

DOES GOD EXIST?

A man went to a barbershop to have his hair cut and his beard trimmed. As the barber began to work, they began to have a good conversation. They talked about so many things and various subjects. When they eventually touched on the subject of God, the barber said: 'I don't believe that God exists.'

'Why do you say that?' asked the customer. 'Well, you just have to go out in the street to realize that God doesn't exist.'

'Tell me, if God exists, would there be so many sick people? Would there be abandoned children? If God existed, there would be neither suffering nor pain. I can't imagine a loving God who would allow all of these things.'

The customer thought for a moment, but didn't respond because he didn't want to start an argument.

The barber finished his job and the customer left the shop.

Just after he left the barbershop, he saw a man in the street with long, stringy, dirty hair and an untrimmed beard.

He looked dirty and unkempt. The customer turned back and entered the barber shop again and he said to the barber:

'You know what? Barbers do not exist.'

'How can you say that?' asked the surprised barber. 'I am here, and I am a barber. And I just worked on you!'

'No!' the customer exclaimed. 'Barbers don't exist because if they did, there would be no people with dirty long hair and untrimmed beards, like that man outside.'

'Ah, but barbers DO exist! That's what happens when people do not come to me.'

'Exactly!' affirmed the customer. 'That's the point! God, too, DOES exist! That's what happens when people do not go to Him and don't look to Him for help. That's why there's so much pain and suffering in the world.'

BE BLESSED & BE A BLESSING TO OTHERS!

Don't forget to see **Daniel Kendall** of the Senior Youth Group to get your Loblaw's prepaid/gift cards during coffee time. The cards can be redeemed at **Loblaw's, Your Independent, Loblaw's Superstore and Value mart.**

The cards come in denominations of \$10.00; \$25.00; \$50.00 and \$100.00 and the youth group will gain 4% on the amounts sold.

You can not only use these cards yourself but they can also be used as gifts. The young people are enthusiastic about supporting the Church. Just think, for every \$100 the church will get \$4.00 at no cost to anyone.

INVITATION – APRIL 12, 2011

The "Servant at the Supper," a one woman play by Eleanor Glenn, journeying through the last Supper, The Crucifixion, The Resurrection and Pentecost (with a visit from St. Paul), is being offered at Holy Spirit Parish, hosted by the Holy Spirit Catholic Women's League. We are inviting all the Christian churches in Stittsville to join together for an evening of prayer with this play at its center. Eleanor Glenn has been offering this play for several years and will be going to Ireland to share it there too. Please join us our guests for this free play which will be preceded by the evening Lenten prayer and followed by light Lenten refreshments.

There are copies of "Our Daily Bread" booklets on the table at the back of the Sanctuary. Help yourself!

CHECK OUT THE BULLETIN BOARD

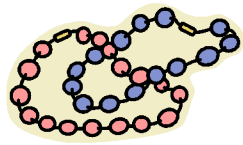
Open Table at St. Thomas, **March 19** at 5:00. Everyone welcome. Freewill offering.

Cantabile present the **CELESTIAL VOICES**: Music for voice and harp, featuring our own Gloria-Jean Nagy (soprano) and Caroline Leonardelli (harp), **Sunday March 20 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Matthias' Anglican Church, 555 Parkdale Ave.**

COUNTDOWN TO BAZAAR!!!

Our Spring Bazaar and Bake Sale will be held on April 9th.

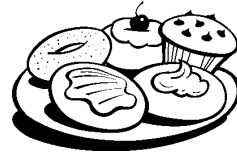
Joining us again this year will be



Pearls for Girls

Caring Hands Jewelry

And of course



OUR BAKE TABLE

and

DELICIOUS LUNCHEON

This is a great time to get involved in a very worthwhile and fun function.

There will be jobs for everyone whether it be baking, helping in the kitchen, serving or wherever you may feel most comfortable.

Let Sandra (831-0359) know how you would like to help if someone hasn't already called you.

Ten Thousand Villages in Ottawa sells fairly traded products from around the world. Their two stores sell a wide variety of **hand-made crafts**, such as linens, jewelry, toys, ceramics, musical instruments, home decor and much more. And don't miss the **Fair Trade food** section which includes coffee, chocolate, cocoa, tea, sugar, spices, jams, olive oil and chutneys. Fair Trade items purchased at Ten Thousand Villages allow artisans in developing countries to provide food, healthcare, education and housing for their families. The two stores are operated by Ottawa Alternative Trade Corporation - a not-for-profit organization - and rely on volunteers for many of their retail positions. *Your purchase makes a difference*

The dream of "**Pearls for Girls**" is for all girls around the world to receive the leadership education they need to create healthy futures, for themselves and their communities. Currently, this dream is out of reach for many girls, especially those living in developing countries, such as Lesotho, Southern Africa, who are now orphans because of HIV/AIDS. Lesotho is a small country bordered on all sides by South Africa. To change this reality, teenage girls and young women in developed countries are invited to build their leadership skills through organizing "Pearl Bees" where they bring people together and create pearl bracelets to raise funds for the leadership development of girls in developing countries. At the same time, all who attend have the opportunity to tell share stories on issues that matter to them.

Caring Hands is an organization made up of volunteers who assist Kampala families living in poverty, giving them new hope for the future. Their goal is to break the cycle of poverty in families of the community. The greatest challenges for families living in poverty are food, housing, school fees, health issues, and access to clean water. To help with such needs, Caring Hands is involved in material, psycho-social, and spiritual support, and by networking and giving information on existing available services for HIV positive individuals. Making jewelry out of recycled paper has become the most important income-generating project for Caring Hands and the women involved. About 40 women have been trained in making beads out of recycled paper that are eventually transformed into jewelry and sent to markets around the world. This has given the women self-esteem, put a smile on their faces, and alleviated the struggles with poverty. The profits are used for various charitable activities.