## Open wide the Doors, Let the Jubilee celebrations begin, Let Hope abound throughout our Diocese.



Thumper patiently waits to see if any Pilgrims will bring doggie treats.

On the first weekend of May the doors of Our Lady of Assumption church in Alert Bay were opened, our new 'Jubilee Year of Hope' billboard went up, and Thumper was ready to welcome any pilgrims who might turn up at our pilgrimage site. Our little church is one of the four places the Victoria Diocese has designated as a pilgrimage site for this Jubilee Year of Hope.

And our first pilgrims to cross the line were *Gloria & Chado Brcic* from the Comox Valley. They had come on pilgrimage to Alert Bay to

celebrate their 49<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary, so at the end of our Mass for Sunday everyone joined in praying in Thanksgiving for their witness to married life and asking God's blessing

upon them in the years to come.

After Mass the parishioners very kindly laid on a surprise early lunch for Gloria and Chado. We hope that they enjoyed their visit because the next thing on their schedule that day was a late breakfast at their hotel. So they might remember their visit for their time at church, or for the day they had lunch before breakfast!

Later in the month, we are looking forward to greeting a VIP group from Victoria who will be visiting our pilgrimage destination, and we hope that others will also turn up during the summer.

(Now just to be clear, 'VIP' stands for 'Various Intrepid Pilgrims'.)

Right is Fr. David, Gloria and Chado Brcic after Mass in Alert Bay

