



Our Catholic church community is officially called *St. Gerard's Mission*

St. Gerard's Council Members:

*Warwick Bay, Josie Farrell, David Honing, Judith McBride, Michel Pere, Angela Powell,
Eileen Richter, Denise Smith, Diana Taylor*

Issue No. 3 January 18th, 2009, 2nd Sunday in Ordinary time

As a "Mission" Church, St. Gerard's is affiliated with the Parish of Holy Trinity in North Vancouver. We are very delighted to be able to share the parish clergy, mainly Fr. Jim Comey and Fr. Tom Smith. We are growing as a Catholic Christian Community and we invite you to get involved with our "mission" events. We welcome your input and would like to use this bulletin as a means to keep you connected with the "community".

JANUARY READERS

Jan. 18th Warwick Bay
Steve Mitts
Jan. 25th Josie Farrell
Judith McBride

JANUARY ALTAR SERVERS

Jan. 18 Cecilia Bay
Jan. 25th Elizabeth Thompson

ANNUAL RETREAT

The 2009 Parish retreat will be held at Rivendell on Bowen Island from Friday evening May 22nd to Sunday morning May 24th

Cost will be \$200.00 per person with a \$50.00 deposit due by the end of February and full payment due no later than May 1st. We have tentatively booked **Father Hien Nguyen** to lead the retreat, but at this time we do not have final confirmation. Father Hien has been to Bowen quite a few times and is an absolute delight. The theme for the retreat will be determined by Father as soon as possible.

In order to finalize details, we have a sign up sheet at the back of the church. Please indicate your interest in attending the retreat or providing a comment.

LAST CHANCE FOR RAFFLE TICKETS

January 25th is the draw date! Thank you to everyone who agreed to sell tickets. We are doing very well, but there are still a few more books to sell.

All ticket stubs and money must be returned to Eileen or Josie on or before Sunday the 25th so that all ticket stubs can be put into the draw box.

Just to Recap:

For **\$3.00**, you can buy a ticket(s) and have a chance to win one of the following great prizes:

- 1st Prize:** 2 club seats to the Canucks vs Black Hawks game on Feb. 7th, **plus** accommodation for 2 at the Sutton Place Hotel. (Total Value \$500.00)
- 2nd Prize:** Sequoia Gift Card – can be used at Sequoia Grill, Cardero's, Sandbar, or Seasons in the Park restaurants (Total Value of Gift Card \$100.00)
- 3rd Prize:** 2 Return tickets on Coastal Link Ferries (Value \$50.00)
- 4th Prize:** 2 Return tickets on the Granville Island Water Taxi (Value \$50.00)

If you would still like to take a book of tickets to sell, please see Eileen or one of the church council. Your help is appreciated in this fund raiser.

St. Gerard's Catholic Mission



BIBLE STUDY WITH FR. NISBET

The spring bible study session is Feb 13, 14, and 15 at St. Stephens in N. Van. The group will be finishing last season's Book of Sirach and will be starting Isaiah. **Speaker: Father Jim Nisbet of Spreckles, California, is a gifted bible scholar and facilitator.** Registration forms and flyers are at the back of the church.

DONATIONS

Just a reminder that the following donation jars can be found at the back of the church. We invite you to donate as you feel called. We thank you for your generosity in the past, today, and in the future:

- Rawanda – ongoing
- St. Gerard's Nativity Scene – short term goal of \$500
- Sr. Jo - ongoing

FOOD BANK

There is a basket at the back of the church for food bank donations – dry, tinned or packaged foods only, no perishables. All food bank donations are for the Bowen Island Food Bank which serves the on-island needy.

We welcome your suggestions and thoughts on this bulletin, and also your contributions. If you have any announcements or news to share, or if you would like us to include your prayer intentions in our "prayer corner" please email: StGerards@rcav.bc.ca or josie7@telus.net

MASS PARTICIPATION

We invite you to participate in the Mass in a very special way by signing up to read or serve. The new sign-up sheets for February are at the back of the church.

PRAYER CORNER

Please share your prayer needs with us so our community can also pray with you. Never underestimate the power of prayer.

Pray for the sick, the suffering and the deceased in our parish.

Watch, O Lord, with those who wake, or watch, or weep tonight, and give Your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend Your sick ones, O Lord Christ. Rest Your weary ones. Bless Your dying ones. Soothe Your suffering ones. Pity Your afflicted ones. Shield Your joyous ones. And all for Your love's sake. Amen -...Father Timothy Kavanagh

If you know of anyone in the parish or in the Bowen community who need our prayers, please let Father know, or email josie7@telus.net and we can list your prayer needs here.

Acceptance Of God's Will

In all things may the most holy, the most just, and the most lovable will of God be done, praised, and exalted above all for ever. Your will be done, O Lord, your will be done. The Lord has given, the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.