

October 1st, 2017

Twenty-sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time

What's your choice for a favorite *Gospel* parable? The Good Samaritan? The vineyard workers? The Prodigal Son.

Might I suggest a possibility for a favorite *Gospel* parable? It comes from the *Gospel of Matthew*—today's parable from Jesus about two sons: Their father asks each of them to go and work in the family vineyard. One says *no*, but later changes his mind and complies. The other says yes but doesn't go out to the vineyard. Jesus' conclusion: The first son, the one who thought better of his refusal and eventually went to work—that son truly carried out his father's will. The point our Lord wants to make is clear: Those who sin can change. Sinners who repent are welcome in the Kingdom.

And that's what makes this parable one of my favorites. I can't begin to guess how many times I've said no to God—in small ways, mostly. I've done this through bad choices, neglecting obvious opportunities to do good. Instead, I've put my own ego and my own comfort ahead of God's will. Fortunately, God leaves the door of the Kingdom open. Lots of times—through God's help and the challenge and patience of other Christians—I've been motivated to re-consider my decision. I hope that makes me like the first son—capable of changing my mind and reconsidering God's will and God's way. And I call that **Good News!**

Fr. Greg Friedman, O.F.M.



If you would like to advertise in the back of the bulletin, please phone parish office at 250-964-4898.

Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast
Sunday Oct. 15th after Mass.

Immaculate Conception School

The theme for the year is: "**Caring for Everyone in Our Common Home.**" We have some spaces available in Grades 4, 5 & 6. For more details, please contact the school office at 250-964-4362.

Thanksgiving Day

Today we will be handing out paper bags with a list of food items for St. Vincent de Paul. The bag can be returned the Sunday after or during the week. Thank you for your generosity!

Monthly Day of Adoration

Emmanuel Hermitage invites you to silent adoration on **Tuesday, Oct. 10th** at the Domano Chapel. Mass will be celebrated at 7:30 am and the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed from **8 am – 8 pm**.

St. Vincent de Paul Soup/Sandwich Preparation

Tuesday, Oct. 17th at **9:40 am** preparing sandwich and soup ingredients and **Wednesday, Oct. 18th** at **9:40 am** making soup and sandwiches in the Church hall.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

The city-wide Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults will begin on **Tuesday, October 10th, 2017** from **7:30 pm -9:00 pm** at St. Mary's in the parish office (Gillett St). If you or someone you know is interested in becoming Catholic, or if you would like to volunteer with the RCIA program please contact Claudia at Sacred Heart Cathedral 250-564-5225 or St. Mary's 250-564-4097 or email clowdy1@hotmail.com

40th Anniversary Pictorial Directory

Volunteers are still needed to greet and welcome families having their picture taking on **Wednesday** from **4 pm – 8:30 pm** and **Friday** from **1:15 pm – 4 pm** as well as other times. Please call Eva at 778-349-7001.

We would like to have a database of emails of our parishioners. Please fill this out and put in the basket next Sunday or send email to icparish@pgdiocese.bc.ca

Name: _____

Email: _____

Diocesan Annual Appeal

"Called Together – Giving, Sharing, Serving."

Our Parish Goal is: \$44,336.00
Received to date: - 9,080.00
Total to Goal \$35,256.00

of people donated: 38

Please make cheques payable to:

RCEC - Diocesan Appeal

Diocesan Goal: \$400,000

Any question about the appeal please contact the director of the appeal Fr. Rector at 250-964-4424 or email vicargeneral@pgdiocese.ca

You're invited to two evenings

1. **"Our Call to Stewardship"—Tues., October 3rd - 7:00 pm at Diocesan Pastoral Centre Board Room, 6500 Southridge Ave. (Old O'Grady School)**

A one hour presentation on the Stewardship way of life: its basis in Christian faith and its practical implementation in parish communities.

2. **"Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide in Canada: Ethical and Pastoral Reflections"**

Thurs. Oct. 5th @ 7:00 PM at Diocesan Pastoral Centre Board Room, 6500 Southridge Ave. (Old O'Grady School)

A one hour presentation on the situation in Canada and our Christian response to those at the end of life, including palliative care.

Donna Flood, Director of the Prince George Hospice Society, will also present on the local situation in Prince George.

Prince George 40 Days For Life

The campaign begins from **September 27 to November 5th**. Participants will be standing in peaceful, prayerful vigil from **7am - 7pm** on 15th in front of the University Hospital of Northern British Columbia. Since 40 Days For Life started in 2007, 13,305 lives have been saved that we know of - 2 of them in Prince George and 89 abortion facilities have closed their doors - one of them in Fredericton, NB. We invite you to join us along with the 750,000 other volunteers across the world as we witness to the dignity and sanctity of human life and pray for an end to abortion. If you are able to give an hour or more of your time over the 40 days we have signup sheets in the church foyer or contact us at 40dayspgbc@gmail.com or phone Angelica @ [250-301-8135](tel:250-301-8135) or Lucy @ [250-962-7454](tel:250-962-7454).

Prince George Pregnancy Care Centre Fundraiser - "JUST DESSERTS"

This will be held at the Westwood Mennonite Church **Saturday, Oct. 28th at 7 pm**. Please RSVP by **October 20th** by calling 250-562-4464 or email admin@pgpcc.ca Join us as we come together for testimonies to how God is working, for a time to dream about how much more He will do, and for amazing spread of desserts.

Society of St Vincent de Paul

The Society of St Vincent de Paul is looking for volunteers for our Saturday afternoon Sandwich line. The commitment would be for **1-2 Saturdays each month from 1:00 pm to 3:30 pm**. Sandwich line volunteers make and serve sandwiches, coffee, and snacks to Drop-In Centre guests. If you interested in helping out, please contact **Lisa Weber at 250-981-9218 or Joy Cotter at 250-564-4148. Thank you!**

It is almost Thanksgiving and St. Vincent de Paul is planning for our annual Thanksgiving Dinner. We are again looking for volunteers to help set-up or serve dinner on **Sunday, October 8th**. Volunteers are needed from **10:15 to 2:00 pm** at the Church Hall behind Sacred Heart Cathedral. To ensure we have enough volunteers for serving dinner, please pre-register by calling Lynn at the Drop-In Centre, [250-564-7871](tel:250-564-7871), Monday- Friday, 9am - 4 pm.

Our guests enjoy pies at the dinner and we would very much appreciate your tasty treats. Pies can be dropped off at the Drop-In Centre on or before Friday, October 6th.

Thank you to all who supported and/or attended the recent High Tea and Fashion Show at the Columbus Centre to raise funds for the new Thrift Store. Your participation helped make it an enjoyable event and a great success.

Christian Meditation & Taize Prayer

Ecumenical Programs in the UNBC Chapel Space:

Christian Meditation meets on **Mondays 7 - 8 pm** in the UNBC Chapel Space. All are welcome.

Prayer in the Style of Taize is on **Tuesdays 3 - 4pm** in the UNBC Chapel Space. All are welcome.