

THE BEAT GOES ON



VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

AUGUST 2012

COMING DOWN FROM THE MOUNTAIN

Welcome to *The Beat Goes On*, a publication designed especially for you—a pilgrim who felt a tug and paused to discern that “still small voice” which led you to the ritual process of initiation.

For some of you it may have been several years ago; for some it may have been quite recently that you celebrated the sacraments of initiation. Hopefully you will never “dry off” from your baptism or anointing; that sacred experience was an opening to new life. To be clothed and anointed in Christ is to walk *always* in that newness of life.

Certainly there was a crescendo moment for celebrating the gift of the Spirit with

your family, friends, fellow RCIA candidates and catechumens and, indeed with the whole Church. During your process you may have enjoyed a stronger sense of God’s presence and love, felt a comforting and fulfilling closeness and realized your life’s purpose and direction much more clearly and resolved to live very differently.

But time, work, and the other practicalities of life can result in our wandering away from or waning attention to the gift and table of life. Coming down from the mountain can be a painful jolt. The new clarity of vision can gradually become blurred.

The initiation process is a

significant experience of conversion and offers a good starting point for doing more sustained work. *The Beat Goes On* invites you to take another pause. A pause to discern the meaning of the Sacred Mysteries in your evolving story of discipleship in Christ. As you continue to face challenges in your life you are invited to reflect on the passion, death and resurrection experiences you have had.

Remember that you pause not alone but with your community of faith. The story of how you are and what you are becoming is part of the ongoing story of the Church; and the journey makes us one.



FOR EVERYTHING THERE IS A SEASON

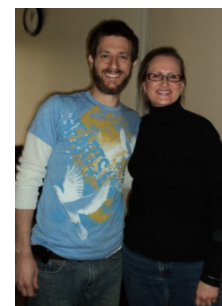


Ryan Lawless, team member for the past two years, has discerned a call to missionary service. Ryan has signed on with the Family Missions Company which

operates out of Louisiana. Ryan will leave in early September to begin a 3 month preparation process in Abbeville, Louisiana. Thereafter he will await his assignment.

The Family Missions Company was established in 1996 and has served in over 25 countries. Missionaries make a two year commitment with the possibility of committing to long term service. FMC is a “family” of Catholic singles and families, evangelizing and announcing the gospel of Jesus Christ around the world.

Ryan came into full communion with the Roman Catholic Church while attending school in College Station. He has been working at the Methodist Hospital as a cardiology technician. The Lord be with you, Ryan!



WHERE ARE THEY NOW



Cynthia Hawthorne (c.2006) Grillo and husband Iggy, celebrated the baptism of their 3rd child, Tobias, at SJV on Aug. 4.



Nikki Willard Achivida (2006) and her husband, Alex, eagerly await the imminent birth of their first child.



Roger Morgan (c.2005) continues his priestly formation at St. Mary's seminary here in Houston. God willing, Roger will be ordained to serve the diocese of South Carolina.



Congratulations to Roya and Afshin (2012) who were recently granted asylum in the United States. Roya reports that some of the questions

asked were: what are the sacraments; describe Sunday Mass; how many days in Lent; describe the Easter Vigil; who baptized Jesus?



Tammy Comeaux (2011) recently welcomed her new baby boy.

Volkan Kaban (2010) and his wife, Denise, celebrated the baptism of their daughter, Sophia, on July 22 at SJV.



Heather Gioco (2010) volunteers in the Adult Formation Office one morning a week!



Tony Lorenca (2011) currently serves as an EM and has been asked to serve as a member of the CATHOLICISM project core team.



Bob and Ginger Vinson (former RCIA team member) at the Grillo baptism.



Jason Bonifazi (c.2004) looks forward to his ordination to the priesthood next year.

CONTINUING THE JOURNEY

Inquiries into the RCIA process swell around Lent and Easter. In this recent year, since that time and throughout the summer, 26 formal inquiries into the Initiation process have been made. "Formal" refers to those who call or email and subsequently meet with the Director of RCIA to discuss the process in general and, in particular, how it is fleshed out at Saint John's. They have said "yes" to the invitation to "come and see."

Happily and quite understandably many Catholics also call to inquire about serv-

ing on the RCIA team. In each case they have experienced first hand the fruits of this intense ministry. Like the inquirer, the RCIA team member commits to immersing themselves in the faith. They pledge to support the inquirers not only on Thursdays and Sundays but throughout the process. An RCIA team member is a person of maturity, integrity, enthusiasm and possesses a passion for our faith. They tenderly guide the inquirer through the process of inquiry, interest and commitment.

As the RCIA process prepares to resume

its sessions we welcome new team members Timothy Black, David Dettling, Kevin McCauley, and Terry Woodward.



Timothy Black



David Dettling



Kevin Mcauley



Terry Woodward

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

Beginning with the last Sunday of July and throughout the month of August the Gospel proclamations were taken from the sixth chapter of the Gospel of John. This chapter is often called the Bread of Life Discourse and begins with the feeding of the five thousand. It is a story about human need and divine response, about the scarcity of ordinary resources and the abundance of extraordinary love.

The apparent shortage of food gives Jesus the opportunity to satisfy more than the people's physical hunger. He shows them that God takes things as they are and demonstrates the way things will be with the reign of God.

When we come to the Eucharist we know that it is not our physical hunger that is being satisfied for when we are

sufficiently fed we stop eating. But with the Eucharist we are fed with the abundant outpouring of God's love, Jesus. When we walk away from the table of the Lord we have been nourished enough for ourselves and for those to whom we are sent with our baskets of fragments, our baskets of love and justice and forgiveness that will feed the spiritual hunger of those we encounter.

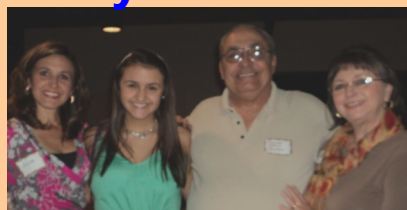
The Journey Makes Us One!



It's A Reunion!



If you've ever been through the RCIA process
—here or in another parish—
you're invited!



Wine and Cheese Reception

Friday, 28 September 2012

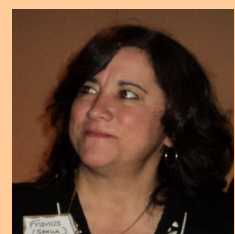
7:00—9:00 pm



Sponsors, godparents, spouses, guests are welcome!

Saint John Vianney Activity Center Dining Room

RSVP to robystokes1@comcast.net or ygill@stjohnvianney.org



SAINT JOHN VIANNEY

625 Nottingham Oaks Trail
Houston, Texas 77079

LIVING FAITH
CHANGING LIVES
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE



The Beat Goes On is the creation of Yvonne Gill. It is sent to all women and men who, on their journey of faith, traveled the ancient path of the catechumenate.

Send your news, questions, comments and photos to ygill@stjohnvianney.org

Fishers of Men

Words and Music by Cesareo Gavarain

*Lord, when you came to the seashore,
Your weren't seeking the wise or the wealthy.
But only asking that I might follow.
O Lord, in my eyes you were gazing,
kindly smiling, my name you were saying.
All I treasured, I have left on the sand there;
Close to you, I will find other seas.
Lord, you knew what my boat carried:
neither money nor weapons for fighting,
But nets for fishing, my daily labor.
Lord, have you need of my labor,
hands for service, a heart made for loving,
my arms for lifting the poor and the broken.
Lord, send me where you would have me,
to a village, or heart of the city;
I will remember that you are with me.*



...AND ON AND ON AND ON!

Throughout your process of initiation you were often reminded that the celebration of the Easter sacraments was not an ending but a beginning. Recall also that during your mystagogy period there was a focus on discipleship; now that you were a "full fledged" Catholic and could avail yourself to the sacraments, how could you *be* sacrament— in your life, in your job, in your relationships?

We all remain in mystagogy; living out our baptismal commitment. In this there is a natural ebb and flow; a waxing and waning. **This is** the rhythm of the paschal mystery in our lives. Described in other ways perhaps, but for us recognized—when reminded—that this waxing and waning is our dying and rising. There is no experience that our Lord cannot transform. Let those who have

eyes - see, and those who have ears - hear!

The new life that is yours beckons you forward. Where have you been? Where are you now? Not intended in the temporal sense, these questions urge us all to look both ways.

May your walk in the newness of life be ever fresh, ever faithful and ever joyful. As you walk in the newness of life determine to become that newness of life to others.

May your sacred pause enable you to be for others what those before you have been for you—a link in the journey of faith enriched by your own conversion to Christ and enlivened through your sharing in the worship and life of the community of the Church.

Become a person not afraid to pause. Pause to explore your experience of life, explore the scriptures that sustain your faith, renew the life of faith you call your own and accept the challenges of discipleship. Pause to see with the fresh eyes of faith, your oneness with God and with one another. Pause to seek justice, peace, harmony and concord.

The call from our Lord goes on and on and on. Our response must likewise pulsate with enthusiasm, reverence, and conviction as ...the beat goes on.

Yvonne Gill, 2012

