



Sacred Heart

C a t h o l i c C h u r c h

4087 West Broadway • Robbinsdale, MN 55422

Phone: 763-537-4561

Formed in His Heart, Serving with His Heart

March 26, 2017

Sunday Mass Times

Saturday Vigil:

5:00 PM Mass of Anticipation

Sunday — The Lord's Day:

8:00 AM Mass

10:00 AM Mass

Child Care Available)

11:35 AM Latin Mass

(1962 Missal)

Daily Mass Times

Monday:

8:00 AM Communion Service
followed by Lauds/Morning Prayer

Tuesday — Saturday:

8:00 AM Mass

followed by Lauds/Morning Prayer

Holy Day Mass Times

Consult the bulletin

Penance and Reconciliation

Tuesday — Saturday Morning:

7:30 — 7:50 AM

Saturday Afternoon:

4:00 — 4:45 PM

Or by appointment

Eucharistic Adoration

Thursdays in the

Sacred Heart Chapel:

8:35 AM — 8:00 PM

Parish Office Hours

Monday — Friday:

8:00 AM — 4:30 PM

Wednesday Evening:

5:00 — 8:00 PM

(October — April)

Sunday Mornings:

8:30 — 11:30 AM

Parish Web Site

www.shrmn.org

Parish Phone: 763-537-4561

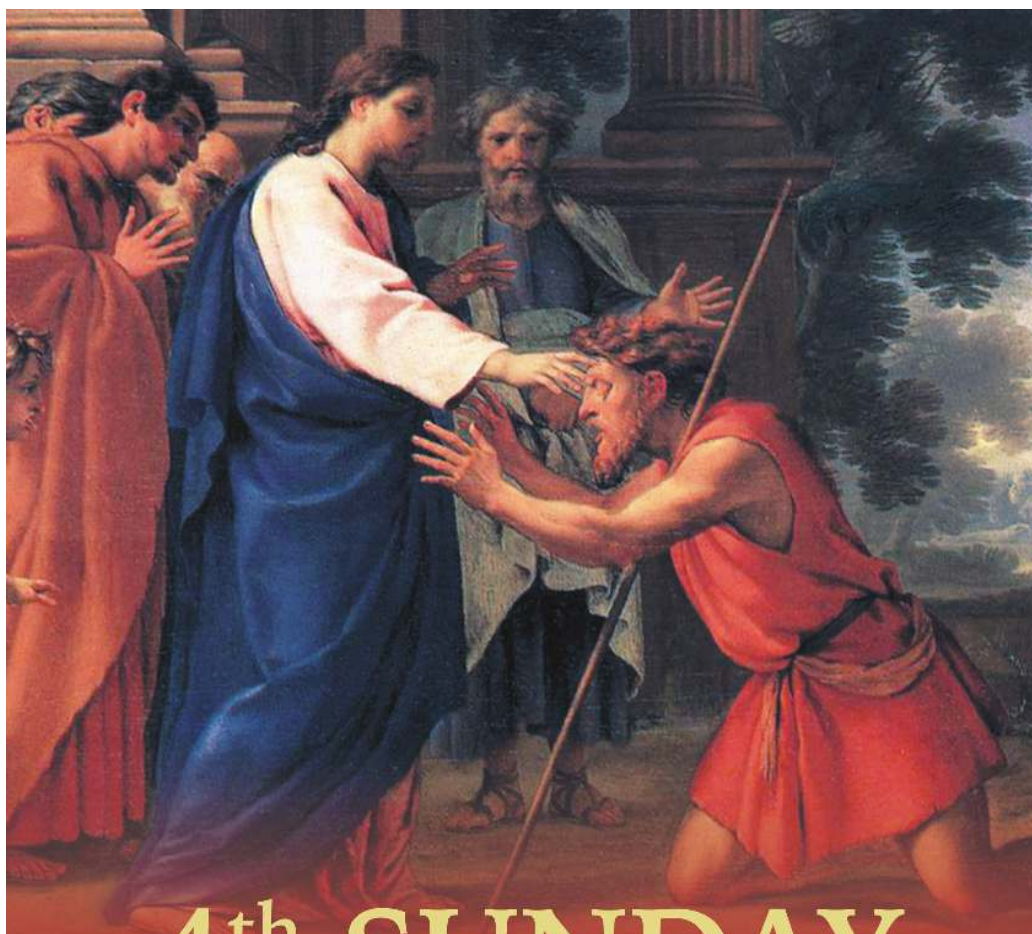
Sacred Heart Catholic School

Daycare, Pre-K through 8th grade
4050 Hubbard Avenue North
Robbinsdale, MN 55422

School Web Site

sacredheartschoolrobbinsdale.org

School Phone: 763-537-1329



4th SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus said to him, "You have seen him and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "I do believe, Lord," and he worshiped him. —Jn 9:37-38

Parish Directory

Phone: 763-537-4561
 General Email: cshadmin@shrmn.org

Worship

Priest, Fr. Bryan J.B. Pedersen.....ext. 101
 fr.bpedersen@shrmn.org
 Deacon, Dr. James Ramsey.....ext. 135
 jramsey@shrmn.org
 Music, Jeffrey Patry.....ext. 109
 jpatry@shrmn.org

Faith Formation

Director, Bunny Brouillard.....ext. 105
 bbrouillard@shrmn.org
 Youth & Young Adults, Confirmation
 Matthew Kruc.....ext. 104
 mkruc@shrmn.org
 Sunday School, Bunny Brouillard....ext. 105
 bbrouillard@shrmn.org
 Sunday Child Care, Terri Fleck.....ext. 105

Pastoral Care

Priest, Fr. Bryan J.B. Pedersen.....ext. 101
 fr.bpedersen@shrmn.org
 Deacon, Dr. James Ramsey.....ext. 135
 jramsey@shrmn.org

Parish Administration

Bus. Admin., Rollie Brouillard.....ext. 102
 rbrouillard@shrmn.org
 Bookkeeper, Janelle Robanext. 106
 jroban@shrmn.org
 Facility Manager and Maintenance
 Jon Tupy.....ext. 127
 jtupy@shrmn.org
 Admin. Asst. Facility Scheduling, Office
 Darlene Doranext. 100
 ddoran@shrmn.org
 Admin. Asst. General Office
 Rhonda Kuchinski.....ext. 100
 Sunday Admin Asst.
 Diane Yazvec.....ext. 100
 Marlene De Otis.....ext. 100

Sacramental Records

Bunny Brouillard.....ext. 105
 bbrouillard@shrmn.org

School

Main Office: 763-537-1329
 Principal, Karen Bursey.....ext. 121
 kbursey@sacredheartschoolrobbinsdale.org
 Advancement, Admin. Asst.
 Pat Moore.....ext. 123
 pmoore@sacredheartschoolrobbinsdale.org
 Admin. Asst. Records,
 Sarah Bowback.....ext. 120
 sbowback@sacredheartschoolrobbinsdale.org

The Church of the Sacred Heart is served by the clergy of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis

Priest Staff: Fr. Bryan J.B. Pedersen
Deacon: Dr. James Ramsey

Pastor's Page | Fr. Bryan J.B. Pedersen



From the Heart

Lenten Liturgical Traditions

In addition to an increased fervor in prayer, the practice of fasting, abstinence from meat on the Fridays of Lent, and the giving of alms there are several liturgical traditions associated with Lent. Devotions like the Stations of the Cross wherein we have an opportunity to spiritually walk with Jesus and Mary on his road to Calvary, *Laetare* Sunday, when the violet vestments give way to rose colored vestments, or the veiling of statuary and images of the crucifix that take place before the 5th Sunday of Lent until Good Friday and Holy Saturday are all time honored traditions. These practices remind us that this time of year is different, and utilizing them connects to our ancestors in the faith.

Laetare or Rejoice Sunday

The practice of wearing rose vestments which you are witnessing this weekend is one of the more recent traditions going back several centuries which teach us that our liturgical practices are enduring. To understand the practice we first need to know something about the Entrance Chant. We often sing hymns in place of the Entrance Chant, but in the Roman liturgical books there is usually a short text of Scripture often taken from the Book of Psalms, which is known as an antiphon. The technical name of the Entrance Chant is the Introit, which basically mean to enter. Every Sunday, Feast Day, and even many Saint Days each have their own unique antiphon. Connected with the antiphon there is a psalm. In the ancient Church the musical texts of the Church were drawn almost exclusively from the Sacred Scriptures. The antiphon is repeated after each psalm verse, but it is not necessary to sing all the verses of the psalm. The number of verses will depend upon the Liturgical action that is taking place, thus if the procession is over, and the altar has been greeted and incensed, then no more verses will be sung.

Here is the text of the Entrance Antiphon for this 4th Sunday, or middle, or Lent.

“Rejoice, O Jerusalem; and gather round, all you who love her; rejoice in gladness, after having been in sorrow; exult and be replenished with the consolation flowing from her motherly bosom. I rejoiced when it was said unto me: "Let us go to the house of the Lord.""

Laetare Jerusalem, means Rejoice, Jerusalem. When the word Jerusalem is used it refers to the Temple of God, so one way to interpret the city name, is being at the place where God dwells. The text coming from Scripture was chosen because of St. Helena. After making a pilgrimage to the Holy Land in the 4th century (circa 320-330 A.D.) she brought back with her a large portion of the True Cross on which Jesus was crucified. She also brought a lot of earthen soil. Her son initiated the building of a special Church which rests on the earthen soil brought from Jerusalem by St. Helena. Within that church the relic of the True Cross is kept even to this day. The church is known as Holy Cross in Jerusalem.

On the fourth Sunday of Lent it was the practice for the Bishop of Rome who we know better as the pope, to celebrate Mass in this Church. It was on the 4th Sunday of Lent at the Church of the Holy Cross in Rome, built on the earthen soil from Jerusalem, where the Pope chose to bless an artifact known as the “Golden Rose.” This rose made of gold was blessed and conferred upon one of the Catholic Queens of Christendom. It was a great sign of blessing to be gifted with the golden rose. Today, the golden rose is often given to Marian Shrines such as Fatima, Guadalupe, or Lourdes. Because of the blessing of the golden rose the pope began wearing rose colored vestments. At first, it was only the Pope who wore these rose colored vestments. Eventually, the clergy of the city of Rome began to wear rose colored vestments too, and eventually the wearing of rose colored vestments became popular throughout the world. With so much history and meaning behind the custom, the wearing of the rose has come to mean that Easter will be here sooner than we think.

Sacred Heart Catholic School



Register for the 2017-2018 School Year

Registration is now open for Preschool-8th grade. Forms are available on our website. To arrange for a personalized tour or shadow visit, please contact our school office at 763.537.1329 or email Karen Bursey kbursey@sacredheartschoolrobbinsdale.org

We have many options for Early Childhood

3 year old Pre K Tues/Thurs. 9:00-11:30 a.m.

4 year old Pre K Mon/Wed/Fri 8:00-11:00 a.m.

Pre-Kindergarten Three-Four-Five day options

3rd Annual Spring Gala—Friday, April 21st *With Community Comes Unity*

Doors open at 5:30 pm Have a drink, mingle, and visit the silent auction.

7:00 pm Dinner catered by Milton's.

Our Live Auction has some great items this year:

- Vikings tickets
- A trip for two to the Master's that includes passes to 2 days of practice rounds, a stay at a plantation and air fare.
- A weekend away UP NORTH – There will be 2 locations to choose from!
- Billy Joel Tickets
- A group tour of the Basilica, with a wine and cheese reception

If you would like to reserve tickets, please stop by the parish or school office or call Pat Moore at 763.537.1329.

8th graders performing Living Stations -Friday, April 7th

Living Stations is a passion play represented by our 8th graders that is a narration with music and acting. Performances will be at 1:15 pm and 7:00 pm in the church.

Daddy/Daughter Princess Ball Friday, April 28th 6:30-8:00 pm

Who: Grade K-3rd grade girls and their dads

Where: Sacred Heart Parish Commons

Fee: \$10/couple

Meet Cinderella, Jasmine and Ariel! Girls will be involved with crafts, dancing and posing for photos with princesses. Limited space. Call the school office to reserve a spot.

Calendar

March 27-31 Spring Break

April 7 Living Stations 1:15 pm/7:00 pm

April 14, 17 No School

Like our Facebook Page - [Sacred Heart Catholic School Robbinsdale, MN Alumni/Parent](https://www.facebook.com/SHCSRobbinsdale)

<http://www.facebook.com/SHCSRobbinsdale>

To Join Sacred Heart Parish

If you are new to our community, or have been attending Mass here but have not yet joined Sacred Heart call 763-537-4561 or stop in the parish office to register.

Sacrament of Initiation — RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)

To join the Catholic Church call Bunny Brouillard in the Parish Office.

Sacrament of Baptism for Infants and Children (RCIC)

Baptism for Infants and young Children is celebrated on the first & third Sundays of the month at 1 PM. Pre-Baptism Class meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 7 PM. To make arrangements call Bunny Brouillard in the Parish Office.

Sacrament of Confirmation

If you are in High School or an Adult who has yet to receive Confirmation contact Matt Kruc or Bunny Brouillard in the Parish Office to make arrangements.

Sacrament of Holy Communion

If you or your child have not yet made your First Holy Communion contact Bunny Brouillard. If you are shut in and would like to receive Holy Communion contact Deacon Ramsey to make arrangements

Sacrament of Penance

See the schedule for confessions or contact Fr. Pedersen to make an appointment. To receive instruction on making a first confession contact the Parish Office.

Sacrament of Anointing

To make arrangements to receive the Sacrament of the Sick or Last Rites contact the Parish Office.

Sacrament of Marriage

Registered Parishioners should call Father Pedersen or Deacon Ramsey at least 8 months in advance of the wedding date to make arrangements.

Sacrament of Holy Orders

Catholic Men contact Fr. Pedersen or Deacon Ramsey for more information on joining the Diaconate or Priesthood.

Sunday School

Open to children ages 3 years through Kindergarten. Meets during the 10 AM Mass October through April. Please call Bunny Brouillard in the Parish Office.

Religious Education

For students grades 1 through 12. Meets Wednesday evening 6:45pm—8pm, October through April. Please call Bunny Brouillard or Matt Kruc in the Parish Office.

Mass Intentions

March

Sun. 26	8:00 AM	Margaret Delmore+
	10:00 AM	Parishioners
	11:35 AM	Bill Rose+
Mon. 27	8:00 AM	Communion Service
Tues. 28	8:00 AM	Bill Rose+
Wed. 29	8:00 AM	Bob Maslowski+
Thu. 30	8:00 AM	Richard Piazza+
Fri. 31	8:00 AM	Hilaria Jost+
Sat. 1	8:00 AM	Bill Rose+
	5:00 PM	Gary Kennedy+
Sun. 2	8:00 AM	Elizabeth Rudolph+
	10:00 AM	Parishioners
	11:35 AM	Rev. John Timothy Powers+

Liturgical Ministers

March 28– April 1, 8:00 AM Mass

Altar Servers

March 28-Lisette Knaeble, Tristan Brodala

March 29-Mark and Andrew Thibault

March 30-Ellen Antoine, Eli Hippen

March 31-Molly and Mitchell McDyre

April 1-George Wolf, Claire Riestenberg

Saturday, April 1, 5:00 PM Vigil Mass

Altar Servers: Caden and Gable Thissen, Xavier Hakes

EMHC: Karen Krussow, Beth & Keli Hippen

Lector: Dave Krussow

Sunday, April 2, 8:00 AM Mass

Altar Servers: Luke Timmerman, Nick Sticha, Matthew Gerding

EMHC: Mary Glynn, Debra & Peter Krych, Stuart Culver

Lector: Andy Rusinko

Sunday, April 2, 10:00 AM Mass

Altar Servers: Tristan Brodala, Lucas Patterson, Mark Thibault

EMHC: Mary Bloom, Lorraine Dalland, Stephen Thibault, Bill Daugherty

Lector: Mary Daugherty

Money Counters, April 2, 9:00AM

Joel Ostgaard, Paul MacLaughlin



Faith Formation



Bishop Robert Barron's Catholicism — The Pivotal players

In our next session Bishop Barron will lead us in considering **Michelangelo — The Artist: Part 2**. A session is scheduled for Tuesday April 4 at 1 PM and repeated at 7 PM.



Fr. Robert Barron's Priest, Prophet, King

The better we understand Jesus, the better we understand ourselves. But who was Jesus, this itinerant preacher whom many called the Messiah? In Priest, Prophet, King, you'll discover Jesus as the Anointed One— the ultimate priest, prophet, and king foreshadowed throughout the Hebrew Scriptures. Using biblical insights and engaging stories, Father Barron affirms that we see Jesus most clearly through the lens of the Old Testament.

Through this presentation of Priest, Prophet, King you will better understand Jesus, become more familiar with Scripture, and realize your own priestly, prophetic, and kingly mission.

Join us starting March 4/5 after the Saturday 5pm Mass and Sunday 8am and 10am Masses we will explore

March 4/5: Adoration

March 11/12: The High Priest

March 18/19: Challenging False Worship

March 25/26: The Word Made Flesh

April 1/2: Ordering the Kingdom

April 8/9: King of Kings

Worship

Thursday, March 23 7:30 PM – The Sacred Heart Chancel Choir invites you to **Holden Evening Prayer for Lent**. This beautiful service will feature Jennifer Thomas on violin and will conclude with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Come and join us for this candlelit service of Evening Prayer in the beautiful setting of Sacred Heart.

Lenten Musical Meditations: Please join us for 20 minutes of meditative music before the Friday Stations of the Cross. Music will begin at 6:40 PM.

Friday, March 31 – Becky Haapanen, flute

Friday, April 7 – Andrea DeOtis, clarinet

Friday, March 31 – Join Jeffrey Patry as he presents **Organ Meditations on the Stations of the Cross**. We will pray the stations through music. Please join us!



EASTER FLOWER FUND

Once again it is time for our Easter Flower Fund to make donations for flowers to decorate the church. The special contribution envelope for the Easter Flower Fund in your packet has a space on the back of the envelope to indicate "In memory of a loved one". Please indicate on this special envelope (or regular envelope) the person for whom your donation is dedicated. You may also drop off your Easter Flower Fund donation to the parish office. These donations will be acknowledged in a bulletin insert on Easter.

Thank You.

Parish Organizations

Respect Life Ministry

North Side Life Care Center

is in need of the following items:

Digital thermometers

1.4 oz. powdered Similac Advance & Similac Sensitive Formula

Mother toiletries

Sleepers (newborn – 12 months)

Onesies (6-12 months)

Winter boys clothes (3-12 months)

Winter girls clothes (6-9 months)

Bottle warmers

Bottle cleaning brushes, racks

Diapers (newborn, size 4, size5 size 6)

Blanket sleepers

New baby clothes (newborn to 6 months, spring & summer, girl & boy)

Baby girl shoes and booties

Baby carriers/Snuglis

Breastfeeding pillows and accessories

Personal care items for baby (e.g. towels, washcloths, nail clipper, comb & brush sets)

Girl or boy patterned pack & play crib sheets

Reusable shopping bags in good condition

(All donations are tax-deductible)

Bring items to the Center at 4367 Thomas Ave. North, Minneapolis 55412

Call 612-522-6589 for hours



Wednesday, March 29, 2017

at 3pm

the hour of Divine Mercy

at the Robbinsdale Abortion Mill

(in the parking lot of "Chapel of the Innocents", 3821 West Broadway)

with

Deacon Jim Ramsey

Jesus said "Where two or more are gathered in my name, I am there.

Jericho March: The last seven days of the 40 Days for Life, **April 3 – 9, 2017** also at 3:00 p.m. at the mega-Planned Parenthood, 671 Vandalia St., St. Paul, MN 55114. Following the Biblical story of the march on Jericho as closely as possible, we will march in silence once around the entire block where the mega-Planned Parenthood is located each of the first six days. On the seventh day, we will march in silence six times and on the seventh shofars (rams horns) blowing with us ending in shouts of acclamation to God. Join with us each day or any day you are able. Especially great for families. Many parents appreciate the making real this powerful Biblical story when children participate.

Calendar of Events

Sunday, March 26, Fourth Sunday in Lent

- 8:00 AM Mass: Fr. Pedersen
- 9:00 AM Priest, Prophet, King-Video– MRms.
- 10:00 AM Mass: Fr. Pedersen
- 10:00 AM NO Sunday School
- 10:00 AM Child Care
- 11:00 AM Priest, Prophet, King-Video– MRms.
- 11:35 AM Latin Mass: Fr. Pedersen

Monday, March 27

No School– Spring Break

- 8:00 AM Communion Service

Tuesday, March 28

No School

- 7:30 AM Confession: Fr. Pedersen
- 8:00 AM Mass: Fr. Pedersen
- 9:00 AM Home Communion
- 7:00 PM Handbell Ensemble Rehearsal—Caf.
- 7:00 PM Random Spirits Rehearsal– Church

Wednesday, March 29

No School

- 7:30 AM Confession: Fr. Pedersen
- 8:00 AM Mass: Fr. Pedersen
- 6:15 PM Kantorei Rehearsal-Choir Room
- 6:45 PM NO Rel. Ed.
- 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal Choir Room

Thursday, March 30

No School

- 7:30 AM Confession: Fr. Pedersen
- 8:00 AM Mass: Fr. Pedersen
- 8:35 AM – 8:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration

Friday, March 31

No School

- 7:30 AM Confession: Fr. Pedersen
- 8:00 AM School & Parish Mass: Fr. Pedersen
- 4:30 PM Fish Fry
- 6:40 PM Organ Meditation– Church
- 7:00 PM Stations of the Cross

Saturday, April 1

- 7:30 AM Confession: Fr. Pedersen
- 8:00 AM Mass: Fr. Pedersen
- 8:30 AM Parents Prayer Group– Church
- 3:30 PM Vespers– Church
- 4:00 PM Confessions
- 5:00 PM Mass
- 5:00 PM Couple to Couple– Marian Rooms
- 6:00 PM Priest, Prophet, King-Video– MRms.

Sunday, April 2

- 8:00 AM Mass: Fr. Pedersen
- 9:00 AM Priest, Prophet, King-Video– MRms.
- 10:00 AM Mass: Fr. Pedersen
- 10:00 AM Sunday School
- 10:00 AM Child Care
- 11:00 AM Priest, Prophet King-Video– MRms.
- 11:35 AM Latin Mass: Fr. Pedersen
- 6:00 PM Men's Club Watchmen– MRooms

Monday, April 3

- 8:00 AM Communion Service
- 6:30 PM First Communion Meeting- Church

Appointed Sunday Readings

Fourth Sunday of Lent– March 26, 2017

First Reading: But the LORD said to Samuel: "Do not judge from his appearance or from his lofty stature, because I have rejected him. Not as man sees does God see, because man sees the appearance but the LORD looks into the heart." (1 Sm 16:7)

Psalm: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. (Ps 23)

Second Reading: Brothers and sisters: You were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light. (Eph 5:8)

Gospel: When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, he found him and said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered and said, "Who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "I do believe, Lord," and he worshiped him. (Jn 9:35-38)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Latin Mass Sunday Readings

Fourth Sunday of Lent-March 26, 2017

Epistle - Brethren: It is written that Abraham has two sons...(Paul to Galatians 4:22-31)

Gradual - I rejoiced at the things that were said to me...(Ps, 124:1-2)

Gospel – At that time Jesus went over the sea of Galilee...(John a6:1-15)

Appointed Daily Readings

March 27-April 1

Monday: Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-12a, 13b/Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-15, 17-18/Jn 5:17-30

Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-23/Jn 5:31-47

Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-21, 23/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-12/Jn 7:40-53

Prayers of the Faithful

Please remember in your prayers

Those Who Are Ill: Tom Ambrose, Betty Durrant, Eileen, Nelson, Dan Fortin, Dawn Svennson, Rita & Stanley Buchek

Those Serving in Our Armed Forces: Chad Tatur, Barbara J. Hoeben, John F. Landolt III, Philip Aubart, Sam Dahlgren-Castilla, Daniel Arnold, Justin Rathbun, Shannon Gregory, John Aubart, Joey Eckman, Joseph Mash, Liam Gregory, Jordan Reese, and Andrew Gladitsch

Administration

Stewardship

For Weekly Contribution Information:

Contact Rollie Brouillard in the Parish Office.

Jon Tupy, our Facility Manager/Maintenance Supervisor, has announced his decision to leave his position with Sacred Heart at the end of this month. He has served in this capacity since the Fall of 2012. We are grateful for Jon's dedicated service at Sacred Heart. We wish him well in all his future plans.

In light of this, we are reassessing our maintenance and custodial needs at Sacred Heart and hope to have a decision made as soon as possible in this regard.



Parents, Grandparents and Godparents for the Sacred Heart of Jesus Cenacle

As parents, grandparents, and godparents, we believe that praying for our children, grandchildren and godchildren, is one of the best ways we can impact their lives. So whether your child is young or young at heart, we will ask God to guide them in the ways of faith, that he will bless their health, and guide their way of life. Our group trusts in God and we acknowledge Him as being present in our lives and in the lives of our children. Our hope is that our prayers will help all children, that we love and care about, to see how God is present in their lives. Please join us for Mass on Saturday April 1 at 8:00am, followed by a Rosary at the Altar of Our Lady.



Fish Fry Dinner dates: March 24, 31, April 7
4:30-7:00 pm
Best Battered Cod & Meatless Spaghetti in Town!



Looking for adults and students to volunteer each Friday. Please call the school office or use SignUp to volunteer in the dining room, dessert table, or bussing tables.

Become a 2017 Fish Fry Donor

For every case donated, you or your business receive 2 FREE Fish Dinners. Cost: \$60.00. Our goal is to raise funds for 50 cases. Complete the inserted flier and we will make sure you receive your 2 dinner tickets.

Council of Catholic Women

ACCW's 85th Convention Call

You are cordially invited to attend the ACCW's 85th Convention on Friday, April 21 and Saturday, April 22 at St. Odilia, Shoreview, MN. Our theme this year is **"Be the Voice of Catholic Women—Telling Our Stories."** Wonderful Events: Installation of Officers, Honoring of 4 Lay Woman Volunteers– Saturday Morning, Meeting your Naomi-Ruth Prayer Partner, Travelling Madonna awarded, Voting on By-laws. Socializing, Fun, Spiritual, Re-invigorating, Educational. **Deadline is April 10.** Liturgy will be on Friday, April 21 at 5pm with Archbishop Hebda.

To register please call Barb Osborne at [763-521-6107](tel:763-521-6107) by April 9. The first ten SHCCW ladies to register with Barb will be paid for by SHCCW. We will carpool.

BUY COFFEE-SUPPORT OUR YOUTH

WE HAVE A NEW SHIPMENT OF COFFEE FOR SALE FROM OUR YOUTH GROUP. MEDIUM ROAST-WHOLE BEAN, OR GROUND BAGS OF COFFEE ARE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE IN THE PARISH OFFICE. \$13.00 A BAG. THANK YOU.



GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

4th SUNDAY OF LENT

"Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him." The prevailing theology of Jesus' time led people to believe that any kind of disability was a punishment from God. So Jesus' disciples assumed that the man born blind suffered that affliction because of someone's sin: either his parents' or his own. But Jesus sets the record straight. Not only did he reject the idea that the blindness was a punishment for sin; he also went so far as to suggest that this very trial was an opportunity for God's glory to be revealed.

And sure enough, it was. Jesus worked a miracle of healing for the man who followed his directions and "came back able to see." So it was that the "works of God" became "visible" through a man who was blind! But, ironically, not everyone had the eyes to see the miracle. The Gospel tells us that "there was a division among them" as they debated whether this remarkable healing was really an act of God.

Jesus stated that he came "so that those who do not see might see." And so, who are we? Are we blinded by our own expectations of how God is supposed to work? Are we so caught up in our own vision of what we wish would happen that we fail to appreciate what is actually unfolding before our very eyes? It is so easy to perceive trials, disabilities, sickness, and misfortune as a curse or the result of being abandoned by God. But today's Gospel suggests another reality. In the midst of these very difficulties, God wants to reveal himself, to show his love and mercy. It may not always be in the exact way we expect, but without a doubt, even in these challenging realms, God is always at work.

WHY DO WE DO THAT? - CATHOLIC TRADITIONS EXPLAINED

Question:

Does God make people suffer because of their sins?

Answer:

Let's use the analogy of parents. If your children did something wrong, would you make them suffer? In other words, would you make them feel pain just because they did something wrong? You might chastise them, and the punishment or correction might not be pleasant, but out of love for your children, you will not hurt them just to hurt them. Sometimes, they suffer the consequences of their actions and that is punishment enough. You hope they learn and grow from their choices, good and bad.

God is a loving Father. He allows us to suffer the consequences of our sins, so that we will turn to him for his love and forgiveness. God wants us to grow in holiness, in virtue, in grace. He gives us free will so that we can choose, and the choices we make either bring us joy or bring us suffering. From that, we learn and grow. God does not hurt us or make us suffer to get even with us. He loves us and wants the best for us. When we suffer, he suffers with us so that we know how much we need him and how much he loves us.

News From Other Sources

A Healing Mass with celebrant, Father Jim Livingston, will be held at 7pm on Tuesday, April 4 at Immaculate Conception Church, 4030 Jackson St. NE, Columbia Heights. All are welcome. For more information call 788-9062 or visit ICCOnline.org

Intentional Prayer - Lectio Divina Workshop Sunday, April 9, 6:30 – 8 p.m.

LOCATION CORRECTION: St. John the Baptist, 835 2nd Ave NW, New Brighton

Speaker: Fr. Peter Williams

Lectio Divina is Latin for "divine reading" meaning "to pray with Scripture". By stilling your soul and opening it up to the Holy Spirit you will find that reading, meditation, prayer and contemplation – the four steps of Lectio Divina – will open your heart to receive the truths that Jesus wants to show you. Free will offering. Suggested donation \$10. A light dinner will be served. Register at archspm.org/IntentionalPrayer.

MEN'S CLUB — Catholic Watchmen Update



Sunday, April 2nd. Our local Watchmen meeting starting at 6 pm in the Marion Rooms. We will close this meeting with a special question and answer session with Fr. Pedersen.



Join us for our bimonthly fellowship and hospitality Sunday April 23. Coffee and donuts will be sponsored by the First Grade of our School and Religious Education Program, following the 8AM and 10AM Masses.