

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*

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April 4-5, 2015

Rejoice, Jesus has risen!

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Living the teachings of the risen Jesus

"Befriend the poor, and lend to the Lord, He will repay faithfully." — **Proverbs 19:17**

"For every loaf of bread given to the hungry, blessings shall be the reward of kindly hearts — **Proverbs 22:9**

"He who oppresses the poor, insults man's Maker; Him if thou wouldst honour, take pity on human life." — **Proverbs 14:31**

— *The St. Vincent de Paul Society was founded in 1833 to serve impoverished people living in the slums of Paris, France. The primary figure behind the society's founding was Blessed Frederic Ozanam, a French lawyer, author, and professor.*

Margaret MacIntyre, manager, member and volunteer services, St. Vincent de Paul Society, will speak at all masses on Saturday, April 11, and Sunday, April 12.

In Sacred Heart Parish's early days, there was a monthly collection taken at the church door in a portable wooden box for St. Vincent de Paul Society.

Later, a portion of the "Red Bag" collection was given to the society and special appeals were made when local needs increased.

Later, a weekly box of groceries, donated by parishioners, was taken to the St. Vincent de Paul Society's Social Concern office in Victoria for distribution. Today, a grocery cart, donated by Thrifty Foods, replaced the cardboard boxes.

The parish's St. Vincent de Paul Society conference was established on 17 July 1967 to assist with visits and the distribution of aid to the needy in the Greater Victoria Area.

In 1986, a special monthly pink envelope for donations to St. Vincent de Paul Society from parishioners was included in the weekly parish collection envelope boxes used by 460 parishioners. All the income-tax-deductible donations from the pink envelopes — totalling \$18,000 to \$19,500 a year — goes to the St. Vincent de Paul Society's Social Concern Office in downtown Victoria to help those in need to pay for food, or rent, or utilities. None goes towards wages or overhead.



In '88, the conference financed and built the cupboards for storage on the parish hall stage and some of the clothes racks. Also in '88, it helped the Refugee Committee welcome and help our Vietnamese refugees and this connection has continued in life-long friendships.

Early members of parish's conference of St. Vincent de Paul Society, left to right, Mike Doyle, Larry Dietrich, Dr. Edward Pires and John Magee with trunk full of groceries for the needy.

The conference also, to date:

- participated in the Diocesan Synod and submitted a proposal on marginalized;
- takes communion to residents at the Lodge at Broadmead;
- twinned with a St. Vincent De Paul Society conference in Peru and provides funds of \$1,000 per year in assistance, offers prayers and engages in correspondence;
- runs a Peanut Butter Project for Street People;
- serves coffee after Mass to the faith community; and
- sponsors a spring and fall seniors lunch.

The conference has been headed by: **Adolphe Rochon**, d. ['67]; **Ken Webb** ['68]; **Jack Walker**, d. ['69]; **Pat Murray**, d ['70, '71];

50th Anniversary bulletins can be viewed at: <http://www.sacredheartvictoria.com/anniversary>

no meetings were held from '71-'76 though some members continued to work for the society; **Jeanette Cowan** ['77, '78]; **Mike Doyle** ['79]; **John Magee**, d ['80, '81, '82]; **Mike Doyle** ['83]; **Larry Dietrich** [84]; **Dr. Edward Pires**, d ['85, '86]; **John Magee**, d ['87]; **Don Shaw**, d ['88, '89, '90]; **Kathy Weswick** ['91, '92, to September '93]; **Maureen Dietrich** [September '93, '94, '95, to April '96]; **Eileen Shaw**, d [April '96, '97, '98, to May

'99]; **Larry Dietrich** [May '99, '00, to September '01]; **John Aquino** [September '01 to June '02]; **Ella Webb**, d [June '02 to January '03]; **Maureen Dietrich** [January '03, '04, '05, '06, to April '07]; **Keith Jones** [April '07 to January '08]; **Maureen Dietrich** [January '08, '09, '10, '11, to September '12]; **Megan Misovic** [September '12, '13 to May '14]; **Maureen Dietrich** [May '14 to present].

Helping the "poorest of the poor" in Mexicali, Mexico

In January '98, a Sacred Heart parishioner, **Rudy van Lierop** and his wife, **Miep**, became involved as volunteers with the Lay Brothers of the Poor, a non-profit organization led by Catholics to feed the "poorest of the poor." It was originally called the Lay Brothers of Mother Teresa [name was changed in 2007], and is located in Mexicali, on the U.S.-Mexican border in Baja California State.

The organization, under its original name, began in December 1995 when **Marcos** and **Corina Lopez**, together with their two young children, reached out to help a troubled, scared Mexican teenage boy in a detention center.

The Mexican family is the organization's founders.

In '99, **Rudy** became a member of the organization's board and in 2000 its liaison officer for Canada.

That year, **Fr. Sigismond Lajoie**, OFM, who supported the organization's work, allowed an annual collection in the fall in Sacred Heart Church's courtyard with funds raised going towards feeding Mexican orphans.

To this day parishioners continue to support the Lay Brothers of the Poor in the mission of serving food to the "poorest of the poor," particularly those in orphanages in Mexicali.



Catholicism in the continents

Focus on Europe

Continued from bulletin #30

After St. Peter and St. Paul were martyred circa 67 AD, the persecution of Christians, which Roman Emperor Nero began in 64 AD, continued until the abdication of Roman Emperor Diocletian in 305.

During this period, there were reports of first Christians in Monaco in 100 AD, Austria in 174 AD, and Switzerland and Belgium in 200 AD.

In 250 AD, St. Denis [or Denys or Dionysius] was sent by Rome to Christianize Gaul [Western Europe encompassing France, Luxembourg, Belgium, most of Switzerland, parts of northern Italy, and parts of Netherlands and German west of the Rhine].

Along with six other missionaries, St. Denis established the church in Paris and became the city's first bishop and patron. He was martyred shortly after 250 AD.

Tertullian [c160-c225], the prolific Christian author, called "father of Latin Christianity" and "founder of Western Theology" wrote in 208 that Christ has followers on the far side of the Roman wall in Britain where Roman legions have not yet penetrated.

When Constantine the Great [c.272AD - 337 AD], also known as Constantine 1 or St. Constantine, became Emperor of Rome from 306 AD to 337 AD, he ended the persecution of Christians.

He played an influential role in the Edict of Milan of February 313 AD. It decreed the tolerance for Christians in Europe. Constantine converted to Christianity and he called the First Council of Nicaea in 325, at which Christians first professed the Nicene Creed.

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Fr. Harold Stewart Heard, C.S.Sp.



Fr. Harold Stewart Heard was Sacred Heart Church's eighth pastor and served the parish for five years from '79-'84.

He belonged to the Congregation of the Holy Spirit, or the 'Holy Ghost Fathers'. In Latin it is *Congregatio Sancti Spiritus*, hence the abbreviation C.S.Sp. Claude Poullart des Placs, a member of a noble family, founded

the order in 1703. He gave up a potential career as a lawyer to serve the poor as a priest.

Congregation members are called Spiritans in Europe and Holy Ghost Fathers in North America. They are distinguishable from other priests because they wear a white alb and a black cincture at services.

Fr. Heard was born in Sunderland, England, in 1913, to Helen [nee Patt] and Jack Heard. His mother was an Irish Catholic while his father was an English Protestant. He had a brother, Gordon, who passed away before Fr. Heard was born.

When his father went to serve during First World War in 1914, Fr. Heard and his mother went to Ballylongford, her hometown in County Kerry, in Ireland. Here, Fr. Heard went to primary school, with Irish students walking on one side of the street and English students on the other, at times throwing stones at each other.

After the war, the family lived in Preston, England. When he was 11, he went to St. Mary's Seminary of the Holy Ghost Fathers at Castlehead, a mansion built in 1779-1780, at Grange-over-Sands in Lancashire, England.

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