

**February 3rd, 2008
Fourth Sunday
In Ordinary Time (A-2)**



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:
Dear Parishioners:

For our sharing of the Words of God this Sunday, let all of us listen to the message of our Bishop Henry Frederick about our stewardship as Christians. Our bishop's theme for 2008 ABA Stewardship is :

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

My Dear Brothers and Sisters:

In writing to the Corinthians, St. Paul observes that: “He who sows sparingly will reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will reap bountifully. Everyone must give according to what he has inwardly decided; not sadly, not grudgingly, for God loves a cheerful giver... He who supplies seed for the sower and bread for the eater will provide in abundance; he will multiply the seed you sow and increase your generous yield. In every way your liberality is enriched; through us it results in thanks offered to God.”

There is a fundamental conviction common to the biblical perspective that all material goods and indeed creation itself are a gift of God. All possessions, therefore, are held relatively. Ultimately they belong to God. “Giving” from one's abundance to the Temple or the priests or to the poor is an expression of thanksgiving, an acceptable sacrifice, an act of worship of God.

St. Basil the Great points out the need to sow with integrity. “As the sower profits from the wheat that falls onto the ground, so will you profit greatly in the world to come from the bread that you place before a hungry man. Your husbandry must be the sowing of heavenly seed.”

Please be generous with your ABA contributions. Our motivation is that “God loves a cheerful giver.”

*Wishing you all the best, I remain,
Sincerely yours in Christ,*

F.B. Henry
Bishop of Calgary

Ministries in Support of Parish Life	\$878,330
Catholic Charities	\$671,000
National & International Outreach	\$360,670
Campaign Expenses	\$90,000
Total	\$2,000,000

44%	34%	17%	5%
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MASS OF THE WEEK
Feb 2, 2008 - Feb 8, 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 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, Giraldine 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

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.



PASTORAL CARE

If you are sick, lonely, disabled, or shut-in and would like a pastoral visit or Communion brought to you, please phone Angie Webster at 271-6258

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.

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

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

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.

FROM THE BISHOP'S OFFICE

National Catholic Broadcasting Council Televised Mission 2008 will be broadcast on Monday and Tuesday, March 3rd & 4th on VISIONTV at 5.00 PM (Repeated at 9.00 PM) with **Fr. Ron Rolheiser, O.M.I.** as guest preacher. His topic: Keeping a Mellow Heart in a Bitter Time. A powerful testimonial on this topic will be given by a father & his daughter, Tom and Barbara Zanzig.