



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, Giving From His Heart

Public Masses have resumed at no Greater than 50%, or 250 persons in the Church due to COVID-19 in accord with Gov. Walz' protocols

Mass Live Streaming will continue for Daily Mass and for one weekend Mass.

Join Facebook, and "Like" us: facebook.com/shrobbinsdale

To attend Mass in Church a sign-up must be used. It can be found on our Website.

Saturday—Lord's Day Vigil

4:00 PM Mass - In Church

5:30 PM - Parking Lot Mass

** Tune Radio to FM 104.9 **

Sunday— The Lord's Day

8:00 AM Mass - In Church

10:00 AM Mass - In Church

11:30 AM Latin Mass - In Church

Daily Mass Live Stream

Tuesday — Friday:

8:00 AM Mass - In Church

Eucharistic Adoration

The Sacred Heart Chapel will be open for personal prayer and adoration before the monstrance on Thursdays from 9 AM - 2PM N.B. *When restrictions ease we intend to return to the former schedule.*

Parish Office Hours

Open to the General Public.

Parish Web Site: shrmn.org

Parish Phone: 763-537-4561

September 13, 2020



24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Peter approached Jesus and asked him, "Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus answered, "I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times." - Mt 18:21-22

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

From the Pastor — written on September 5, 2020 and updated on September 9, 2020

Fraternal Correction – Process and How to Hints

On Sunday September 6th I sent out the following Flocknote message. With this weekend's bulletin I reprint it for the benefit of those who do not use email.

"A coach is someone who can give correction without causing resentment." ~ John Wooden

Today the science, art, and practice of fraternal correction is fraught with difficulties due to the prevalence of moral relativism which rejects the very idea of objective truth and objective moral standards discernible by the light of human reason aided and informed by faith. Yet we would be wrong to assume that people today act absent a sense of morality.

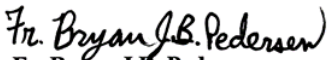
The challenge we face in our society today and among the reasons we are so divided stems from the fact that there are several competing visions, narratives, and cultures all competing for dominance and power. The spaces for conversation, inquiry, and respectful debate about what unites and divides us as citizens, however, are sadly dwindling. While placing blame for this state of affairs might be a temptation let me suggest the first place to look is not without, but within. This is not to say that looking within - in the mirror so to speak - is the only place to look, but rather to say that if we do not start from this place we will necessarily be part of the problem and not part of the solution.

This is also where the science, art, and practice of fraternal correction begins - in the mirror! If you object I kindly ask you to reread Matthew 7:1-5. Beams, logs, and specks come to mind. But while fraternal correction starts by looking in the mirror it does not end there. Last Sunday Jesus gave the steps to hash out conflict: First, between you and him alone, then with two or three witnesses, etc. But whether and how we engage and conduct the process requires further wisdom. There are even times, as St. Thomas Aquinas taught that we prudently forego engaging fraternal correction lest we permanently alienate the other person and move them further away from actual reconciliation. Recourse to saintly wisdom can help us navigate the difficulties along the way of fraternal correction:

- "We must correct out of love, not out of a desire to hurt, but with the loving intention of helping the person's amendment. If we act like that, we will be fulfilling the commandment very well – "if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone." Why do you correct him? Because you are upset that he has offended you? God forbid. If you do it out of self-love, your action is worthless. If it is love that moves you, you are acting excellently." ~ Saint Augustine, Sermon 82, 4.
- "When we have to reprimand others, let us first think whether we have committed that fault; and if we have not committed it, let us consider the fact that we are human beings and we could have committed it. Or whether we have been guilty of it in the past, even though not at present. And then let us be mindful of our shared weakness, so that mercy, and not animosity, precedes the correction we give." ~ Saint Augustine, Homily on the Sermon on the Mount, 2.
- "When you have to make a fraternal correction, do it with great kindness – great charity! – in what you say and in the way you say it, for at that moment you are God's instrument." ~ Saint Jose Maria Escriva, The Forge, no. 147
- "If you discover some defect in a friend, correct him privately (...) For corrections do more good and are more profitable than friendship that keeps silent. If the friend is offended, correct him just the same, firmly and without fear, even though the correction tastes bitter to him. It is written in the Book of Proverbs that wounds from a true friend are preferable to kisses from flatterers (Proverbs 27:6)." ~ Saint Ambrose, De officiis ministrorum III, 125-135.
- "Friendly correction is more beneficial than violent accusation. The first inspires compunction, but the second only arouses indignation." ~ Saint Ambrose as quoted in Saint Thomas Aquinas' Catena Aurea, vol. VI.
- "Be careful to be gentle, lest in removing the rust, you break the whole instrument." ~ Saint Benedict of Nursia

While much more could be written on fraternal correction these ideas from the Saints are excellent starting points so we may heed our Lord's counsel regarding these matters.

Yours in the Sacred Heart of Jesus,


Fr. Bryan J.B. Pedersen
Pastor

Appointed Sunday Readings

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time-09/13/20

First Reading: Forgive your neighbor's injustice; then when you pray, your own sins will be forgiven. (Sir 28:2)

Psalm: The Lord is kind and merciful, slow to anger, and rich in compassion. (Ps 103)

Second Reading: For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. (Rom 14:8)

Gospel: Peter approached Jesus and asked him, "Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus answered, "I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times." (Mt 18:21-22)

Latin Mass Sunday Readings

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Epistle: Brethren: If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. (Gal 5:25-26:6:1-10)

Gradual: It is good to give praise to the Lord; and to sing to Thy Name, O most High. (Ps.91:2-3)

Gospel: At that time, Jesus went into a city called Naim: and there went with Him His disciples, and a great multitude. (Luke 7:11-16)

Appointed Daily Readings

Monday, Sept. 14—Saturday, Sept. 19

Monday: Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38 [cf. 7b]/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17

Tuesday: 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a/Ps 31:2 and 3b, 3cd-4, 5-6, 15-16, 20 [17]/Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35

Wednesday: 1 Cor 12:31—13:13/Ps 33:2-3, 4-5, 12 and 22 [12]/Lk 7:31-35

Thursday: 1 Cor 15:1-11/Ps 118:1b-2, 16ab-17, 28 [1]/Lk 7:36-50

Friday: 1 Cor 15:12-20/Ps 17:1bcd, 6-7, 8b and 15 [15b]/Lk 8:1-3

Saturday: 1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49/Ps 56:10c-12, 13-14 [14]/Lk 8:4-15

Prayers of the Faithful

Please remember In your prayers

Those Who Are Ill: Tom Ambrose, Brady Swenson, Mary Jo Faustgen, Andrea DeOtis, Cody Binstock, Bunny Dargis, Medard Kaisershot, Yvonne Talbot, George Wolf, Steve Smaczarz, Thomas Burns, Bob Devany

Those Serving In Our Armed Forces: Sam Dahlgren-Castilla, Justin Rathbun, Liam Gregory, Jordan Reese, Andrew Gladitsch, Cathal & Cormac O'Connor, Lisette Knaeble

Those Who Have Died Recently:
Don Stoullil

Administration

Stewardship-Your Commitment is Vital !

Collections for August 29 & 30 2020 (week 9)	Dollars	# Donors
Sunday Envelope Collections	\$ 4,475.00	64
Electronic Donations	\$ 257.50	7
Plate (non envelope) Collections	\$ 793.16	
Total Collections for week 9	\$ 5,525.66	71

Year-to-date Sunday Collections

	This Year	Last Year	Behind
Actual versus last year August 30, 2020 (week 9)	\$ 95,177	\$101,107	\$ (5,930)
	This Year	Budget	Ahead
Actual versus Budget August 30, 2020 (week 9)	\$ 95,177	\$ 92,887	\$ 2,290

FUN FEST 2020

Thank you all for your support of our scaled back version of Fun Fest 2020. We will provide a list of our raffle winners in next week's bulletin. Thank you to our Fun Fest Committee and all those who donated Silent Auction items for bidding. While it is definitely not the same event this year, we appreciate the support you have given Sacred Heart for this important fundraising and community event.



The virtual silent auction will remain open until Saturday, September 19th. **See QR code.** Scan this on your smart phone and it will link you directly to the on-line bidding app (OneCause).

Additional Weekend Mass Slots Added

We have added additional Mass sign-ups for the Weekend Masses through mid-December. See links below.

<http://signup.com/go/nKiqHNN> – 4:00p.m. Saturday Mass

<http://signup.com/go/fgbUZcq> – 8:00a.m. Sunday Mass

<http://signup.com/go/KSmMWiF> – 10:00a.m. Sunday Mass

<http://signup.com/go/bTVXEND> – 11:30a.m. Sunday Latin Mass

Links can be accessed on the Sacred Heart Website

MASS SCHEDULE

Mass times will be as follows:

Saturday – 4:00PM in Church **Saturday - 5:30PM** Parking Lot (FM 104.9 in car)

Sunday – 8AM, 10AM, 11:30AM (Latin) all in Church **Daily Masses - 8AM** Tue. – Fri.

One of the Masses will be live streamed and posted for viewing.

MASS SIGN-UP & PROCESS

You will be required to sign-up for a pew slot in either the Main Church or Chapel prior to the week-end Masses. Each pew slot can hold up to (4) people in the same family. If there are more than four in your household utilize two pew slots. You will be able to use the entire pew in this instance. The SignUp link will be available on the Sacred Heart website (www.shrmn.org) and through flocknote e-mail messages. You can also contact the Parish Office if you need assistance in using SignUp.

- **Wednesday Individual Communion Dates: September 16, 23, 30**

Sacred Heart Catholic School



1st Week of School

We had a safe and healthy return to school this past week. Students and staff are wearing face masks, washing hands throughout the day, keeping social distancing, staying self-contained in the classroom while still learning and having fun! Our students were rock stars this week. They are so happy to be back to school and they are following all of our safety protocols we have put in place.

We have openings for this year

We are also continuing to accept registrations for the 2020-2021 school year in preschool -8th grade. We have room in all our classrooms except for grade 2, 5 and 7. If you know of any families looking for school information, please have them give us a call. Please have them contact Pat Moore at pmoore@shcsr.org.

School Marathon 2020-Saturday, October 3

Watch for more information regarding our school marathon coming up. We are gearing up for another Marathon. Our theme this year is "Be Strong and Courageous", Josiah 1:9.

faithful + beginnings

at Sacred Heart Catholic School

Faithful Beginnings at Sacred Heart Catholic School prepares our Preschool and Pre-Kindergarten students for the kindergarten transition. If you would like to learn more about Faithful Beginning, please contact the school office.

We have many options for Preschool:

3 year old Pre K: Tuesday/Thursday 9:00-11:30 a.m.

4 year old Pre K: Full and part time options 7:30-2:10 pm.

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

Follow us on Twitter - <https://twitter.com/SHCSR Robbinsdal1>

Youth Ministry

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.



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,ext. 109

Faith Formation

Director of Adult Faith Formation

Bunny Brouillard.....ext. 105

bbrouillard@shrmn.org

Youth & Young Adult Ministry

Matthew Kruc.....ext. 104

mkruc@shrmn.org

Faith Formation Associate

Morgan Timmerman.....ext. 107

mtimmerman@shrmn.org

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., Mary Daugherty.....ext. 102

mdaugherty@shrmn.org

Bookkeeper, Janelle Robanext. 106

jroban@shrmn.org

Facility Manager and Maintenance

.....ext. 127

Admin. Asst. Facility Scheduling, Office

Darlene Doranext. 100

ddoran@shrmn.org

Sunday Admin Asst.

Terri Fleck.....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@sacredheartsschoolrobbinsdale.org

Advancement, Admin. Asst.

Pat Moore.....ext. 123

pmoore@sacredheartsschoolrobbinsdale.org

Admin. Asst. Records,

Sarah Bowback.....ext. 120

sbowback@sacredheartsschoolrobbinsdale.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

Mass Intentions

****This Schedule is subject to change****

AUGUST

Sun. 13 8:00 AM Philip Andrzejek+
10:00 AM Parishioners
Latin 11:30 AM Fr. Oliver J. Dufresne+
Mon. 14 8:00 AM -----
Tues. 15 8:00 AM Clara Duerr+

Wed. 16 8:00 AM Darlene Johnston+
Thu. 17 8:00 AM Charles & Ollie
(Rusinko) Burgess+
Fri. 18 8:00 AM Stan & Rits Buchek+
Sat. 19 4:00 PM Bruce Johnston+
Parking Lot
5:30PM Joan Cashin+
F.M.104.9
Sun. 20 8:00 AM Parishioners
10:00 AM Joan & Bill Cashin+
Latin 11:30 AM Rev. Lawrence E.
Hubbard+

Chapel Open for Prayer:

- Monday: 8:30am - Noon
- Tuesday-Thursday: 8:30a-4:30pm
- Friday: 8:30am - Noon

****Note: No more than 10 people in the Chapel for prayer at any given time. Practice physical distancing. Use disinfectant provided in Chapel to wipe your area after you leave****

Confessions

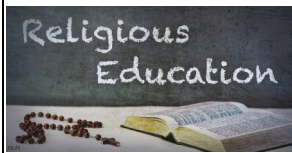
Daily Tuesday-Friday 7:30-7:45a.m.
Saturdays 9-10a.m. and 2:30-3:30pm
Sign is on Door #8 with Instructions.

Thursday Eucharistic Adoration

9:00am-2:00pm



Faith Formation



Religious Education Registration Forms for Wednesday Evening Classes were e-mailed.

Faith Formation **begins Wednesday September 30**. If you have a child in Sunday School and grades 1-8 who attends public school and is not enrolled in a Religious Education Formation

Program, please email Morgan Timmerman at mtimmerman@shrmn.org

Registration deadline is Wednesday September 16.

First Communion- 10 am Mass on Sunday Sept. 20



Dear Parishioners;

Next Sunday our 2nd grade class will be receiving their First Communion at the 10am Mass. This will require us to reserve the pews on the Right and Left Side of the church for the First Communicants and their Families. Rows 1-7 and rows 10-15.

Please pray for these children as they prepare for this Sacrament.

Free Items



© Can Stock Photo

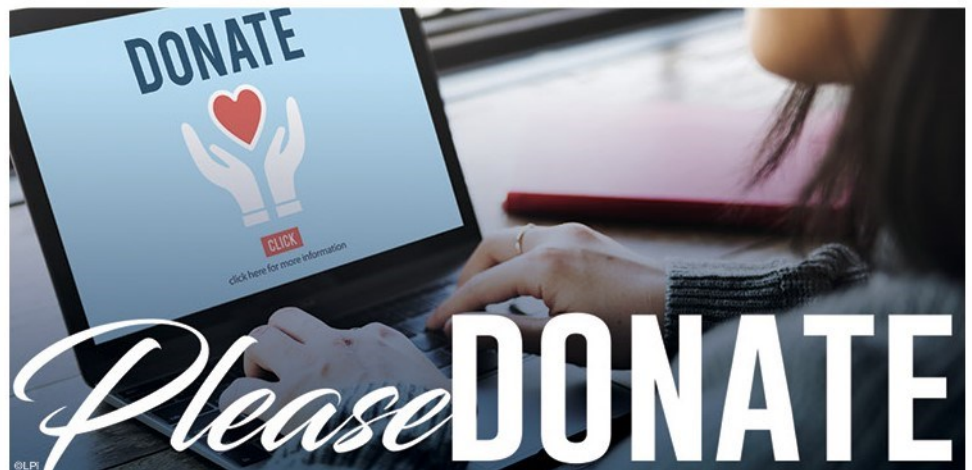
If you have time after Mass or during the week, please stop by to check out our FREE TABLE. We have a selection of Religious Books, Children's Books, Video's (if you still have a video player) and other items for free. Tables are located in the Parish Commons.

24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

Our parish is grateful for your continued support. Thank you!



Respect Life Ministry



Virtual Life Banquet Fundraiser

Monday, September 28, 2020

7 -8:00 p.m. Central

To receive our online Life Banquet video link, please send us your email address to plam.org/emai-2/. For more details, contact James at 651-797-6361.

Keynote Speaker: **Rebecca Kiessling, Family Law Attorney,**
"Conceived in Rape: From Worthless to Priceless."

Due to the uncertainty of future, large gathering COVID-19 restrictions, we have chosen to move our Life Banquet Fundraiser ONLINE. You will be encouraged as you hear our Baby Saved testimonials, 2020 Ministry Highlights and our incredible speaker, Rebecca Kiessling as she delivers a compelling presentation of her own life story, "Conceived in Rape: From Worthless to Priceless."

Spiritual Adoption

September 13, 2020

MONTH TWO – Developing Baby Spiritual Adoption Program

Your baby is making progress developing all of his external features and internal organs. His brain is functioning at 40 days. His mother can hear his heartbeat now on an ultrasonic stethoscope. Baby-teeth buds are present at 6 ½ weeks. From this moment, your spiritually adopted baby grows and refines his body. But everything he needs to survive after birth is already present by the end of the eighth week.

Say the following daily prayer for a period of nine months.

"Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I love you very much. I beg you to spare the life of [baby's name] the unborn baby that I have spiritually adopted who is in danger of abortion."

- Prayer of Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen

Knights of Columbus Booya 2020

Many things have been affected by the Covid virus. The Knights of Columbus still remain active to support our parishes but we need your help. Our major fund raiser for the year will be held 10/3, 5 to 7PM at St Raphael's Marian Hall. Booya (vegetable soup on steroids) will be available for dining in the Hall or for take out in containers suitable for freezing to enjoy on a cold winter's night.

Our parishes rely on us for support in many ways, we are asking for YOUR support so that our deeds of Charity can continue. HELP US HELP YOU!

Questions? Tony 763-537-1492 or Tom 763-242-1594

Thank You

On behalf of all retired men and women religious, priests and brothers, thank you for your support of the annual Religious Retirement Appeal: your generosity is a blessing to those who have given a lifetime!

"Your parish-contribution of \$1,632.00 will enable many religious communities to meet their pressing retirement needs, while continuing to serve the People of God. Your generosity also contributes to the retirement planning of newer religious communities.

Calendar of Events

****THERE ARE NO PUBLIC EVENTS SCHEDULED****
LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Sunday, Sept. 13– 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time;
 15th Sunday after Pentecost

Monday, Sept. 14–Exaltation of the Holy Cross
 335, 629

Tuesday, Sept. 15– Our Lady of Sorrows; The
 Seven Sorrows of Our Day, *Trad.*

Wednesday, Sept. 16–Sts Cornelius 253 & Cyprian 258

Thursday, Sept. 17–St. Robert Bellarmine 1621;
 The Imprinting of the Stigmata of St. Francis of Assisi 1224, *Trad.*

Friday, Sept. 18–St. Joseph of Cupertino 1663,
Trad.

Saturday, Sept. 19–St. Januarius 304 & Comps.

**PLEASE CHECK THE
 SACRED HEART WEBSITE
 Covid-19 Update
 And Our Facebook Page
 For most up-to-date info.**



**Like and Follow the Church of
 the Sacred Heart on Facebook**
<https://www.facebook.com/shrobbinsdale/>

Parish Prayer Line

To be placed on the prayer line call the Parish Office 763-537-4561. You can also send in your request via e-mail: cshadmin@shrmn.org

GOSPEL MEDITATION

What right do we have to limit the amount and degree of forgiveness we show to others when we are so desperately in need of it ourselves? In not wanting someone who hurt us to downplay or forget the gravity of their wrong, we cling to anger, resentment, and wrath as a way of maintaining control. It is a way to acknowledge and express our deep hurt. We fail to realize that in doing so we hold ourselves hostage to these destructive feelings and actually become mired in the bondage of sin. All we gain is further alienation from ourselves, others, and especially God. We are no longer free but tethered to all of this unresolved negativity. Don't we really want to let it go? The fact is that we need to.

A good self-reflective posture will quickly show us that when the shoe is on the other foot and we are the ones in need of forgiveness, we desire it above anything else. This is especially true with our relationship with God. It is hypocritical to want one thing for ourselves and something else for another. Yet, many act in precisely this way.

Perhaps we think that in offering forgiveness, even for the most grievous of wrongs, somehow excuses the person of their wrong and makes it almost acceptable. This is what makes revenge, retaliation, and punishment so attractive. We see forgiveness as being an eraser that easily wipes away the offense without consequence. Or, we may believe that in offering forgiveness I must somehow forget the wrong and open myself as a victim of even greater possible hurts in the future. In fact, forgiving my sister or brother of their wrongful actions or attitudes involves none of this. It does not erase anything or position me vulnerably as a doormat to be walked on.

Forgiveness is an act of freedom that restores honest dialogue, shares true, and heartfelt feelings and acknowledges the consequences of an action. It admits that the wrong has caused a hurt that must be healed and squarely positions responsibility on the offender. The act of forgiveness recognizes our sinfulness and brokenness. It also admits that the most saintly among us is capable of doing very grave and deep harm to another person. It sees that we all can be victims of our passions and works in progress that deserve unlimited chances to get it right. With forgiveness, I release myself from the bonds of negativity and pursue a path of restoration, wholeness, and healing. I do not forget the wrong nor do I dismiss it. Sometimes, we have to stay far away from the one who hurt us. But we can still heal internally and be free.

For the one who wants to be forgiven and the one who needs offer forgiveness, the journey can be an adventure in learning what brought us to this place and what is needed to move forward. This is exactly how God treats us. Why would we not want to do the same for others?

*O most merciful Jesus... Give me grace ever to desire and to will what is most acceptable to you and most pleasing in your sight.
Let your will be mine, and let my will
ever follow yours and fully conform to it.*

Question:

Can Catholics be cremated?

Answer:

As the practice of cremation becomes more and more common, it's important to know what the Church asks of families who have chosen this for a loved one who has died.

As the US Bishops observe on their website, "Ideally, if a family chooses cremation, the cremation would take place some time after the Funeral Mass, so that there can be an opportunity for the Vigil for the Deceased in the presence of the body." However, if cremation takes place before the Funeral Mass, the cremated remains can be present at the Funeral Mass and the appendix to the *Order of Christian Funerals* provides adaptations for the texts and rituals that are part of the Funeral Mass and the Committal.

The primary concern is that the cremated remains should be treated with the same respect given to any human remains. The *Order of Christian Funerals* instructs, "This includes the use of a worthy vessel to contain the ashes, the manner in which they are carried, and the care and attention to appropriate placement and transport, and the final disposition. The cremated remains should be buried in a grave or entombed in a mausoleum or columbarium. The practice of scattering cremated remains on the sea, from the air, or on the ground, or keeping cremated remains on the home of a relative or friend of the deceased are not the reverent disposition that the Church requires" (no. 417).

It is becoming more and more common for parishes or diocese-sponsored cemeteries to include columbaria to house cremated remains in a way that respects Church teaching, allowing family and friends the opportunity to honor the remains of the one they have lost with dignity, reverence, and care.

LIVE THE LITURGY INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Deciding to travel the challenging road of forgiveness is choosing a journey toward greater freedom. Resentment, anger, and clinging to past hurts not only keep open wounds that long for healing but bring us down paths that are eventually self-destructive. Harboring grudges and withholding forgiveness not only shut down relationships with others, but with God and myself as well. To choose to forgive another person, regardless of how grave the wrong, is a choice to be released from bondage to past wounds and scars and to pursue the gift of life and love again. Who among us has not wrong or sinned against another? We certainly would want God to understand, forgive, and show mercy upon us. It is hypocritical of us to not extend that same grace to our neighbor.



Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

September 2020

Sacred Heart Church

Robbinsdale MN.

One Minute Meditations

Mysteries of faith

Legend says that St. Augustine was walking on a beach puzzling the mystery of the Holy Trinity when he spotted a boy filling a bucket from the ocean and dumping it in a hole. The boy said he was trying to fit the ocean into the hole. St. Augustine cried, "But you can never do that!" The boy replied, "And neither can you understand the Holy Trinity," and vanished. Some things we just have to take on faith.



"God bless you"

When you sneeze, think of Pope St. Gregory, the Great. In 590AD, the bubonic plague was spreading to Rome. To combat the disease, the pope requested incessant prayer. "God bless you!" in response to a sneeze was part of that effort.

"You shall not fear the terror of the night nor the arrow that flies by day, Nor the pestilence that roams in darkness, nor the plague that ravages at noon" (Psalm 91:5-6).



Do you trust God?

"The Lord is my strength and my shield, in whom my heart trusts" (Psalm 28:7). Do you trust God with everything in your life or only some things? Do you give him your problems but take them back when he doesn't do what you want? It is when we have complete trust in God that our lives work well.

Is God trustworthy? A person worthy of trust is one of good character and integrity. We have more than two thousand years of history that prove God means what he says and says what he means. He does what he promises.

Is God capable? God has power

over all creation – He even has power over life and death. Through the ages, we have learned that all things are possible with God. More to the point, God's Son told us that God loves us with

unimaginable intensity so he always wants what is best for us. In fact, God is more qualified than we are to take care of what we need.

Are you ready to really trust God? Start

by thanking him no matter what. Everything that he allows to happen to us is for our good. Then remind yourself that God is fully in charge. Finally, ask him what you should do next and do it.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

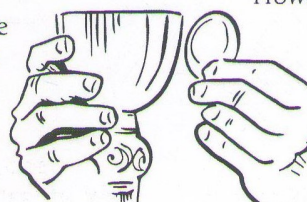
Why do Catholics believe the Eucharist is Jesus' Body and Blood?

The concept of transubstantiation means that, during Mass, the entire substance of bread changes into the substance of the Body of Christ. The entire substance of wine changes into the substance of His Blood. This change is brought about in the eucharistic

prayer through the Word of Christ and the action of the Holy Spirit.

However, the outward characteristics of bread and wine, the "eucharistic species," remain unaltered.

Jesus is truly present during Mass, Body and Blood, soul and divinity.

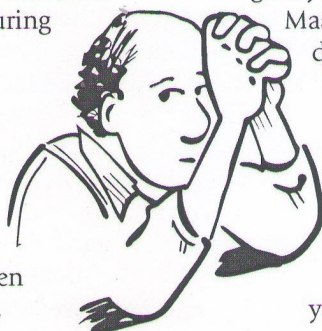


Make distractions a plus in prayer

There is no better way to build a relationship with Jesus than through prayer. Relying on His strength during difficult times is how we get through them. Yet when we become distracted during prayer, we can become discouraged and give up. Try these ideas for turning distractions into blessings:

Gently return. Start your prayer by placing yourself in the presence of God. When you wander, gently bring yourself back.

Practice recall. St. Frances de Sales said, "When your mind wanders or gives way to distractions,



gently recall it and place it once more close to its Divine Master. If you should do nothing else but repeat this during the whole time of prayer, your hour would be very well spent and you would perform a spiritual exercise most acceptable to God."

Turn distractions into prayer. If you start thinking about people and events unrelated to your prayer, pray about them and then return to the original subject of your prayer.

Pray out loud. When distractions overwhelm you, pray out loud.

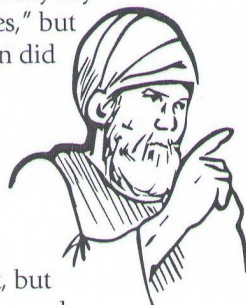
from Scripture

Matthew 21:28-32, Faithful obedience.

Jesus told of a man who asked his two sons to go work in his vineyard. The first said, "No," but went anyway. The second said, "Yes," but didn't go. Which son did as the father asked?

The father in the parable is God. The first son represents the outcasts of society. They said "No" to God at first, but repented of their sins and changed.

The second son represents the Jewish religious leaders. They said "Yes," but it was just lip service. They followed rules rather than changing their hearts.



Saying, "Yes, God, I believe in you," is not enough. If we presume that the Lord will take us into Heaven just because we profess our faith, we will be disappointed. Words are not enough.

True obedience is lived. When we realize we are in a state of sin, we have two options. We can say we're sorry, or we can show we're sorry by going to Confession, doing sincere penance and amending our lives. Living as Jesus taught us is our way of "working in our Father's vineyard."



Q & A How can I stop worrying about what other people think?

The problem with placing too much importance on other people's opinions of you is that you give them inappropriate power over you. In effect,



you are substituting other people's values and judgment for your own and there is no guarantee that they have your best interests – or your eternal future – at heart. Not everyone is interested in helping you get to Heaven.

Try instead to live by the rules detailed in the Ten Commandments and in the Beatitudes. They tell us to be devoted to God, to care for other people, to be honest and dedicated to truth, and to value the blessings God has given us.

Remember that there is value in being criticized or insulted even though you do the right thing. Not only can you offer it as penance for your sins, such suffering teaches humility and patience – two virtues that will help you get to Heaven. And when it comes down to it, the opinion of other people will pass, but God's judgment is forever.

Feasts & Celebrations

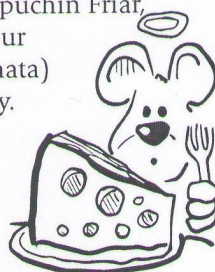
Sept. 8 - The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (1st century). Tradition holds that Mary was born in Jerusalem after her parents had been childless for more than twenty years. Mary's birth brought them – and us – joy.

Sept. 15 – Our Lady of Sorrows. In Luke 2:35, Simeon predicted Mary's sorrows as "a sword piercing" her soul. This referred, in part, to a time when Mary would stand at the foot of her son's Cross. Still, Mary stood dignified and fearless while others fled.

Sept. 21 – St. Matthew (1st century).

Also known as Levi, he was a notorious tax collector. St. Matthew left everything behind when Jesus called him to spread the Gospel. He wrote the Gospel According to Matthew.

Sept. 23 – St. Padre Pio (1968). Francesco Forgione was born to farmers in southern Italy. Eight years after he became a Capuchin Friar, the five wounds of Our Lord's Passion (stigmata) appeared on his body. Despite intense personal and physical suffering, he remained dedicated to prayer.



Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

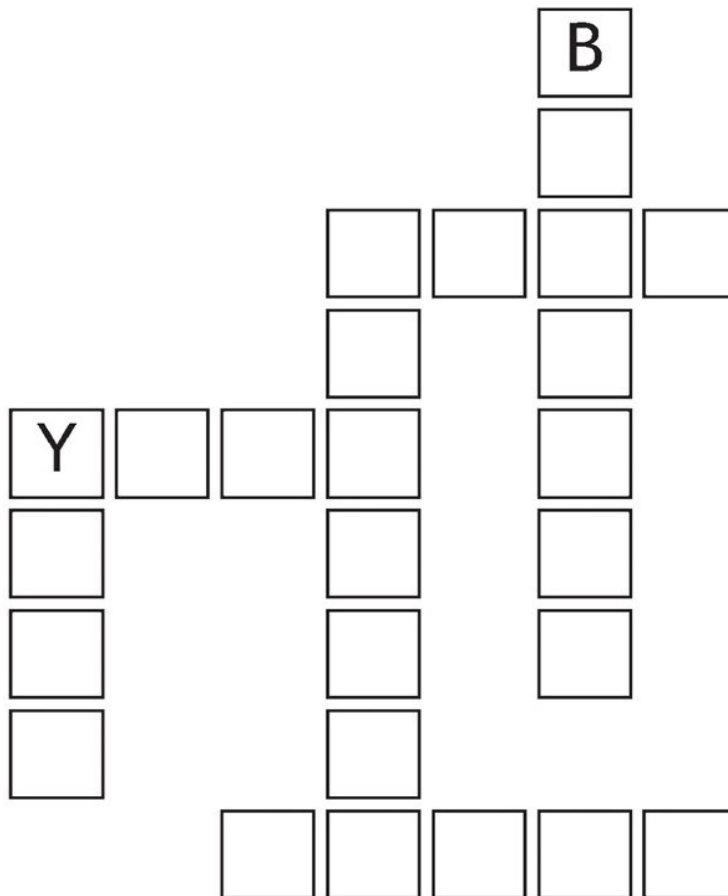
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KIDS CORNER

Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares:
Forgive your brother from your heart.



SHARING THE GOSPEL

Jesus says to forgive each other seventy times seven or 490 times. That's forgiving once each day for more than a year. Put 490 jelly beans in a gallon "Forgiveness Jug." Each time you forgive someone, eat a jelly bean. When you realize that God has forgiven you, it is easier to forgive others from your heart. God fills you with his love, which is even better than jelly beans. Then you can forgive without holding a grudge.

PRAYER

Lord, help me forgive other people completely and quickly.

MISSION FOR THE WEEK

I will forgive those
who hurt me because God
has forgiven me.



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