

St. Francis de Sales Parish

All glory comes from daring to begin.

St. Francis de Sales



Meanderings...

| Parish Bulletin – December 5 & 6, 2009

BY REV. ROY ROBERTS

I RECKON panic started to set in during the Easter set up. The crew was busy hanging window baskets and arranging flowers when the topic of decorating for the 150th Anniversary surfaced. There was a profound silence. Seven years of experience of transforming the gymnasium at St. Patrick's School seemed eons behind us. Yet a 150th anniversary kind of begs something special.

No one had a unique approach to a design. Every suggestion was met with a sigh of resignation that it had been done already. Finally, someone pointed out the fact that less than 50% of the current parishioners had ever been in the gym to see the wonderful set-ups there. With about a month to go, since no new or novel creativity was arising, the default plan of action was set in motion. Measurements were taken and lengths calculated. The first foray was financially unsound and irresponsible.

The scope and magnitude exceeded anything we had previously undertaken, but the first estimates were just too much money to be reasonable. A new plan of action was needed, so phone calls and eventually a day's trip to a fabric mill was planned - the price was right. It is worth the trip to Cambridge.

The banner designs were finalized, the test strips and colours approved, and delivered within the week. Most of the cloth was available at the mill, but the remaining bolts were put on a rush order. Nobody knew how to finish off the centre so the concession was made to order the stars online. The cheapest ones were in Pittsburg, so the order was placed and the stars arrived within 24 hours. They looked kind of uneventful so attempts were made to dress them up with glitter, which seemed to give them a festive character. The scissor truck was a big component of our plans.

Everything had to be ready for the First Sunday of Advent, along with our usual magnificent wreath, and of course the delicious bread. Many people devoted much time and late hours, or early hours, until 1:30 am, to make it a reality.

It is wonderful to have people who recognize that these impractical, unique to our Parish activities are essential if we are to grow into a kingdom Community. I hope we all appreciate the many and varied gifts of our parishioners who so generously gave of themselves for our faith benefit. So thank you to all the 'A' Team (Anniversary Team).

'I love it when a plan comes together'.

- *FR*