

# Just News

Ss. Peter and Paul  
Service and Social Justice Committee

## Fall 2010 Newsletter

### TOONIE BREAKFAST UPDATE

Thank you to everyone who came out and supported our "Inner City Campcakes" Toonie Breakfast on September 26. We raised \$1032 for St. Mary's summer camp for under-privileged kids. A special thank-you to all the volunteers, including the young ladies who were past participants of the camp!

### UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

#### Health Packs for St. Goretti

For the past four years our parishioners have generously donated health packs for children at St. Maria Goretti Community School. The students are very appreciative of the health packs. For some - it is the only Christmas present they will receive. We ask that you generously support this project again this year. We want to make sure every child receives a health pack so please feel free to make more than one!

- ◆ ***If you are willing and able please take your health pack downstairs and leave it in the boxes provided at the bottom of the stairs.*** This means less work for our committee and less clutter at the church entrance.

#### Christmas Baking for EGADZ

Egadz is a drop-in youth centre in downtown Saskatoon. Each year hundreds of youth at risk of drugs, gangs, abuse etc. spend time at Egadz where they receive access to a safe place, support and educational and recreational opportunities. We are once again collecting baking for the Egadz Christmas dinner. This is a great way to spend some quality time with your children and give back to other kids who don't have the privilege of having a parent or grand-parent to bake with.

- ◆ ***Donations of baking can be placed in EGADZ box at the back of the church.***

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#### Christmas Hampers

Imagine not having the resources to provide a Christmas meal for your family? Each year our parish is able to give families in need a better Christmas by providing a hamper filled with food. Please consider donating food items. We are in need of the following:

*Crackers, cereal, pancake mix, canned veggies and fruit, canned cranberries, coffee, tea, hot chocolate, juice, jam, peanut butter, syrup, soup, stove top dressing, tin foil, tin foil roaster (for turkey), candy, salad dressing, spices, gravy mix.*

- ◆ ***Donations of baking can be placed in Food Barrel at the back of the church.***

#### DONATION OF CHOCOLATES FOR SASKATOON INMATES

Some of you will remember when Diane Anderson and Peter Oliver spoke about ministering in the prison in March 2008. Since that time the S & J committee has toured the correctional facility and organized a clothing drive. We continue to believe it is important to care for our brothers who have lost their way. Our parish was approached to donate chocolates for gift packs that Diane is organizing for the inmates this Christmas. Holy Fire Youth group has generously agreed to donate some funds to go towards the chocolates.

If any parishioners are interested in donating some money to be used towards the chocolates please leave your donation in the container beside the food barrel marked "CHOCOLATES FOR CHARITY".

## LETTER FROM THE PASTOR

Several weeks ago I had the privilege of reflecting on the Sunday Gospel about the parable that Jesus told of the rich man and Lazurus. Although this Gospel could be a great consolation to those who are marginalized by our society, the poor, the forgotten, the lonely, the “Lazurus”, for God will have compassion on them in the afterlife, but for most of us who live in North America it is a Gospel of challenge. How often we fail to see the poor who are at our “very doorstep”! We can walk by unmoved as if we were blind to their plight. Jesus says that there are severe consequences, if we continue to be blind and deaf to the cry of the poor.

As Ukrainian Catholics we have responded in the past to issues of poverty in our “Ukrainian” world, whether it be in Brazil or recently in Ukraine. We also as a parish are quite generous in financially supporting places and situations of great need. And for this I am very grateful to all those who have been supportive. Our parish has been blessed with the leadership of our Service and Social Justice Committee which have given opportunities to express our generosity. However, God calls us to do even more. He calls us to get personally involved with the plight of others, whether they be the materially poor, or the emotionally wounded, or the sick in hospitals, or the aged abandoned in nursing homes. By getting involved it will cost us. We will be sharing in their pain. St. Paul writes to the Galatians that he ‘bears the brand marks of Jesus in his body’. These brand marks which unite us to Christ are precisely pain we bear when we allow the “poor” to enter into our heart. In Saskatoon we are not exempt from reaching out to those in our city that are the “have-nots”. It is not just the responsibility of other churches (We must look after our own), rather the Lord calls us to love the little ones. He identifies Himself with them when He said; “Whatever you do to the least of my brothers and sisters, you do unto me.” The poor of Saskatoon are our responsibility. We can each do our part in opening up our hearts to the opportunities God places before us. The question is raised: what can we do as a parish to bring the Good News of salvation and compassion to those who suffer because of poverty? In Winnipeg, the Redemptorists began an out-reach program called ‘The Welcome Home’ to form Christian community with the poor. What can be done here in Saskatoon? Who will answer to this call?

- Fr. John Sianchuk, C.Ss.R.

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## **We are in need of volunteers to help with our Christmas activities!**

Please add your name to the list of volunteers found on our bulletin board or contact:

Sara Shymko Tel: (306) 343-5505

Email: [shymkos@yahoo.ca](mailto:shymkos@yahoo.ca)

Laura Bosovich Tel: (306) 249-3210

Email: [lshymko@hotmail.com](mailto:lshymko@hotmail.com)

MCCS & PCE Restorative Justice Committee is having Roman Koval, Director of the Centre for Common Ground in Kiev, Ukraine speak on Nov 19th @ 12:00 pm, Mennonite Central Committee. Call (306) 665-2555 for details.

## Calendar of Service and Social Justice Events

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Nov 14 Pick up your health pack!	15	16	17	18	19	20 Pick up your health pack!
21 Pick up your health pack!	22	23	24	25	26	27 Health packs accepted
28 Health packs accepted	29	30	Dec 1	2	3	4 Health packs accepted
5 Health packs accepted	6	7	8	9	10	11 Health packs & Egadz baking accepted
12 LAST DAY for Health packs	13	14	15 Health packs delivered to St. Goretti	16	17	18 Egadz baking accepted
19 LAST DAY for Egadz baking	20	21 Egadz bacing delivery	22 Christmas Hamper packing and delivery	23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day

Urge your MP to vote for Bill C-300, known as "responsible mining bill." This is an important piece of legislation that will bring greater justice to communities in the Global South where Canadian-owned mines operate.

**May God Bless you  
during this  
Christmas  
season!**