



**We are the Community. We are the Church.**

**35**

*Celebrating the 50th anniversary of the First Mass  
at Sacred Heart Church at Nelthorpe Street  
on September 5, 2015*

May 2-3, 2015

**Fund-raising for 50th Anniversary legacy projects**

## Newcombe Singers' performance set for church

Victoria's longest established community choir, the Newcombe Singers, under the direction of **Peter Dent**, will perform at Sacred Heart Church on Tuesday, May 19, at 7:30 p.m. as part of the year-long 50th Anniversary celebrations of the first mass at the Nelthorpe Street on September 5, '65. **Dent** has been the director since '09.

Admission is by donation with funds raised going towards 50th Anniversary legacy projects.

The choir has a repertoire of songs composed over five centuries, from classical sacred music, choral compositions of the great composers and popular song arrangements sung in close harmony. The Newcombe Singers is the oldest, non-auditioned, community choir with a long and proud history of community service through song in Victoria.

In '67, B.C. public service members formed an informal choir to provide musical entertainment during the Christmas season in the B.C. Legislature's Rotunda for colleagues and the public. In '70 the group took the name of "Newcombe Glee Club" from the Royal B.C. Museum's Newcombe Auditorium, where it initially performed [**Dr. Charles Newcombe** and his son, **William**, are responsible for one of the museum's most treasured collection]. In '75 it changed its name to the Newcombe Singers.

It provides the musical background for official functions at the B.C. Parliament Buildings, from opening ceremonies of the Legislature, to Remembrance Day services and Christmas carolling during advent season. It performs regularly at seniors' centres, lodges, hospitals and community venues in the capital region. It gets no government grants or private subsidies.



It has hosted Chor Leoni, one of the vanguard male vocal ensembles in North America, for a Remembrance Day performance and has also performed:

- at the Powell River Choral Festival;
- with the Kapfenberg Choir from Austria;
- the Vancouver Chinese Choir;
- in Hong Kong, Germany and Austria;
- in the B.C. Choral Federation "Chorfest";
- with the Civic Orchestra;
- **Johannes Brahms'** Liebeslieder Waltzes; and,
- at the its own spring concert in '07 with St. Patrick's Primary School Choir.

The choir will perform *Requiem* by **Gabriel Faure** at the Sacred Heart Church concert including *Cantique de Jean Racine* by **Gabriel Faure**, *I Beheld Her, Beautiful as a Dove* by **Healey Willan**, *The Lark In the Clear Air*, *Die Nachtigall* [*The Nightingale*] by **Felix Mendelssohn**, *The Blue Bird*, *When the Robin Sings* plus a variety of Fauna pieces.

Among feature performers will be our pastor, **Friar Dan Gurnick**, OFM, and the Korean Drummers.

Some Newcombe Singers members will be at the Distinguished Concerts International in New York this spring to sing the **Faure's** Requiem at Carnegie Hall.

## Celebrating with a 'Living Rosary'

Sacred Heart's faith community will pray the rosary, as part of the year-long, 50th anniversary celebration of the first Mass at the church at Nelthorpe Street on 5 September 1965:

**When:** Saturday, 9 May, at 11 a.m.

**Where:** Sacred Heart Church courtyard in front of the statue of Mary, weather permitting, otherwise in the parish hall.

It will be a 'living rosary' with:

- each person as a "bead" in the rosary;

- each decade prayed in a different language; and,
- a candle lit in front of each person as each prayer is said, until all the candles are lighted to form a glow in the shape of the rosary.

After the rosary there will be refreshments and goodies served in the parish hall hosted by the Catholic Women's League.

The Latin word "rosary" means a garland of roses, the rose being one of the flowers used to symbolize Mary.

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While prayer beads may have their origins in the Eastern religions in India in the 3rd century BC, the use of knotted prayer ropes in Christianity dates to the desert fathers— male Catholic hermits, ascetics and monks who lived mainly in Egypt's desert — in the 3rd century AD. These counting devices were used for prayers, such as the *Jesus Prayers* [*Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner*], in Christian monasticism. Then, strings of beads used to count *Our Fathers* and *Hail Marys*, became known as "*Paternosters*", Latin for "Our Father."

According to some, the rosary was given to **Saint Dominic** [1170-1221], Spanish priest and founder of the Dominican order, in a vision of Mary in 1214 in the church of Prouille in France. This Marian apparition got the title of 'Our Lady of the Rosary'.

In the 15th century, **Blessed Alanus de Rupe**, a Dominican priest and theologian, is said to have received a vision from Jesus about the urgency of reinstating the rosary. He also received Mary's 15 specific promises to those who pray the rosary. Before his death in 1475 he reinstated the rosary in many countries and established rosary confraternities.

Not all Catholics agree with these traditions. They say the rosary's structure evolved between the 12th and 15th centuries. Eventually, 50 *Hail Marys* were recited and linked with verses evoking the lives of **Jesus** and **Mary**. This prayer was known as the rosarium ["rose garden"].

The meditation during the *Hail Marys* is attributed to **Dominic of Prussia**, a 15th century Carthusian monk, who called it "*Life of*

*Jesus Rosary*". He added a sentence to each of the *Hail Marys* already popular at his time, using quotes from scriptures, During the 16th century, the structure of the five-decade rosary based on the three sets of mysteries prevailed.

It is said that the praying of the rosary by Europeans, at **Pope Pius V's** request, led to the 1571 Catholic maritime states' victory at the Battle of Lepanto with the defeat of the Turkism fleet. It prevented the Moslem Ottoman Empire from expanding along the Mediterranean's European side. This also eventually resulted in the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary on October 7.

In 1569, the papal bull *Consueverunt Romani Pontifices* established the rosary's devotion and instituted the essence of its present configuration. From the 16th to the early 20th century, the structure of the rosary remained essentially unchanged.

The rosary has: the *Creed*; the *Our Father*, taught by Jesus to his disciples [**Matthew** 6:5-13; **Luke** 11:1-4]; the *Hail Mary*, incorporates two Gospel passages: "*Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with thee,*" [**Luke** 1:28] in the greeting of Angel Gabriel to Mary, and "*Blessed art thou amongst women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb.*" [**Luke** 1:42] — In mid-13th-century Western Europe the prayer consisted only of these words with the single addition of the name "*Mary*" after the word "*Hail*"; the Trinitarian doxology, *Glory Be*, addressed to all three persons of the Trinity, became universal in Nicæan Christianity and became dominant with the Edict of Thessalonica of 380; and, the *Salve Regina* or *Hail Holy Queen*, the prayer version of a Marian hymn.



## Catholicism in the continents

### Focus on Europe

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The other of the 72 disciples, appointed by Jesus, who dispersed through Europe and became bishops of the areas where they preached, included:

- St. Crisces, bishop of Galatia bishop of Vienne in southern France and Mainz in the Rhine in Germany;
- St. Epaenetus, bishop of Cartagina in Spain;
- St. Andronicus, bishop of Pannonia [now part of Hungary, Austria, Serbia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Slovenia]
- Ampliatius, first bishop of Varna in Bulgaria
- St. Urban, bishop of Macedonia [now part of Greece, Albania, Bulgaria and Macedonia]
- and several others in Greece, including: Appeles, bishop of Smyrna; St. Narcissus, bishop of Athens; Rufus, bishop of Thebes; and, St. Phlegon of Marathon.

A milestone of Christianity in Europe was when Saint Ninian [360A.D. - 432 A.D.], born in Cumbria in northwest England to Christian parents, educated in Rome, became a priest, ordained a bishop and sent by Pope Siricus to evangelize Scotland.

Tradition holds that Saint Ninian, Scotland's first apostle and saint, landed in 397 A.D. in Whithorn near Solway Firth, converted the southern Picts — a tribal confederation of people who lived in today's eastern and northern Scotland — where he built a stone cathedral called 'Candida Casa' [White House]. He died in c. 432 A.D. and was buried in Whithorn.

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## Our Pastors



### Fr. Harold Stewart Heard, C.S.Sp.

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Fr. Heard served in Serabu for 32 years, from '42-'74, often going back to England for mission appeals and when his parents died — both within a month of each other and not knowing about each other and their whereabouts.

After Serabu, Fr. Heard was posted to Yaoundé, capital of Cameroon in Central Africa, with the task of establishing an English-speaking

elementary school in a predominantly French-speaking country, where English is also an official language. He made sure that the school was organized and well managed and had enough funds coming in to sustain it.

After this 'Holy Ghost' father served for 35 years in Africa, he came to Victoria in August '78 to serve the St. Jean Baptiste Paroisse Francaise. 10 months later he was appointed by Bishop Remi de Roo to serve as pastor of Sacred Heart Church. He was back as pastor of St. Jean Baptiste Paroisse Francaise after five years at Sacred Heart.

He made four trips to Africa, from '80 to '92 to attend the installation of Bishop Joseph Ganda from Serabu as archbishop of Freetown and Bo, the second for a brief visit to Sierra Leone, the third to Sierre Leone and Cameroon, and the fourth to Nigeria in January '92 for a belated 50th anniversary [1 November '91] observance of his ordination.

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