

THE SHEPHERDS WALKING STICK

The second Latin hymn we sing during the Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament is the Tantum Ergo. The English translation reads: *Down in adoration falling, / Lo, the sacred host we hail. / Lo, o'er ancient forms departing / Newer rites of grace prevail; / Faith for all defects supplying / Where the feeble senses fail. / To the everlasting Father, / And the Son who reigns on high. / With the Holy Spirit proceeding / Forth from each eternally, / Be salvation, honor, blessing, / Might and endless majesty. Amen.....* While the O Salutaris is the last two verses of a longer hymn titled Verbum Supernum Prodiens composed by St. Thomas Aquinas, the Tantum Ergo is the last two verses of another hymn also composed by him titled Pange Lingua. If we meditate on the meaning of the hymn, we realize that it is in fact a tribute to the Blessed Trinity and to transubstantiation. St. Thomas underscores faith as the eyes through which we recognize the presence of Christ in the consecrated bread which we call as the Host. September 8 is the feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is also the 2nd Tuesday of the month which is the regular schedule for our parish Children's Rosary. Is that a coincidence or what? Well, for someone who has faith, there are no coincidences in life; everything is part of God's design. I am convinced that Our Lady is reserving special graces for those who honor her on her birthday. So, I am inviting parents with their children to join the Children's Rosary on Tuesday which will start at 7:00 pm. The Commissariat for the Holy Land is requesting that we do the pontifical collection on September 13 in support of the Holy Land. I know, it's not a good time to ask for donations. However, giving out of our own need rather than from our abundance

is certainly more meritorious in God's eyes. The amount raised from the local churches during the collection will be used for the maintenance of the holy places and pilgrimage sites in the Holy Land as well as to support the minority Catholic communities there.

There will be envelopes at the foyer for your donations which you may drop into the donation box. For more info on the Commissariat, kindly go

to terresainte@bellnet.ca.