

January 13th, 2019
The Baptism of the Lord



More than a month ago we entered Advent, which a Franciscan colleague of mine likes to describe as a time of "joyful expectation." Today as we conclude the Christmas season, we again hear about "expectation" in our *Gospel* selection.

Throughout this year we will read from the *Gospel of Luke*, and in today's passage he describes how the people were "filled with expectation" that John the Baptist might be the Messiah.

Luke wants to show Jesus as the fulfillment of all that was promised and prophesied in the Hebrew Scriptures. John the Baptist stands as a figure uniting that tradition with the person and the mission of Jesus. Jesus will fulfill the expectation people had for a Savior—if not quite in the way some expected it.

The signs accompanying the events of Jesus' baptism ought to tip us off that something important is happening here. The heavens opening, the voice of the Father commending his "beloved Son" to us, and the presence of the Holy Spirit—all point to a moment of revelation.

We've probably all put Christmas behind us—except for the bills to be paid—and no doubt we're ready for some quieter, less hectic days. But the life of a Christian must still be lived in constant "expectation," for the Kingdom is breaking in, and we must be ready to witness to it.

Fr. Greg Friedman, O.F.M

Children's Collection

A big thank you to the children who donated money to the Children's Collection on Sundays, which amounted to \$1,772.98 from July to December 2018. We distributed those donations to the Holy Childhood Association, Missionary Association of Mary Immaculate for the children in Peru, and the Northern Uganda Development Foundation.

First Reconciliation & First Holy Communion

For those parents who did not attend last Sunday's meeting, please see Fr. Chris to register.

St. Vincent de Paul Soup/Sandwich Preparation

Tuesday at 9:40 am preparing sandwich and soup ingredients and **Wednesday at 9:40 am** making soup and sandwiches in the Church hall.

Knights of Columbus

Pancake Breakfast next **Sunday, Jan. 20th**. Everyone is welcomed.

Immaculate Conception School News

We will begin Explore Fridays starting on **Jan. 25th** from **12:45 pm – 1:45 pm**. Thank you to all who have already graciously volunteered! For more details, please contact the school office at 250-964-4362.

Catholic School's Week

(Jan. 27th – Feb. 2nd)

We begin on **Sunday 27th** with 9 am School/ Parish Mass. There is a special collection on that Sunday for Immaculate Conception School. Please be generous in your support of our school and especially for families who are unable to pay tuition.



St. Vincent de Paul

With the cold weather & increased demand for our services at St Vincent de Paul we are urgently looking for volunteers at the Drop-in Centre. If you have a few hours to spare, Monday to Friday, between 7:30 am & 3:30 pm, please consider coming by the Drop-in Centre at 1220 Second Avenue to complete an application form & a Criminal Record Check request. More information on our services can be found on our website, www.ssvdppg.com

WORLD DAY OF CONSECRATED LIFE: In 1997, Pope Saint John Paul II instituted a day of prayer for women and men in consecrated life. This celebration is attached to the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on the 2nd of February. This Feast is also known as Candlemas Day; the day on which candles are blessed symbolizing Christ who is the light of the world. So too, those in consecrated life are called to reflect the light of Jesus Christ to all peoples.

Mass will be celebrated on **Saturday, February 2** at **Sacred Heart Cathedral** at **10:00 AM** followed by lunch in the lower hall. Further details to follow.

Wanted

We are collecting stamps with ½" border and postcards. The proceeds from the sale of these items are used to provide cancer dressings to those patients in need, free of charge. Please place your items in the small black basket on the table in the church foyer.

Wills

Please remember Immaculate Church and School in your will. Thank you.

Vocation Live-In

On the weekend of **Feb. 8th -10th**, there will be a Vocation Live-In for boys or young men interested in the priesthood or the consecrated life. For more information call 604-826-8715

HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT VOCATIONS?--

BY DONATING AIRMILES/AEROPLAN POINTS!

This coming February, two young men will travel to the Seminary and experience what life is like in the seminary. One is from Moberly Lake, BC and the other is from Prince Rupert. Thanks to a local donor, two airline tickets were purchased using their air-miles.

If you would like to donate Airmiles or Aeroplan miles to the Vocation Advisory Committee, please contact Fr. Terry Brock, Vocation Director at Vocations.pgdiocese@gmail.com or tbrock@pgdiocese.ca or call 250-624-3095.

The Vocation Advisory Committee Policy is as follows:

The air miles will be used to:

- send prospective seminarians to the Live-In at Mission, BC, i.e. Seminary of Christ the King
 - transport seminarians in the theology program to and from the PG Diocese to Vancouver
 - fly the Vocation Director to Seminary to meet with the seminarians
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Support Our Sponsors

Please support our sponsors who advertise in the back of the bulletin.

John Henry Jowett said" "Gratitude is a vaccine, an antitoxin, and an antiseptic." This is a most searching and true diagnosis. Gratitude can be a vaccine that can prevent the invasion of a disgruntled attitude. Antitoxins prevent the disastrous effects of certain poisons of faultfinding and grumbling. When trouble has smitten us, a spirit of thanksgiving is a soothing antiseptic.

Clinton C. Cox