

We are the Community. We are the Church.

*Celebrating the 50th anniversary of the First Mass
at Sacred Heart Church at Nelthorpe Street
on September 5, 2015*

27

March 7-8, 2015

Reminders:

- ✓ Invite relatives and friends to attend the Lenten mission, with Fr. Roger Keeler, on Sunday, March 28, and Monday, March 29, at 7 p.m., particularly those who are no longer a member of our faith community but who received the three initiation sacraments at Sacred Heart Church on Nelthorpe Street since 1965. Their names are posted on the bulletin board inside the church.
- ✓ Select your photos for the 'Fond Memories on the Vine Project [see Bulletin #3]. Drop them off in the box in the church foyer.
- ✓ Join the Sacred Heart Hymn Writing Contest [see Bulletin #5]. Tell others about it. Deadline is Friday, 25 April 2015.
- ✓ If you contribute to the parish weekly using envelopes or through PAD, but did not register in the fall for inclusion in the parish directory on the special 50th Anniversary Souvenir publication, and would like to be included, please phone Marilyn Turner at 250-475-3024 or e-mail her at m.r.turner@shaw.ca by Monday, 16 March 2015.
- ✓ If you have indicated that you do not want to be included in the publication but would still like to order a copy of the publication for a charge of \$14 a copy, contact Marilyn Turner by Monday, 16 March 2015.



'Share Lent' via Development and Peace

In '67 the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops established Development and Peace in response to **Pope Paul VI's** encyclical letter *Populorum Progressio*.

It states that Development is the new word for Peace. Peace cannot be seen simply as the absence of war. It must be built daily, and it must strive towards a more perfect justice among human beings (*Populorum Progressio*, 65). This founding principle of Development and Peace is still maintained today.

That same year, Sacred Heart faith community began its involvement with Development and Peace with **Mary Carr-Travis** [d], **John Magee** [d] and **Delia Magee** [d] as the key initiators.

In '69-'70, **Jack Kreiser**, a former parishioner and Development and Peace diocesan president, ran an intensive educational program at Sacred Heart on the organization.

In '76, when **Fr. Guy Merveille** became our pastor, the parish established its own Development and Peace Committee with **Mary Carr-Travis** serving as the committee's representative on parish council. Others on the committee included **Doran Doyle**, **Aideen Lydon**, **John** and **Delia Magee**, **Lois Marcoux**, **Dr. Edward Pires** [d], **Mary "Maggie" Pires** [d], and **Ella Webb** [d].

The committee's first project was in '76 with 'Share Christmas' gift cards distributed for a donation to Development and Peace.

Don Shaw [d], **Eileen Shaw** [d], **Kathy Weswick** and **Yvonne Pigott** were leaders in later years with **Don Shaw** chairing the committee until his passing and **Kathy Weswick** taking over.

Today the committee members are **Dianne Miller** and **Kathy Weswick**, with **Margie Noonan** as chair. The projects recently implemented by the committee include the following:

Fall Action

- Made presentations to parish groups.
- Attended Development and Peace diocesan meetings.
- Supported the visit of Filipino **Bishop Jose Bantolo** in the fall of '13. He came to support the Action Card petition calling on the Canadian government to establish an ombudsman to hear complaints from communities in the Global South negatively impacted by Canadian mining companies. Sacred Heart sent 110 cards to Development and Peace. Six petitions were sent to Parliament. On 14 May '14, **Margie Noonan** attended the rally on Parliament Hill where MPs received 85,000 action cards.

Lent campaign

- Supported during Lent the 'One Human Family: Food for All' world-wide program of Caritas International launched by **Pope Francis** in December '13. Activities included weekly bulletin announcements, distribution of 'Share Lent' magazines, prayer cards, and 'Share Year-Round' brochures.
- Led Stations of the Cross and provided a Eucharistic Reflection at the beginning of the Masses on Solidarity Sunday;

The committee also gave a presentation to the Catholic Women's League on the Caritas International's theme. Committee members participate in hosting coffee after mass and they maintain a Development and Peace/Social Justice bulletin board in the church foyer.

"We are thankful for Sacred Heart parishioners' faithful support of Development and Peace over four decades and we are always looking for more interested people to join us in our education and advocacy work for our global partners," says **Margie Noonan**.

'76-'79: the parish's glory years?

Continued from bulletin #26

The Sacred Heart parish council chair's letter of 8 June '79 to Bishop Remi de Roo on the transfer of Fr. Guy Merveille stated: "There is much work of Fr. Guy which still remains to be completed here." Besides, his helping the Vietnamese refugees, Fr. Guy had also these projects he initiated on his plate:

- On 4 February '79, the parish council authorized a study into the feasibility of establishing a seniors complex/home for the elderly on church property. The study was to be completed in October '79.
- A committee was appointed to look into buying or renting or leasing a bus to help transport the elderly and youth for their church activities.
- On 4 February '79, parish council approved a motion to appoint a committee to look into the feasibility of erecting a cross on Christmas Hill as an "excellent ecumenical project" of 150 churches in Victoria by Holy Week of 1980. An engineering firm prepared initial drawings for \$50 for a 15.24-metre [50-foot] aluminum structure with floodlighting by spot lights estimated at \$12,000 to \$15,000. The project, it was reported, had the tentative approval of Saanich.

These projects did not materialize after Fr. Guy was moved to Gold River in June '79.

The letter said that above and beyond all the reasons stated in the letter, "it is impossible to convey the depth and magnitude of feeling that this proposed move has caused throughout the parish. We fully appreciate the inevitability of such moves, but we cannot see why it is necessary at this time [and in view of the foregoing] to remove Father Guy from his post, when it appears to be to the spiritual and personal detriment of so many people.

"It is appropriate to conclude such a letter as this, by stating that Father Guy is a fine personal example of love and commitment. He lives his faith, and sets us all an extraordinary example."

An exorcism on church grounds?

On Friday, 24 June '77, St. John the Baptist's feast day, Michelle Smith and her psychiatrist and later her husband, Lawrence [Larry] Pazder attended Mass at Sacred Heart and saw a small wooden bench in the church. At the back of the seat there was what looked like a head with ram's horns, supposedly said to be the "horns of death," an ancient symbol of satan. They brought the bench to Fr. Guy Merveille's attention.

They took the bench to the church courtyard, broke it into pieces, and Fr. Guy lit it for a bonfire just after midnight.

Photos taken by Pazder of the fire are published in the '80 book, *Michelle Remembers*. The sequential photos purport to show Fr. Guy leading the services with what is stated to be a "presence" moving behind the fire. The book also has photos of: Sacred Heart Church; one in January '77 showing Fr. Guy, Jesuit Fr. Amédée Dupas and Bishop Remi de Roo listening to recordings of Michelle's sessions; and one in the Vatican in February '78 with Michelle, Bishop de Roo, Sergio Cardinal Pignedoli, who asked for a study of Michelle.

Pazder — founder and president of Anawim Companion Society that bought in 1991 a property for Anawim House — passed away in 2004 and a *Times Colonist* obituary described the book, *Michelle Remembers*, co-authored by Pazder and Michelle, as "a

vivid account of how Michelle was imprisoned and tortured during her childhood years by a Satanic cult.

"After a year of captivity her Christian faith triumphed over the power of Satan and she was allowed to return home. She then repressed the memory of the ordeal until she entered therapy with Pazder more than 30 years later." A best-seller in the 80s, claims in the book have been discredited by several investigations.



Catholicism in the continents

Focus on Asia

Continued from bulletin #26

Korea: Catholicism began in 1784 when Yi Seung-hun was baptized, while in China, under the Christian name of Peter. He later returned home with various religious texts and baptized many Koreans. The church survived without any formal missionary priests until clergy from France arrived in 1836.

During the 19th century, the Joseon Dynasty targeted the church chiefly because of the church's opposition to ancestral "worship," which the church perceived to be a form of idolatry, but which the state prescribed as a Korean culture cornerstone.

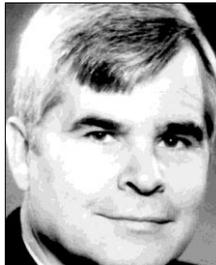
Despite a century-long persecution that produced thousands of martyrs — 103 were canonized in May '84, including the first Korean priest, St. Andrew Taegon Kim, ordained in 1845 and martyred in 1846 — the Catholic church in Korea expanded with an increase of 70 per cent in the past 10 years.

As of 31 December '13, Korea had 5.4 million Catholics, or 10.4 per cent of its population.

Our Pastors



Fr. Guy Merveille



Born: 6 October '37, in Leige, Belgium

Ordained: '61 in Leige, Belgium

Fr. Guy Merveille, O.PRAEM, was Sacred Heart Parish's 7th pastor.

In '55, at age 18, he entered the Nobertine monastery in Leige, Belgium, and was ordained in '61.

In '66, he went to Philadelphia, New York, where he started studies at the Pope John XXIII Ecumenical Centre. By '69, he had received his masters degree at Temple University in Philadelphia.

At age 32, he transferred on 8 February '69 to the Norbertine's Daylesford Abbey, in Paoli, Pennsylvania.

By '71, he began work on his doctorate in sociology and was the director of the Pope John XXIII Ecumenical Center. In the few years in which he was the director, he brought in speakers from all across the world to speak on ecumenism.

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