

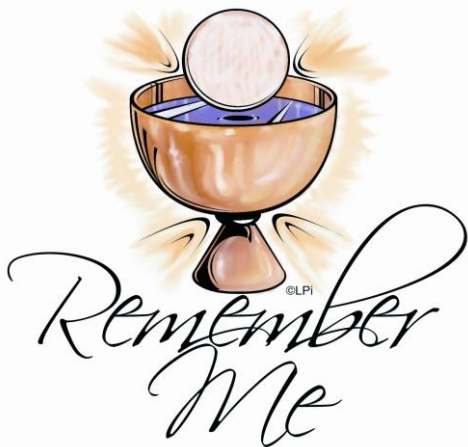
**January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019**  
**Second Sunday of Ordinary Time**  
**World Day of Migrants & Refugees**

Like other priests, I've participated in wedding planning and have listened to brides and grooms—and their anxious parents—worry about making sure the celebration at church and the reception afterward express the joy and importance of the occasion. And I suspect many of them will no doubt identify with today's *Gospel* story, the wedding feast of Cana. We all know the story about how the wine was running out, and how Jesus' mother took the problem to him. The miracle of the water become wine—and good wine at that—is a charming story, to be sure. But there's a deeper dimension.

The *Gospel* according to John is a story of revelation: In its opening words the *Gospel* tells us about the Word made Flesh. God has come among us in the person of Jesus Christ. The stories and sayings of Jesus which follow are written to allow us to encounter Jesus as the One come from God. Jesus is revealing his glory to those who would accept him.

And it's appropriate that the beginning of Jesus' signs—as John describes this event at Cana—happens in the very human setting of a wedding—a celebration of human life, joy, and the goodness of God's creation. To find God present, we need only to look for the signs of divinity which are present all around us.

*Fr. Greg Friedman, O.F.M*



**First Reconciliation & First Holy Communion**

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

**Immaculate Conception School News**

We will begin Explore Fridays starting on **Jan. 25<sup>th</sup> 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. 27<sup>th</sup> – Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>)**

We begin on **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup>** 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. We close the week with **9 am Mass on Friday, February 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**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](http://www.ssvdppg.com)

**The Eucharist....is not a prize for the perfect, but a powerful medicine and nourishment for the weak.** Pope Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium*

(The Joy of the Gospel)



ALPHA is a series of interactive sessions exploring the basics of the Christian faith. Each session looks at a different question and is designed to create conversation. There's no pressure, no follow-up and no charge; it's just an open, informal, and honest space to explore and discuss life's big questions together. The next ALPHA in Catholic Context will be at Christ Our Saviour Church, 4514 Austin Rd. West. It begins with a free meal, followed by a short video, and open discussion. Consider coming and checking out our first session **today at 5 pm**. This time there will also be a SPANISH LANGUAGE track along with our ENGLISH sessions. For more information go to [www.tryalpha.ca](http://www.tryalpha.ca)

**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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

**ST. MARY'S YOUTH GROUP:** All youth in grades 7-12 are welcome to attend our next St. Mary's Youth Group on **Wednesday, January 23rd** from **6:30 pm - 8:30 pm** in the St. Mary's School Gym. Our Youth Spiritual Committee will be leading this youth group!

## **Vocation Live-In**

On the weekend of **Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> -10<sup>th</sup>**, 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](mailto:Vocations.pgdiocese@gmail.com) or [tbrock@pgdiocese.ca](mailto: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

## **Bishop Thomas J. Lobsinger, OMI**

### **Memorial Bursary Program**

The Knights of Columbus are privileged to offer 30 bursaries of \$500 each to Catholic students across B.C. Applications are accepted from Jan. 1-Jun. 30, 2019. The bursaries will be awarded in the fall.

Requests for application should be addressed to:

**Knights of Columbus B.C. & Yukon**  
**Attn: Egardo Panes, Bursaries Chairman**  
**11260-3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.**  
**Richmond, B.C., V7E 5A1**