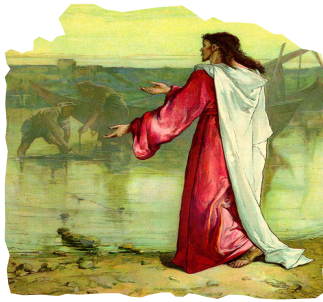


January 27th, 2008
Third Sunday
In Ordinary Time (A-2)



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:

Dear Parishioners:

Mt 4. 12-23 " Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men."

Jesus began His mission by the calling of co-workers HIS DISCIPLES. His first co-workers were Galilean fishermen Simon and Andrew, James and John the sons of Zebedee etc....Jesus simply said to them, " Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." **Immediately they left all and followed Jesus.**

He then beckoned them to enter upon a new manner of living. Their lives would be **radically changed**. Eventually their preaching and their activity would **cost them their lives**. They would die **as martyrs**. But the life to which he summoned them earned for each of them **the crown of eternal happiness**.

Each of his Apostles had **his own faults and failings**. St. Peter was boastful and tempestuous. He rose to fight the guard trying to arrest Jesus in the Garden of Olives and cut off his ear. Jesus had to restrain him and tell him to put away his sword; James and John were ambitious men. Thomas was a skeptic.

From **such men** Jesus recruited **his first followers**, all Galileans as he himself was. **The message** he preached to them was simply in summary; **"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand"**

Apostles were imperfect men, men with failings. Jesus chose them **deliberately**. He wanted to show that the **success of his Church**, which he was to found on them, **did not depend on any individual's gifts or talents**. **The Holy Spirit**, who would guide and direct it, **would determine the success of his Church**.

Ordinary people with no special training are called to the **extraordinary task** of bringing the knowledge and love of God to the whole world. God chooses **the weak** of the world to confront **the strong** and **the simple** to confound **the wise**.

We are all called to live in the discipleship of Christ. We are called to be the hands of God in God family. By men and women like ourselves, the power of God is released upon the world. We are called from all walks of life to put our **spiritual welfare of the community before selfishness in everyday things**.

MASS OF THE WEEK
Jan 26, 2008 - Feb 1, 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 Datoc, Sandra Slaney, Concepcion Boquiran, Paula Borrromero, 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

Anyone requesting for prayers, please call Tel 266-2512

Visit us at our website :
stfranciscalgary.org

PARISH NEWS & ACTIVITIES

FUNERAL MASS FOR DON MCDONELL was celebrated last Thursday, 24 Jan 2008, in St Francis Church, by Father Joseph and attended by many of his friends. May his soul rest in peace. We will all miss him

GUARDIANS MEETING - -All Guardians are invited to a meeting on Saturday, February 9 at 1:30 to 3:30 pm at 604-1St Street S.W.

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 MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

There will be an Open House on Tue, 5 Feb 2008 from 6:00 - 8:00pm. Parents and students also have an opportunity to meet our dynamic staff and tour our school facilities.

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

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.

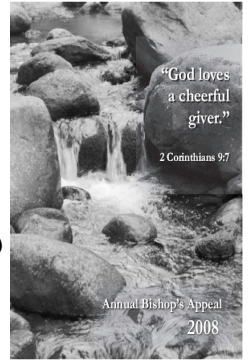


TO VIEW PICTURES ONLINE, PLEASE GO TO:
HTTP://PICASAWEB.GOOGLE.COM/
RAMONSMJ/STFRANCISCHURCH

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 remembered on the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Feb 3rd 2008, with blessing of throats at every Mass.

3. REMEMBER that ASH WEDNESDAY will be on 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)

ST MARY'S UNIVERSITY OPEN HOUSE: There will be an Open House on Sat, 1 March 2008 from 10am - 2pm. All are invited.

UNITY AMONG ALL CHRISTIAN Week was celebrated here in St Francis in a solemn way . Let our unity and faithfulness to the Holy Father Benedict XVI, our Bishop and our Pastor be always visible among our human community.