

January 20th, 2008
Second Sunday
In Ordinary Time (a-2)



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:

Dear Parishioners:

" BEHOLD, The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world" (Jn 1,29-34)

As soon as he got a glimpse of Jesus on the bank of the river Jordan, approaching for baptism, John, addressed JESUS AS A LAMB, exclaiming: " Behold, the lamb of god, who takes away the sin of the world."

Lambs are gentle animals, they allowed themselves to be shorn and to be slaughtered without a murmur. In calling Jesus as a lamb, John was attributing these same qualities to Jesus. He describes the Savior's mission taking away the sin of the world, baptize with the Holy Spirit and demonstrate that he is in fact God's Chosen One. Truly Jesus was like a lamb, meek and gentle and would allow himself to be led away to be slaughtered willingly, enduring the death of crucifixion.

The lamb symbol has a rich history and is intimately associated with some tremendous salvific events. The lamb in the story of Exodus, in the LAST SUPPER. Isn't it strange that the Almighty would choose to be known as The Lamb? Does it not clarify for us the Lord's understanding of real strength, and give us the deeper spiritual meaning of true power?

Understanding Christ as a lamb, we can get a greater insight into our role in following Christ's mission. We understand that God works through ordinary people like ourselves. We are reminded to behave meekly and humbly. Be far from violence, not being trouble maker. Being a disciple of Christ demands outstanding service. It costs no less than everything.

So it was that Jesus lived and preached, and although He was led to the slaughter and was as mute as a lamb before the shearer, Jesus won a greater victory than anyone has ever done. We must live that way of life, one of Christ.

MASS OF THE WEEK
Jan 19, 2008 - Jan 26, 2008

Saturday 5:30pm
Sunday 9:00am
11:00am
4:30pm for Claudio Domingo+

Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday



PRAYER FOR THE SICK

Please pray for our parishioners who are sick

Andrew&Cecilia Schneider, Jacinta Dato, Sandra Slaney, Concepcion Boquiran, Paula Borromero, Irma Ponce, Douglas Keller, Milagros Velasco, Joseph Cortez, Marlisa Wolfe, John&Rose Lafferty, Stephen Hungerford, Nora Li, Mark Cavelo, Katherine Haynes, Oli Figel, Micheal Schneider, Julialita Hermano, Don Skilling, Vic Spiegelman, Leslie Tibor, Lali Anika, Serena D.Blances, David, Dona, Richard, Julia Almeida, Maria Pachecos, Laurence Smolinski, Debbie Nizrik, Debbie Galligler, Cirilo Salvador, Giralaine Whale, Mrs Pe Benito, Lea Comeau, William Rudd, John Puchniak, Barry Hamle Louis Roy, Mrs C.Blue, Aurea Eusebio, Karol Kramer, Jean Kramer, Johanna Brianti and James, Linda, Anthony & Mireya & the Kelly Family, Irene Arthurs, Bruce Mitchell, John McCarthy, Margie Lowe, Debbie Mclachlin and Family, Consuelo Rendon and Family, Jacqueline Restepo, Carlos Rendon and Ms. Andrea, Cathy + Dennis & Family, Don McDonell

Anyone requesting for prayers, please call Tel 266-2512

Visit us at our website :
stfranciscalgary.org

PARISH NEWS & ACTIVITIES

CONFIRMATION AND RCIA

Classes for RCIA are held every Saturday from 7:00 pm. Confirmation classes are held every Saturday at 8:00 pm. Both Classes will be at the Parish Office, located at 64 - 1st Street S.E. For more information, please call Rico at 263-0491 or 693-6125.

THERE ARE STILL OFFERING ENVELOPE 2008 with names and numbers that have not yet been collected. You may come to the Sacristy to pick them up.

BISHOP CARROL HIGH SCHOOL

There will also be an Open House on Tue, Feb 12 from 6:30-8:30pm to tour the school, and meet both the faculty and students.

ST AUGUSTINE FINE ARTS SCHOOL 50TH ANNIVERSARY

The school is looking for past graduates of St Augustine. If you are an alumni or know of one, please contact Nicole Feigs at 863-5142. Also please let Nicole know if you are willing to help out with the planning of the celebration.

ST MARY'S UNIVERSITY OPEN HOUSE

There will be an Open House on Sat, 1 March 2008 from 10am - 2pm. All are invited.

SPEAKER SERIES - Understanding & Exploring History Through the Arts will be held at St Mary's University on 7 February at 7:30pm. Admission is free. For more information, please visit www.stmu.ab.ca

HOLY COMMUNION 2008 - The following children has begun classes in preparation for their First Holy Communion sometime in 2008. They are:



John Michael Alias, Joseph Angelo Alias, Carla Bianca Calabia Bren Carlos Calabia, Vina Mareb Galang, Zhanika Jane Gimeno Zharina Gimeno, Stephanie Claire Vibar, Sabella Chalice Vibar Arvin Grendel Perez, Jea Maritzel Ricafort, Joanna Patricia Rarog Joseph Albert Rarog, Angelita Stevenson

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1. ANNUAL BISHOP APPEAL 2008 (ABA)

The 2008 Annual Bishop's Appeal will be commencing in all parishes of the Diocese beginning February 10 2008. The principal theme selected by Bishop Henry this year is :

God loves a cheerful giver (2 Cor. 9:7)

St Francis quota for ABA 2008 is \$19,000.

Every Pastor of a parish is glad at heart when he sees his people working together in unity. A solid community spirit makes his pastoral burden much lighter. Therefore, to attain our quota for ABA 2008, every association and committee of our St Francis Parish are earnestly asked to help the Pastor to reach that goal - ABA 2008 \$19,000.

2. THE FEAST OF ST BLAISE will be on Sun. Feb 3 with blessing of throats at every Mass.

3. CELEBRATION ASH WEDNESDAY will be Feb 6 :

Ashes will be administered during the Mass at Noon and an additional Mass at 4:30pm.

First Sunday of Lent : Feb 10

Holy Week begins with Passion Sunday March 16, 2008 and ends on Easter Sunday March 23, 2008

LENTEN RETREAT day for Seniors (Feb 23, 2008) from 9:30am to 3:30pm will be held at FCJ Christian Life Center, 219 19 Ave SW. Tel : 228-4215

EMMAUS LECTURES (Feb 15-16, 2008) :

The Already and the Not Yet : Furthering the Reign of God in Everyday Life - will be held at FCJ Christian Life Center. Cost \$35 (includes lunch)



TO VIEW PICTURES ONLINE, PLEASE GO TO:
[HTTP://PICASAWEB.GOOGLE.COM/RAMONSMJ/STFRANCISCHURCH](http://PICASAWEB.GOOGLE.COM/RAMONSMJ/STFRANCISCHURCH)