

MASS INTENTIONS

January 12th (9:00 a.m.) Evangeline Oswald (Special Intentions)
(11:00 a.m.) St. Vital Parish & Parishioners

PANCAKE BREAKFAST after the 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Masses on Sunday, **January 19th**.

Children's Liturgy

In the New Year Children's Liturgy will be held on the **2nd & 4th Sunday of the month** and will be held at the **11 AM Mass January 12th & 26th**.

Are you expecting a child in the near future? Consider taking **Baptism Preparation** now while you are waiting for the birth of your son or daughter. **The classes are for parents and sponsors (godparents).**

Attending now eliminates the need to find baby-sitters, rearrange feeding schedules etc. plus it adds to the joyful anticipation of your new arrival.

Parents wishing to register for the next course, which will be held **Tues, Jan. 21st, 2014 at 7:30 pm** are asked to call the parish.

Bible Study will start up for the New Year 2014 Thursday Jan. 09th, 2014 @7:00. For more information call Claire Connell 780 939-6479.

CONFIRMATION

Are you a parent of a grade 6 student who would like to have your child receive the sacrament of Confirmation this year? If you missed the parent information and registration night in November, we will be holding a **SECOND** registration night on **JANUARY 13th** from 7-8pm at St. Vital Parish's basement hall. If you are hoping to have your child be Confirmation **THIS** year you **MUST** have either attended the November session **OR** this session! **PLEASE** RSVP to Theresa at [780-231-4196](tel:780-231-4196) or Theresa.st.vital.parish@gmail.com.

1st Holy Communion Parent Meeting—**Thursday, February 13th at 7:00pm**. Please bring a photo copy of your child's baptismal certificate to the registration and information meeting. Preparation materials \$30.00

COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

Thursday, January 16th (3:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.)
Eaglemont Christian Church (5002-62 St. Beaumont)
Supported by The Beaumont Knights of Columbus

The **recent escalation in influenza cases in Alberta** has raised questions about what we in the Church can do to help prevent the spread of this disease. Archbishop Smith has advised of us of the steps that will be taken in the parishes of the Archdiocese.

His response is based upon the advice of Alberta's Senior Medical Officer of Health, who has urged Albertans to be vaccinated against influenza and to take precautions against the spread of infection.

The following measures have been implemented. We are advised that they should remain in effect at least until the end of January:

*Discontinue the reception of the Precious Blood as part of any public celebration of the Eucharist.

*Limit the reception of the Body of Christ to the hands only. *Suspend the practice of shaking hands during the Sign of Peace. This can be replaced by a bow or an intentional nod of the head toward those around you.

* Empty all holy water fonts.

*Remind parishioners of the importance of basic health measures. For example, thorough hand washing is an effective means of preventing the transmission of infectious material (nasal secretions, saliva, etc.) from soiled hands. Alcohol-based hand sanitizing solution or tissues available in the church entrance.

*All parishioners are encouraged to remain home at the first sign of illness, especially a cough or fever, out of respect for their brothers and sisters. Those who stay home can view a televised Mass on Salt+Light Television, on EWTN Television, or online at www.canadiandailymass.com. They can also make a Spiritual Communion; ***Copies of the Spiritual Communion are available at the back of the church.***

*All lay ministers need to practice good hygiene. Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion must sanitize their hands immediately before receiving Communion themselves and avoid touching their face or other surfaces such as handrails before distributing Communion. Rub hand sanitizer over the hands until completely dry. (The sanitizer must evaporate or stay on the skin for 10 seconds to achieve any antibacterial/antiviral effect.) All pastoral care team members who bring the Blessed Sacrament to shut-ins that they should not attend any homes where influenza is known or suspected to be present.

*All pastoral care visitors to hospitals and nursing homes, whether clergy or lay volunteers, must observe all posted infection control procedures at these institutions (e.g. hand sanitizing, gowning, masking.) Please note that the decision to impose restrictions on the liturgy was not made lightly. It was based on prayer, reflection and consultation with Alberta Health Services, the agency which is in the best position to assess local conditions and risk. It is the intention to lift the restrictions as soon as the provincial health authorities assure us that the risk of influenza infection has dropped substantially. These measures they are only temporary. We will keep you notified of changes as the situation warrants.

Finally, this is certainly a time for prayer to the great physician, Jesus Christ, to heal those who are suffering and grieving during this outbreak.

