

JUST NEWS

Ss. Peter and Paul
Service and Social Justice Committee
February 2009 Newsletter

A lifestyle of addictions, abuse and violence often leads to gang involvement, crime and prison sentences. The Service and Social Justice Committee invite parishioners to take part in our Lenten activities and support individuals who are struggling to break away from this lifestyle.

STR8-UP PRESENTATION WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 8:00 PM FOLLOWING MASS

"No one knows my struggle. They just see my trouble."

-STR8-UP MEMBER

Str8-Up is a non-profit group of young men and women who provide support to one another in their journey of healing. Recovering gang members work in cooperation with the John Howard Society, Core Neighbored Youth Co-op and Girls Action and Information Network to contribute to the education, information & prevention concerning addictions, gangs, and prostitution to the community at large.

Fr. Andre Poilièvre and two members of Str8-Up will give a presentation on addiction, abuse, violence, racism, gangs & the negative effects of living a criminal lifestyle. Fr. Poilièvre describes the struggle to get out of a gang as a "horrendous journey." Recovery is difficult and painful and takes a tremendous amount of courage, he says. "The gang controls everything and they stay because of the supports. There are no supports for guys wanting to come out of the gangs"

"All have been victims before becoming victimizers", stresses Poilièvre. "Their stories are unbelievable and I stay with them because they are amazing".

A difference has been made - regardless of the disabilities, the children are learning to function and progress in their development. These children are now smiling, talking, happy to go to school and love to come to the Centre. This Centre is a start of big project that will make a difference for thousands and thousands of children from all over Ukraine.



**Refreshments
served!**

**'PLAN TO ELIMINATE POVERTY'
TCU PLACE, APRIL 16 - 18, 2009**

Contact Saskatoon Roman Catholic Diocese for more information. Telephone: 242-1500

NASHI PEROGY PARADISE IV

The largest Perogy Smorg in Canada returns to the Manhattan Ballroom on **March 14, 2009**. Tickets are on sale NOW. Don't be late! This event will sell out again in a very short time and tickets are NOT available at the door.

Doors open at 4:00 PM and supper is at 6:00 PM.
Call 306.281.9877 or 306.653.4646 to order your tickets.
Adults are \$25.00 each, Children 6-12 years old are \$10.00.

All proceeds from the Perogy Smorg will go NASHI to help fund KLENOVEE LYST - an educational and training facility for young people in Stoyaniv, Ukraine. NASHI is a Saskatoon based non-profit organization that is committed to reducing human trafficking in Ukraine through provision of educational and training opportunities.

- ◆ Human Trafficking continues to be a growing industry. The UN estimates approximately 1-4 million people are trafficked each year, making it the third largest illegal market after drugs and arms.
- ◆ Tens of thousands of trafficked girls are brought into Canada each year!

JUST OR JUDGMENT CLOTHING DRIVE

Jackets, Underwear, Socks, T-shirts

During the month of **March** we will be collecting items for inmates at the Saskatoon Correctional Facility. Often many of the men have no jacket, only one or two shirts, and limited supply of socks and underwear. It is true that these men are serving time because they have committed a crime. Remember that we do not know the circumstances that led to them making the choices they did. The individuals working within the prison Ministry are aware of the men who are truly trying to make positive changes in their lives. Your donations of new or used jackets and T-shirts and new socks and underwear will have a positive and practical impact on these men.

**Please leave all donations in the
boxes at the back of the church!**

DZHERELO EDUCATION-REHABILITATION CENTRE

The Service and Social Justice Committee is excited to add Dzherelo to the list of charities the charity trust fund supports. Since 1993, Dzherelo Education - Rehabilitation Centre has been offering services to children with cerebral palsy and other neurological conditions in Lviv region in Ukraine. The mission of the Centre is to give these children an opportunity to reach their full potential in physical function and independence, and intellectual and social integration by using verified methods of education and rehabilitation, training caregivers, and educating families and the community.

Before the Dzherelo Centre opened, children with cerebral palsy and other disabilities were largely invisible in Ukraine, despite the fact that there are 2,000 to 3,000 of these children in Lviv region alone. Few of these children were allowed to go to school and medical care did not encourage functional rehabilitation and special programs.

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE PARISH

Food that is generously donated to Ss. Peter and Paul's parish is donated to Guadalupe Parish on monthly basis.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, located in the inner-city strives to meet the many needs of low-income Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people throughout the city. One very important and well utilized ministry is food for the poor. They offer an emergency food pantry which is stocked with donations of non-perishable food items. These donations come from other parishes and there may be a private donation at some point. They discourage abuse of this service by limiting visits to one per month per family or individual. One consistent requirement is that people produce their health cards and a food bank slip at each visit. The pantry is open three afternoons a week and serves 60 - 80 families a month. Recently, their numbers have increased significantly due to high rent costs and they strongly encourage use of the food bank.

When cash is donated specifically for our food pantry, there is no problem filling this request because demand often exceeds supply. Recently they have started an individual count and this has exceeded 2000 plus.

THANK-YOU!

The Service and Social Justice Committee wishes to thank all the parishioners who generously donated time, money and items for our Christmas activities. Together we are making a difference!

O my God, teach me to be generous: to serve you as you deserve to be served; to give without counting the cost; to fight without fear of being wounded; to work without seeking rest; and to spend myself without expecting any reward, but the knowledge that I am doing your holy will. - *Ignatius of Loyala*

FOOD DONATIONS ALWAYS WELCOME!