



LET THE CELEBRATION BEGIN!!!!

Yes, this past weekend marked the beginning of our Sesquicentennial Year.

The Saturday Mass was most special as Fr. Sousa delivered an inspiring homily and intoned the Eucharistic Prayer. We heard a "golden oldie" Marian hymn "Hail Queen of Heaven, the Ocean Star" and the classic "Ave Maria" by Schubert. The hymnals now have special holy cards commemorating the 150th - thank you Ann Marie and Arthur Batten. We had programs that revealed the new logo, which is also on display in the vestibule, and will be found on holy cards, bulletins, website, and all manner of commemorative items available during the year.

On Sunday we continued the Kickoff Weekend with an outdoor mass and picnic. Many thanks to Anne-Marie Marivoet for coordinating all that. We handed out buttons and cups with the new logo on them. Bill McCall took a panoramic picture of folks - a unique experience for most. Larry Kelly handled the 50/50 raffle. Barb and Larry Kelly, and I manned the tables with the shirts and totes. The free children's t-shirts were the committee's way of saying thank you to the donations made during special collections.

The Anniversary Committee has been hard at work since spring to make plans for our year-long Jubilee celebrations. Check out the website often and thank Barb Kelly, our Webmaster. Mark your calendars with all the dates and keep on the lookout for other events or activities that may occur in conjunction with the 400th anniversary of Hampton and St. John's Church.

There is still time to join in the planning fun - we need someone to head up the Social Committee.

Thank you Anniversary Committee!

Ann Marie and Arthur Batten, Sydney Bell, Nikki Camhout, Joan Conlin, Chuck and Sue Edgette, Betsy Flores, Barb and Larry Kelly, Kate Luke, Bill and Shannon McCall, Kim Primo, Mel Salnoske, and Fr. Peter Sousa.

Shannon McCall, Anniversary Committee Chairman

Note from Anne-Marie Marivoet:

A big thank you to all who assisted with our parish family picnic, especially the following people: Tom McKenna, Michael McCall, and Jim Chapman, our grill crew; Solveigh Corley, for coordinating the children's games and assisting with the gathering of supplies; Kathy Pollard for getting our meats and bread; Kim Primo, for chopping all those onions and tomatoes!; Mike & Rosemary Swisher, for coordinating the Mass supplies; Bill McCall for taking the panoramic photo; Rich Primo for being MC; and all those who came early to help set up and all those who stayed late to clear the picnic grounds.

Thank you to the anniversary committee, spearheaded by Shannon McCall, for creating colorful surprises for all of us! We can't wait to see the picture that was taken of our parish family. Last of all, thank you everyone for getting into your kitchen and sharing your wonderful family recipes with us. Don't forget to turn in copies of your recipes to Barbara Kelly for our anniversary cookbook: it is not yet too late!

Jim Bell won our 50/50 raffle, run by the anniversary committee.

As for the dessert contest, the entries went from 8 to 12 by the time the contest officially started. Thank you to our judges Pat Wharry, Kaitlin McKenna and Madison Stephenson for sampling and scoring all of them: a decidedly tough job since every single one of the desserts entered looked absolutely stunning. Thank you again for sharing your family recipes with us (don't forget to enter those too for the cookbook!).

After final evaluation, the Mint Brownies entered by Moira Espinoza took the top prize, followed very closely by the Carrot Cake entered by Rosemary Swisher and next the Black Forest Cupcakes, entered by Rocky Passarrelli.