

Around the Parish

SEPTEMBER 2019

I JUST GOT STARTED

I sat in my seat, as my new grade six classmates found theirs. At the front of the class our new math teacher stood watching us. “Come on, class. We don’t have all day. Get settled please.”

Mr. Stevens was the strangest teacher we ever encountered. At the beginning of the school year, he rented the basement of a house on the other side of the cove from our school. He drove a yellow Volkswagen Beetle, but usually jogged to school - a rare and strange thing in the early 1970/s in Nova Scotia. There were rumors that he flossed daily, which was later witnessed in class after he ate his healthy lunch of vegetables and fruit. All of these habits were things we were not used to in our small fishing village. The bell rang. “OK class. Welcome to a new school year. I’m Mr. Stevens and I’m sure I’ll learn all your names in no time.” He walked around the class handing out math books. When he was done, he returned to the front of the class and looked at us. We stared back. “What are you waiting for? Get started!” he said.

We looked at him - confused. Wasn’t he going to teach us? “Is there something wrong with your ears? You’re not all deaf are you?” One brave soul at the back of class asked what we all wanted to know. “Mr. Stevens, aren’t you going to teach us?” “Rubbish!” Mr. Stevens replied. “You’re smart kids. Open your books and get to it. If you have any trouble or any questions raise your hand, and I’ll come help you.”

My friend Paul and I exchanged glances and opened our books to the first chapter. A competition began. Paul and I spent all our free time at home working through the lessons. Mr. Stevens, true to his word, helped anyone who was stuck on a problem. It was his clue a lesson was needed. He’d stop us from what we were doing to teach all the students what one struggled with. It was a strange method of teaching, but it was very effective. He only had to push a few of the less disciplined students to work through the book. Not Paul and I. We worked like dogs and finished two and one half math books that first year.

It was a turning point in my life. Mr. Stevens made me realize I was good at math and also able to reach the top of any class I attended. In our small elementary school, I studied under his guidance for two years.

Mr. Stevens was a strange man, but I loved him. Monty Python’s Flying Circus was a popular television show back then. The actors brought the best and most warped of British humor into our Canadian lives. Mr. Stevens would often act out one of their skits in front of the class. He mimicked Jon Cleese walking the German goose step and often recited line-for-line a skit for the latest show. Some thought he was strange, and I guess he was, but he knew how to make a math lesson interesting.

When I reached grade eight, a new junior high was built. They call it a middle school now. Our old school, which taught grades one through nine, would only go to grade six. All the other students, including Paul and me, were bussed to the new school. To our delight, Mr. Stevens took a new position as a math teacher there as well. I had the privilege of learning from him for two more years and working my way through many math books.

In the spring of our ninth-grade year, we were told to choose the classes we would take in our first year of high school. There were three choices for every subject: general,

academic, and advanced. Mr. Stevens made it quite clear, general classes were for the students who were going nowhere. Academic classes were middle of the road and would get you to university. The advanced classes were college prep classes. You studied the same topics but were given more work and harder challenges. Paul and I looked at our choices. General classes sounded easy. “Rubbish!” Mr. Stevens scolded us. “You will take the advanced class in math. You’re too smart not to.”

We compromised and took the academic class. During my second week of high school math I raised my hand. My new teacher, Mr. West, also known as wild, wild West because of his temper, came to my desk. “What can I do for you?” “Well, I’m not sure what they want me to do in this chapter. Can you explain it to me?” He stared at my book. “We’re not doing that chapter yet? Good gosh! You’re six chapters ahead of the class.”

“I’m sorry, Sir. I’ve always done my math this way.” “Don’t be sorry, young man.” He leaned closer to me. The garlic he had for lunch made my eyes tear. “Look, Mike. Do you have fifth period free? If you do, I have an advanced class then. You need to be in that class.” “I do, but ...” I began to protest. He cut me off. “Mike, this is not the class for you. You need to be in the advanced class. I’ll work it out with the guidance teacher. Be here tomorrow at the new time. You’re through in this class.”

I thrived in my new environment. I finally had classmates with the same passion for math as I did. It was all because of whacky Mr. Stevens, the man who gave us a book and said, “Get started!”

I’ve carried this lesson with me all my life. Whenever I am faced with a new challenge, I think of my first day in grade six math. Instead of sitting and staring at the challenge, I just get started. Before I know it the challenge has been overcome. I just get started.

RCIA STARTING SEPTEMBER 4TH

If you know of someone that is interested in coming into the Catholic Church from another faith tradition, or of none, have them contact us. We’d love to talk to them and answer any questions they might have.

The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is a process of formation, education, and initiation for those who desire to come into full communion with our faith community. It is for those who:

- have never been baptized, or
- have been baptized in a non-Catholic denomination and would like to come into full communion with the Church, or
- were baptized Catholic but have never received the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist.

Classes for both Sacred Heart and Holy Rosary parishes are held in Sacred

Heart's Parish Center. Our first class meets on Wednesday, September 4th, from 7 to 9 PM in the Bornemann room. Classes will continue to meet every Wednesday until Pentecost. If you know someone who is interested, ask them to call Sacred Heart Rectory (610) 372-4010 or email SacredHeartRCIA@gmail.com

PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS

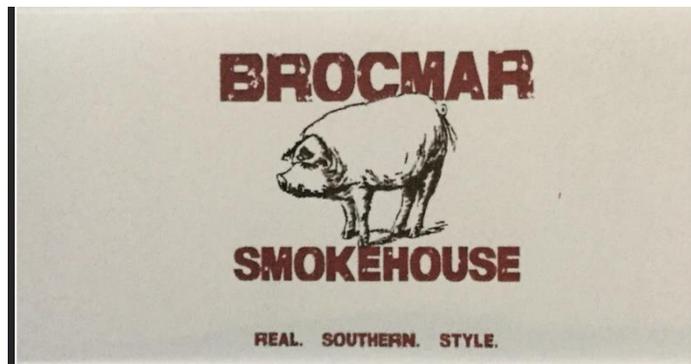
**Adam & Jessica Groff and their
daughter McKenzi**

Michelle Leinbach

**Kyle & Tysa Mattiuz and their
daughter Cora**

SACRED HEART SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY SVDP SMOKEHOUSE FUNDRAISER

PROCEEDS ARE USED TO HELP THOSE IN NEED IN OUR COMMUNITY



WHAT: SMOKED PULLED PORK SANDWICH PLATE
SMOKEHOUSE BAKED BEANS
HOMEMADE MAC & CHEESE

WHEN: SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22TH PICK-UP BETWEEN 10:00 AM & 12:15 PM

WHERE: CHURCH BACK PARKING LOT 740 CHERRY ST. WEST READING

HOW: PREPAID \$10.00 TICKET NEEDED TO PICK- UP DINNER

TICKET AVAILABILITY: (PURCHASE DEADLINE IS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15)

***SATURDAY AND SUNDAY SEPT. 7/8 & 14/15 BEFORE &AFTER ALL MASSES

***IN RECTORY DURING OFFICE HOURS ***FROM SVDP MEMBERS

*** OR, USE THE ORDER FORM BELOW:

PREPAID TICKET ORDER FORM

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____

OF DINNERS _____ @ \$10.00 AMOUNT ENCLOSED: CASH _____ OR CHECK _____

CHECK PAYABLE TO : SACRED HEART/SVDP

IF YOU ARE USING THIS FORM TO RESERVE YOUR MEAL, IT MUST REACH THE RECTORY OR BE RETURNED TO THE KIOSK IN THE BACK OF CHURCH BY THE PURCHASE DEADLINE ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL NEWS

Sacred Heart School began our second century this August! Students and faculty gathered for our Back to School Night for hot dogs, snow cones, games and fun - a great way to kick off the school year before the first day. Students returned on August 26th, and our Cabrini PreK students will join us after Labor Day. Our enrollment is up, and we are excited to welcome close to 50 new students, including PreK and Kindergarten!

We also welcome another new teacher. Mrs. Kate Fanning is joining us as our third-grade teacher. Mrs. Fanning recently worked for the Wilson School District, and some of you may know her as the manager of the Wyomissing Pool this past summer. Mrs. Fanning was at Sacred Heart years ago in a work-study program and we are delighted to have her return. We send our best wishes and gratitude to Miss Becky Maicher for the past two years and wish her the best as she begins a new position in Lancaster. We have also been hard at work in the school building preparing for our new Chrome Book computers. We increased our WiFi capacity and are looking forward to having our new program underway this fall. A huge thank you to all the supporters of our 100th Anniversary Gala for the generous donations that made everything possible.

Thank you also to our School Board members, who have been making minor repairs and painting this summer. Their dedication is immeasurable, and we are grateful for everything they do to make Sacred Heart School achieve our mission. If you have an interest in serving on our School Board, please contact Mrs. Napolitano at

knapolitano@sacredheartreading.org.

You do not need to be a Sacred Heart parent - you just need to love SHS. It's a wonderful way to give back and to ensure that our school is around for generations to come.

Submitted by Kathy Napolitano, Principal

W.I.N.E.

Come join the WINE (Women in the New Evangelization) book club group for fellowship, faith sharing, lively discussions, and yes wine. Our first meeting after the summer break will be September 12th at 7 PM. We begin this new season with "When Women Pray" by Kathleen Beckman.

Sister Regina Marie Gorman, OC.D., Vicar General, Carmelite Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of Los Angeles calls this book "an invitation to step into your rightful place alongside women who have prayed through the centuries; women who have heard the beating Heart of God and changed the world forever."

The book is available on Amazon or by calling Margaret Hueske (484) 706- 0301.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Camila June Centeno
Daughter of Marcel Centeno & Angela Smith

Camila was born on 10-18-2018

Luke Elliot Wheaton
Son of Kyle & Katherine Wheaton
Luke was born on 1-13-2019



Thank you everyone who participated in the 3rd Annual Swing and a Prayer Golf Event. It was a very successful event! September brings a very special event to both Sacred Heart and Holy Rosary. Sacred Heart Church and Holy Rosary Church will be hosting the extraordinary and impactful visual exhibit of the “*Eucharistic Miracles of the World*” on the weekends of September 28th 29th in the gym at Sacred Heart School, and October 5th/6th in the basement meeting room at Holy Rosary Church.

Read about the Eucharistic Miracles that have transpired through the years, first observed during Mass in Lanciano, Italy in 750 AD! Learn about the various scientific and medical tests and studies performed in numerous countries that all point to the same divine conclusion. The exhibit consists of 160 poster-sized pictorial articles arranged alphabetically by the country in which the miracles occurred. Come, spend as much time as you can. The exhibits will be open on both Saturdays from 3:30pm to 7:30pm, and both Sundays from 8am to 2pm.

Sponsored by the Real Presence Eucharistic Education and Adoration Association, (therealpresence.org) and coordinated by our own Monsignor Bornemann Knights Council. Please make every attempt to visit this powerful exhibit. There is no cost to attend these events, but a Free-will offering will be graciously accepted to benefit the continuation of this display as it ventures around the world.

September Activities:

Monday, September 9 - Planning Meeting, 7 PM IHM Room

Thursday, September 19 - Rosary & General Meeting; Rosary at 6:30pm, IHM Room

Wednesday, September 25 - Second Degree Exemplification, IHM Room 6pm

Saturday, September 28 - Exhibition *Eucharistic Miracles of the World*, Sacred Heart Gym 3:30 to 7:30pm

Sunday, September 29 - Exhibition *Eucharistic Miracles of the World*, Sacred Heart Gym, 8am to 2pm

The Knights of Columbus Monsignor Bornemann Council membership is open to all practicing Catholic male adults, aged 18 and over, who wish to serve their parish and community. Meetings are the third Thursday of the month. To join, contact our Membership Committee Chair Bill Fatora at (484) 855-9478.

OUR CONDOLENCES TO

The Carr Family on the death of:
Brian M. Carr
7-21-2019

The Lattanzio Family on the death of:
Ronald C. Lattanzio Sr.
8-6-2019

The Hullinger Family on the death of:
Miriam L. Hullinger
8-9-2019

SENIORS NEWS

There will be no Seniors Meeting in September due to the Labor Day holiday.

A Day of Recollection will be held on Monday, October 1st at 1 PM in the Wachter Room. Further information will be forthcoming. Mark the date on your calendar!

SEPTEMBER 2019 EVENTS

2 *HAPPY LABOR DAY!*

- Rectory & Parish Center Closed
- 4 RCIA – 7 PM - Bornemann
- 5 Knitters & Crocheters – 1 PM – Bornemann
- 8 CYO Board – 8:30 AM - Wachter
- 9 SVDP – 7 PM – Wachter
Knights Planning – 7 PM - IHM
- 11 RCIA – 7 PM – Bornemann
Baptism Class – 7 PM – Wachter
- 12 Knitters & Crocheters – 1 PM – Bornemann
WINE – 7 PM – Wachter
- 15 Coffee & Donuts – 10 AM – Wachter
Third Order Carmelites – 1 PM – Chapel & Wachter
- 18 Liturgy Committee – 7 PM – Wachter
RCIA – 7 PM - Bornemann
- 19 Knitters & Crocheters – 1 PM – Bornemann
Knights of Columbus – 7 PM -IHM
- 22 SVDP Smokehouse Fundraiser – 10 AM – Parking Lot
- 23 Newsletter Mailing – 8:30 AM – Wachter
- 25 RCIA – 7 PM - Bornemann
- 26 Knitters & Crocheters – 1 PM – Bornemann