Call Janel Sislow at (509)-301-6004 for more information and to be added to the e-mail list.

**Annual meeting offers inspiration and friendship:** Interfaith Coalition's annual meeting provides an opportunity to hear first-hand how the coalition's programs, which we support and participate in, make a difference to homeless families and people unable to pay for needed health care. Plan to attend the meeting with friends on Wednesday, Jan. 27, at Christ the Servant Lutheran Church, 2600 Lakeway Dr. in Bellingham, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Following the meeting will be a time for fellowship and refreshments.

**Donations for Bellingham Food Bank:** Thank you to all of the parishioners who donated food to help the poor in our community. In the first two weeks of December, 145 lbs of food was given to the Bellingham Food Bank.

**Individual Acts of Stewardship:** When you walk in your front door, give thanks for having a place to live.

# January 9 and January 10

## Sunday January 10th

8:30 a.m.	<b>Mass</b>	Church
9:45 a.m.	Coffee Hour	Hall
9:45 a.m.	RE & Fir. Rec./Fir. Comm.	Parish Center
10:00 a.m.	Bible Study	St. Clare
11:00 a.m.	<b>Mass</b>	Church
6:00 p.m.	SALT	Upper Rm./Assumption

## Monday January 11th

7:00 p.m.	EDGE	Assumption Gym
7:00 p.m.	St. Vincent de Paul	St. Nicholas

## Tuesday January 12th

12:10 p.m.	Adoration	Church
1:30 p.m.	Prayer Shawl Ministry	St. Nicholas
5:00 p.m.	Reconciliation	Church
6:00 p.m.	<b>Mass</b>	Church
6:30 p.m.	Knights of Columbus	St. Augustine
7:00 p.m.	II Tuesday	Parish Hall
7:00 p.m.	RCIA	Winter Chapel

## Wednesday January 13th

11:00 a.m.	Deanery Meeting	St. Charles
11:15 a.m.	NO Reconciliation	
12:10 p.m.	<b>NO Mass</b>	
7:00 p.m.	8:30 a.m. Choir practice	Church
7:30 p.m.	Catholic Men's Group	St. Augustine

## Thursday January 14th

10:00 a.m.	Parish Nurse	St. Clare
11:15 a.m.	Reconciliation	Church
12:10 p.m.	<b>Mass</b>	Church

## Friday January 15th

5:00 p.m.	Reconciliation	Church
6:00 p.m.	<b>Mass</b>	Church

## Saturday January 16th

8:30 a.m.	<b>Mass</b>	Winter Chapel
3:30 p.m.	Reconciliation	Church
5:00 p.m.	<b>Mass</b>	Church

## Sunday January 17th

8:30 a.m.	<b>Mass</b>	Church
9:45 a.m.	Coffee Hour	Hall
9:45 a.m.	RE & Fir. Rec./Fir. Comm.	Parish Center
9:45 a.m.	RE Parents' Meeting	Fr.'s Office
11:00 a.m.	<b>Mass</b>	Church
1:00 p.m.	Vietnamese Mass	Church
6:00 p.m.	SALT	Upper Rm./Assumption

### Mass Intentions this Week

January 12	Lin-Hon Anne (+)
January 14	Lin Hon Mo Coi (+)
January 15	Lucie Campbell (96th Birthday)

### Weekly Readings Baptism of the Lord

January 10	Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22
January 11	1 Sm 1:1-8; Mk 1:14-20
January 12	1 Sm 1:9-20; Mk 1:21-28
January 13	1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20; Mk 1:29-39
January 14	1 Sm 4:1-11; Mk 1:40-45
January 15	1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a; Mk 2:1-12
January 16	1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1; Mk 2:13-17
<b>Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	
January 17	Isaiah 62:1-5; 1Cor 12:4-11; Jn 2:1-11

## Faith Formation & Liturgy

Religious Education Classes begin January 10th from 9:45-10:45 a.m.

It's not too soon to start thinking about the Baptismal Prep. Class on Sunday, February 7, 2010 from 12:30-4:30 p.m. If you are hoping to have your child baptized, please check out the information on the website and complete the information form or call Twi McDonnell, 360-734-2850, Ext. 6.

II Tuesday begins again on Tuesday, January 12th from 7-9 p.m. We have Sister Mariam James joining us. See the insert for more details.

All Altar Servers, (including Crossbearers, and Acolytes) and their family members are invited to a Holy Hour in the Winter Chapel on Saturday, January 23rd following the 5:00 p.m. Mass for the intentions of Altar Servers and their families. We also lift up the intention of the Church during this year of the priests for an increase of vocations. After the Holy Hour, the acolytes, our Youth Minister and Fr. Qui-Thac will head off for bowling. Everyone else heads over to the Hall for Pizza.

## Assumption School News

**Prospective families:** are invited to Assumption Catholic School's Open House on Sunday, January 31 from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. The principal and staff members will be on hand to answer questions you may have.

### Sacred Heart's Stewardship Report December 24 & December 25

#### Holy Day

Envelopes (183)	\$ 6,632.00
Visitors	\$ 1,591.00
Children (2)	<u>\$ 5.00</u>
	\$ 8,228.00

St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 71.05
Building & Grounds	\$ 511.00

#### December 26 & December 27

##### Ordinary Income

Envelopes (131)	\$ 6,450.25
Visitors	\$ 866.95
Holy Day	<u>\$ 1.00</u>
	\$ 7,318.20

#### December 31 & January 1

##### Holy Day

Envelopes (57)	\$ 1,095.00
Visitors	<u>\$ 501.00</u>
	\$ 1,596.00

#### January 2 & January 3

##### Ordinary Income

Envelopes (159)	\$ 7,275.00
Visitors	\$ 806.10
Children (1)	<u>\$ 1.00</u>
	\$ 8,082.10

Initial Offering	\$ 127.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 360.00
Building & Grounds	\$ 155.00
Assumption School	\$ 25.00

