

This week we received the good news that Pope Benedict named **Bishop Peter Sartain** as the new Archbishop of Seattle. He has a big job and I know that you will join with me in praying for him. Here is some information about our new archbishop:

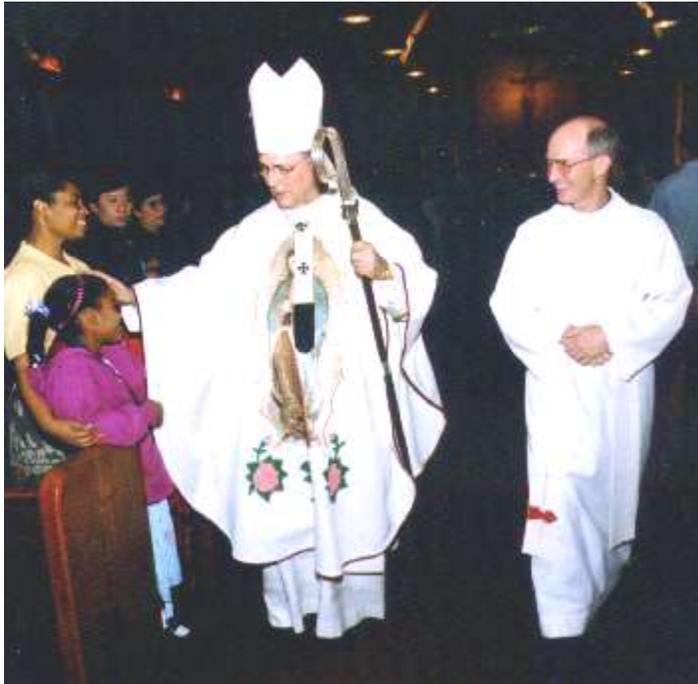


*A native of Memphis (and professed devotee of its Krystal cheeseburgers and chili), the archbishop-elect was groomed for the heights from early on, and is widely said to have maintained a keen pastoral touch. Following undergrad formation at St. Meinrad and theological studies in Rome -- which included a degree in sacramental theology from the Benedictines at Sant'Anselmo -- he returned home, being named a high-school chaplain and diocesan vocation director, an episcopal vicar by 30, chancellor at 35, vicar-general and pastor of a parish at 40, then, in 2000 (at 48), bishop of Little Rock.*

*In Arkansas' statewide diocese, which grew by roughly a quarter during his six years there, Bishop Sartain scored high marks for the jolt of energy he brought to the sprawling turf. Among other key markers, Little Rock's crop of seminarians doubled within four years of his arrival, and he openly asked the people to send him their prayer intentions, that he might join in petitioning for them. Yet above all in a local church experiencing an ever-emergent Hispanic influx (much like today's Seattle flock), the bishop learned to speak Spanish, of which he's said to have picked up an impressive command, alternating between it and English at his major liturgies ever since.*

As we pray for our new archbishop, we also pray in gratitude to God for **Archbishop Brunett**. He is one of the hardest working men I have ever met and he has done an admirable job in his thirteen years guiding our archdiocese. Archbishop Brunett will continue to reside in Seattle and has offered to help out in parishes according to need. At our Priest Days gathering last June we knew that these would be

Archbishop Brunett's final months as ordinary (bishop in charge) of the archdiocese. One of my favorite memories of Archbishop Brunett was when he celebrated the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe at Holy Family Parish in Seattle. Below is a picture of Archbishop Brunett blessing a girl named Johanna during the recessional as her mom Elena looks on. Elena was here last weekend for a women's retreat and told me that Johanna (now a young adult) is doing very well.



Speaking of youth, we have some great plans here at St. Mary of the Valley. **Generations of Faith** will have exciting Break-Out sessions for youth. Additionally, I hope to have four **Youth Empowerment Mornings** (YEM). I will be presenting this to our World Youth Day delegates in our meeting this Thursday, but I want to emphasize that the YEM's are for all youth of our parish.

I have wonderful delegation going with me to Peru at the end of the month. My time in Peru will be shorter this year (three and half weeks as compared to almost six weeks last year). I will write more about the **Peru Mission Trip** in next Sunday's bulletin.

Meanwhile, this week we have good activities lined up: on Tuesday evening at Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Everett, **Forty Days for Life** has its kick-off for the fall campaign. Lila Rose (picture below) will be



the keynote speaker!

Miss Rose is

President of *Live Action*, which has exposed some of the worst abuses in the abortion industry – including cover-up of statutory rape and giving false medical information to women considering abortion. (I regret missing this presentation as I am scheduled for orientation at Monroe Correctional Complex that evening.) On Wednesday evening we have the first meeting to organize a parish **Liturgy Commission** and, as I mentioned above, on Thursday evening, beginning at 6:30, we have an important **World Youth Day meeting** in the parish hall. On Saturday morning I invite you to join Samwise and me (as well as other St. Mary of Valley parishioners) for the **St. Vincent de Paul “Friends of the Poor Walk”** at Archbishop Murphy High School.

Finally: Do you know someone interested in the Catholic Faith – or do you desire to know more about the basics of your faith? Sr. Barbara and I will conduct classes for the **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults** (RCIA) beginning in October. Please consider participating and bring a friend!