

## It's All About the Mystery

When celebrating the Eucharist, we are in the midst of “ancient rituals of an ancient faith” and this is not to be toyed with. So began Fr. Bill Burke on the first night of *It's All About the Mystery*, the English Deanery Lenten Mission which took place from March 7th – 9th in the Greater Moncton area. Fr. Burke spoke about the profound mystery of the Eucharist – a place where the Church teaches we find the real presence of Christ not only in the Sacred Species of bread and wine, but in the assembly, the priest and the Word proclaimed. Human words are really at a loss to explain this mystery. Fr. Burke compared trying to explain the mystery of the Eucharist to trying to explain grief. We can know a lot about grief he said, but until “we stand next to the coffin of a loved one, we will not know grief.” Using the ordinary life experiences we all share, Fr. Burke talked about the celebration of the Eucharist as something that is far more significant than following the rubrics. He reminded us that this gathering, which was given to us by “a young Jew” to do in remembrance of him has been lived and experienced by countless generations of people in countless experiences throughout every nation of the world. When we gather on Sunday to celebrate Eucharist, we are a people of God who come from many and varied polarities of situations – all gathered to do as Jesus asked.

