



Saint Thomas More Collegiate Campus Ministry

VOLUME 2010 ISSUE 5

JANUARY 2010

**\$3000
Collected
for Haiti
from
Missions**



For more information and to read previous newsletters please check out the download section in Campus Ministry on our school website at www.stmc.bc.ca

The Man of the Shroud Exhibit

Hosted by St. Thomas More Collegiate and Our Lady of Mercy Parish
Wednesday March 10th-Saturday March 13th

**An Ecumenical Event on the History, Science & Significance
of the "Shroud of Turin"**



**Please read page 3 for
more information on
how to volunteer.**

Blessed Edmund Rice was given the grace to respond to the call of Jesus by identifying with Christ in the poor. He invited his followers to share his gospel insight and empowered them to reach out to the needy. Our St. Thomas More community has accepted this challenge and continues to make a positive difference in the world. In this month's newsletter you will have an opportunity to read about the many events and programs our school community is involved in relating to Campus Ministry.

- ◆ Update on our mission program and relief fund for Haiti
- ◆ The Year of the Priest Assembly in March
- ◆ How to volunteer for the Man of the Shroud Exhibit
- ◆ STMC students serving 6000 meals to the needy in 2009
- ◆ Update from the Mary Rice Club, the Blessed Edmund Rice Team and the Green Team
- ◆ Holy Cross Elementary donating to our Outreach Program
- ◆ Mr. Ruzycki's Planning 10 Project on changing the World
- ◆ Pictures from the past and present and much more....

Upcoming Events



Just a pic of St. Thomas

February 10th
Lenten Prayer Service
STMC Gym 9:45am

February 12th
STMC Cafeteria 7:30am
Mardi Gras (Fat Tuesday)
Breakfast)

March 9th
Year of the Priest Assembly
STMC Gym 10:45am

March @ O.L.M.
Sacrament of Reconciliation

March 10-13th
Man of the Shroud Exhibit

March 13th
Think-Fast 25 Hour Famine
(Seniors only-limited space)

March 30th-April 1st
Grade 12 Retreat Camp Luther

March 31st-April 1st
Grade 11 Retreat Camp Charis

Weekly Masses STMC Chapel
Wednesday/Thursday mornings

So far over 13,000\$ has
been raised for missions
since
September



Mr. Hall and some Grade
12 students on the January
15th Jeans Day. On this
day we raised \$2300 to
send to Haiti.

STMC Missions to Assist Haiti

The STMC missions program, led by Brother Cassidy continues to increase every year. In the past six years alone we have raised over \$100,000. These funds have been able to assist those marginalized by poverty and injustice in the world. The initial focus of missions was to support education in our Christian Brother schools in South America, Africa and Dominica. We continue this work, however our network has grown and we now donate to a variety of local and international charity groups as well. We have also sent emergency funds to areas of crisis such as a relief fund for Peru (2007), Kenya (2008) and the Philippines last year. Just recently our school community has come together to collect and send immediate funds to Haiti.

We have sent almost \$3000 from Missions to Development and Peace, a Catholic organization connected with Caritas Haiti. They can count on our support to provide people in crisis with first aid supplies, food, shelter and other basic necessities. Our thoughts and prayers are with the people of Haiti in this time of crisis.

A special thanks to our STMC community for their enthusiasm and kindness to missions. Way to go KNIGHTS!!!

Man of the Shroud Lecture and Exhibit

Man of the Shroud Lectures

All Lectures are held at
St. Thomas More
Collegiate
12th Avenue, Burnaby

Wednesday, March 10

10:30am Mr. John Iannone
1:30pm Mr. John Iannone
6:30pm Mr. John Iannone

Thursday, March 11

10:30am Mr. John Iannone
1:30pm Mr. John Iannone
6:30pm Mr. John Iannone

Exhibit Hours at Our Lady of Mercy Church (OLM)

For those who will not be able to attend the lectures, a DVD will be available at OLM.

Wednesday, March 10

10:00am – 5:00pm 7:00pm-8:30pm

Thursday, March 11

10:00am – 5:00pm 7:00pm-8:30pm

Friday, March 12

No viewing – Adoration Friday at OLM

Volunteer Opportunities

Don't be left out of the incredible experience in assisting at this year's special *Man of the Shroud event*. Please log onto our school website at www.stmc.bc.ca for more information and how to volunteer. About 100 volunteers will be needed this year. *Thank you* for your assistance in helping others to deepen their knowledge of Christ's Passion through this special exhibit and symposium of International lectures. We need volunteers for two-three hour shifts beginning at 10:00am through to 8:30pm for the display area, to man information tables, and to play the DVD of the Shroud. If you are willing to volunteer at Our Lady of Mercy or at STMC, either sign the following form, cut it off and return to the front office at St. Thomas More Collegiate, or you may also email the front office at maria.cirillo@stmc.bc.ca

10:00am-1:00pm	_____	Wed	Thurs	Sat
1:00pm-3:00pm	_____	Wed	Thurs	Sat
3:00pm-5:00pm	_____	Wed	Thurs	Sat
7:00pm-8:30pm	_____	Wed	Thurs	





O, Jesus, eternal Priest,
keep your priests within
the shelter
of Your Sacred Heart,
where none may touch
them.

Keep unstained their
anointed hands,
which daily touch Your
Sacred Body.

Keep unsullied their
lips,
daily purpled with Your
Precious Blood.

Keep pure and unearthly
their hearts,
sealed with the sublime
mark of the priesthood.

Let Your holy love sur-
round them and
shield them from the
world's contagion.

Bless their labors with
abundant fruit and
may the souls to whom
they minister
be their joy and consola-
tion,
here and in heaven their
beautiful
and everlasting crown.

Amen.

~ St. Therese of Lisieux

YEAR OF THE PRIEST

On March 9th, our STMC Community will have a special ceremony to honor and celebrate the Year of the Priest. Priests from our Deanery and community have been invited to join us in a special assembly and reception afterwards.

As you may already know, this year has been designated by Pope Benedict XVI as the "Year for Priests." The Pope has expressed

his desire that every Priest have an opportunity for renewal that will firmly strengthen him in his commitment to his mission.

This year is also a time for us to appreciate the gifts of priesthood and to celebrate their vocation.

Over the years a number of students from STMC have entered into the reli-

gious life either by joining the Christian Brothers or becoming priests. Some notable alumni who joined the priesthood are Alessandro Lovato, Gary Franken, Oliver Young, Pavel Reid and Bishop Gary Gordon of the Yukon Territories.

Please keep these and all priests in your prayers.

(A Year of the Priest prayer can be found on the left).



(Above) Father Gary Franken, STMC grad of 1980 celebrating our Advent Mass. He has also been involved with our Grade 10 Retreat and will be celebrating our Annual Mothers Day Mass in May.

STMC Students Help to Serve over 6000 Meals in 2009

For the past three years our STMC community has been preparing and serving breakfast to the needy every Thursday at Holy Trinity Cathedral just steps away from the Columbia Skytrain station in New Westminster. Whether it's a school day or during vacation (including the summer break), a rotation of our student body serves and helps to make a difference in the community.

Between 100 and 200 people are served a hot breakfast of scrambled eggs, potatoes, toast, tea and coffee, muffins, bananas and oranges. We also collect and hand out clothing, blankets, gloves, toiletries and other items. We even have students playing the piano during the breakfast session which creates a pleasant atmosphere. This has been a very successful program and the number of people seeking this service has almost doubled from last year. The total number of meals served increased from approx. 3200 in 2008 to over 6000 in 2009. Fifteen years ago this program began by assisting a small number of people in New Westminster. In fact they could even order their eggs the way they like. However, over the past few years the lines have grown and people are even coming from different parts of the lower mainland for a meal.

If anyone from our STMC community would like to become more involved, please contact Mr. D. Mattiazzo or Mr. D. Ruzycki.



Holy Cross Elementary Assists STMC Clothing Drive for the Needy

A special thanks to Holy Cross Elementary in Burnaby for collecting jackets for our outreach program. After hearing word of our efforts, Holy Cross graciously collected and donated a truck load of jackets to add to our donations. There was much enthusiasm when we handed out these jackets at our morning breakfast program. Thanks again for making a difference.



Mary Rice Club



The Mary Rice Club in its second year continues to make a difference in our community. This year we welcome the leadership of Mrs. Batista who has added her baking skills and leadership to this club.

So far we have had fundraisers for Halloween, Thanksgiving and the Christmas Craft Fair. Funds raised have been donated to our mission program and local charities. Just recently, we raised enough money to purchase 120 gloves for the Burnaby Progressive Housing Coalition. We have also donated \$100 towards a Down Syndrome Research Program and food to the New Westminster Union Gospel Mission.



The use of the new school kitchen has been a blessing. In December we hosted the swim team by cooking a meal for their banquet. We also plan on organizing a Fat Tuesday breakfast on February 12th to celebrate the time before lent (More details to follow).

If any student is interested in joining this club please speak with either Mrs. Chester or Mrs. Batista.



STMC Green Team



Pics from the December Bottle Drive

The Saint Thomas More Green Team is very excited for the New Year and has hopeful plans for 2010! This year, the team's biggest goals include:

- ◆ making informational posters to raise awareness of recycling
- ◆ celebrating Earth Day
- ◆ holding in-school bottle drives
- ◆ maintaining an organic school garden
- ◆ conducting an energy audit for the school

Aside from their future goals, this year's team would also like to acknowledge the huge success accomplished with their December bottle drive. From one in-school bottle drive the team is proud to say that they have raised over \$70.00 for a non-profitable charity.

From the start of 2009, the team has and continues to maintain their email, informational website and in-school bulletin board.

As the team is always open for new ideas, they look forward to everyone's input and comments.

Please contact us at our email:

green.team.stmc@hotmail.com or visit us on our website: <http://greenteam.stmc.bc.ca>

Blessed Edmund Rice Team

The BERT team is planning to have a Lenten collection in order to aid the homeless in our community. Following our Christian values, this would be a perfect opportunity to help a good cause and really focus on what this season is trying to help us understand. Every week, during a six week period, there will be a different item asked for. From February 8-12, soap and razors will be collected. Hats and toques will be the focus from March 1-5. Gloves will be collected from March 8th to March 12th. Chap Stick, toothbrushes and toothpaste will be asked for on the week of March 15. In the final week, from March 29th to April 1st, there will be a non-perishable food drive. Please get involved in a wonderful cause and experience the spirit of Lent. Thank you!

The BERT team is also organizing an overnight Famine called THINK-FAST on Friday March 12th at the school. Please read the BERT bulletin board for more information. The event will be for seniors only and spaces will be limited.

If interested in participating in any of these clubs please read the "Clubs" bulletin board or speak with Mr. Mattiazzo

A Look back at STMC in the Past



(Right)- Aerial view of St. Thomas More Collegiate in 1973. How many changes can you find?



Above-construction of the school gym



Father Paul Thompson celebrating a Christmas mass in the school Chapel. Can you guess what current classroom this is?



Mr. Ruzycki's Planning 10 Project

For the second year Mr. Ruzycki challenged his grade 10 Planning classes to make a positive difference in the world. Through a group project, students were responsible for finding an issue in their community, implementing an action plan and following through. His students went above and beyond expectations and below are just a few examples:

- The adoption of an inner-city elementary school and park. This group's mandate was to remove graffiti and unsafe garbage from the school grounds.
- The adoption of a family through the Christmas Bureau. This group first held a garage sale where they raised \$523.75. Funds raised went towards presents, a Christmas dinner and other random necessities for a family in Burnaby.
- Funds raised for an SPCA Biscuit program
- Involvement with Agape Ministry
- The promotion and fundraising for Breast Cancer
- One student helped a stray dog that was very sick. She arranged three bake sales and the funds raised were able to help the dog walk properly
- The collection of towels for the SPCA and their medical procedures.
- Volunteering at a seniors complex, spending time with residents and organizing games such as wheel chair soccer tournaments.
- Another group organized a bottle drive that collected over 400\$. Funds raised went towards toiletries for the needy. They packaged these items and donated them to Covenant House.
- Cleaning of a local park and painting over graffiti on garage doors and fences. A special thanks to Royal City paint who donated the paint for these services



The project was an incredible success and a celebration of the human spirit. Hundreds of lives were touched by a simple assignment which reached out to others. Never underestimate the power of youth given a purpose. Mr. Ruzycki was overwhelmed by the response from members of the community who were moved by the many efforts of the S.T.M.C. students.

Last year Global television's Mike McCardle found out about the students' initiatives and came to the school to showcase this project on the news. With the standard being set, Mr. Ruzycki is looking forward to the enthusiasm and energy of next years grade tens and the endless possibilities of positive things for our community.

Mr. D. Ruzycki



STMC Advent Mass and Christmas Sing-Along



Our Advent Mass is always a special occasion at STMC. Special thanks to our celebrant, Father Gary Franken, Mr. Lui and our school choir, our staff choir (Mr. Muise, Ms. Lang, Mrs. Ransom, Ms. Webber, Mr. Toth and Mr. Shoemaker. We invite anyone in our community to join us for our school masses.

