

Extracted from St John Vianney Bulletin on December 16, 2012

Rambling XXIX by Carl Beyer and Friends

For starters,we got all the apples taken care of, though the batch that was outside eyeballing me got introduced to the worms – that batch did NOT come inside. The batch brought inside were canned and have become apple pie filling. Mmm, now we need to put them into crusts and enjoy! Got the beets canned and the wife is greatly enjoying them. Canned some chicken soup with potatoes and carrots from our garden and next year we hope to have more contributions from our harvest. We have carrots galore. Note to self: plant fewer carrots next year. Need to harvest the onions which will then reside in our freezer.

What a great turnout at the last Potluck! We served over three hundred beverages, which either means we had a lot of parishioners at the potluck or everyone was really thirsty! I waited for everyone to go through the line and *still* was able to snag some *great* mac & cheese. Great job, chefs! And, **WOW**, all the people helping with setup and tear down was just a blessing to see!

Now, a favor: I am asking for someone with a greater gift for this than I have to step forward and offer to our parish their gift of photographic expertise. I have been the one taking the pictures at the potlucks up to this point, and, personally, I think I stink at it. Can someone **please** make that **his or her** mission? I would just need a copy on a disc so that I can put the photos on the SJV website. **PLEASE** email me, at carl@sjvnm.org if you feel even somewhat called to this ministry. On that subject, can anyone with any pictures of an SJV event send them to me or put a disc in my mailbox in the sacristy so that they can be posted? THANKS!

Another ministry opportunity: We have a very unique mission for a family in our parish. We need a *snacker family*. This family would set up and distribute the snacks at the 8AM or 10AM Masses. This is one of the few ministries in which the whole family can participate. Please let a fellow snacker know if you are interested! Or, Harlan Harrington is our Head Snacker and can be reached at 896-2740. This core ministry serves the very important function of reinforcing the Community Spirit of our parish – a Church community that slows down and talks amongst and gets to know one another, instead of just rushing to our cars and cutting each other off in the parking lot. Please consider being that shining example to our kids and showing them how to serve the Church, and their fellow parishioners.

We have a new webmaster coming our way – that means a “real website.” I regret that I never have felt that I have had enough time to devote to doing my best on that.

I could not be more pleased with our continued progress on our “little” mission church. We are so blessed with such a talented bunch of volunteers. Our last step is to become our own Church,

which should happen in the very near future. Wow, it seems like yesterday we were having Mass in Colinas School and were thrilled when one hundred people showed up! Some people seem to be a little confused, believing that we have to have a “Church Building” in order to become our own Parish. Not so. Once we become our own Church/parish we can move forward on a capital campaign to pay off the parish hall and then build OUR “Church Building”.

Has anyone else been looking around and seeing the *community* being built around our Church? Homes are going up like mad. We hope some of the new homeowners will become part of our Church community. Like our Church community, it is always exciting to see a community rise from the desert floor and then to see the bustling activities of people going through their daily lives - kids playing, adults working, yards growing and developing, and families expanding.

On to a new topic: If possible, please avoid the 4PM Christmas Eve Mass. From past years' experience the seats will be filled almost a half hour before Mass, and close to 200 people will need to stand. We also have a Mass at 7PM with plenty of room for everyone, along with the 10AM Mass on Christmas. So if you want to attend the 4PM Mass, it's best to be there 45 minutes early to have a seat. **AND**, for some reason, last year people starting leaving the Mass early....so let us faithful parishioners be sure and set a good example for our seasonal visitors. And, as always, the first one out of the Church is Father, and THEN everyone else.

Everyone please have a blessed season of Advent. **God Bless you All.**