

THE SHEPHERDS WALKING STICK

Finally, right before the Blessed Sacrament is returned to the tabernacle during the Benediction, the priest and the faithful recite the Divine Praises. "Blessed be God. Blessed be his Holy Name... etc." This series of ejaculatory prayers was composed by Fr. Luigi Felici in 1797. Quite old, eh? Indeed, the hymns and prayers of the Benediction connect us to our Catholic brothers and sisters of the past! The original intent of the Divine Praises was to make reparation for blasphemy and profane language. Such reparation is much needed now that people are so used to saying the Lord's name in exclamatory fashion to express anger, disgust and disappointment. Talking of thanking and praising God, we are happy for our brothers and sisters belonging to the Ukrainian Catholic Church residing in our area. The Archeparchy of Winnipeg has just assigned them under the pastoral care of Fr. Mykhajlo. Until this week, religious services for our Ukrainian Catholic brothers and sisters were celebrated irregularly due to unavailability of a priest. They will have their first service with Mykhajlo next Sunday, September 20, at around 2 PM at our church. Subject to the consensus of the members of the community, they will probably celebrate the Mass in the oriental rite at our church every other Sunday or twice a month. Last Sunday also, September 6 at 3:30 PM, the transient Spanish speakers in our parish had a Liturgy of the Word together with Brother Thomas Novak OMI, who is tasked by the archdiocese to minister to Spanish-speaking workers who come to Manitoba for the harvest. Apparently, a Mass was initially planned for the day. However, Brother Thomas had difficulty finding a priest who can speak Spanish. I think I should learn at least how to read Spanish so that they can have a

Mass next year. St. John the Evangelist Parish did honor Our Lady during her birthday! 9 children from 4 families attended the Children's Rosary scheduled on that day, September 8. There was also a relatively good turnout among the adults who wanted to greet Our Lady. After the Rosary and Mass, all those present were treated to slices of a delicious ice cream cake courtesy of Barry & Fabiola Titchosky. We are grateful for the latter for their faithfulness in the Children' Rosary apostolate.

