



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

Saturday—Lord's Day Vigil

4:00 PM Mass of Anticipation

Sunday— The Lord's Day

8:00 AM Mass

10:00 AM Mass

11:35 AM Latin Mass

Summer Schedule:

June—August

Daily Mass Times

Monday:

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

Tuesday:

Vespers: 6:15 PM followed by
Mass: 6:30 PM

Wednesday — Saturday:

8:00 AM Mass
followed by Lauds/Morning Prayer

Holy Day Mass Times

Consult the bulletin

Penance and Reconciliation

Tuesday:

5:30-6:10 PM

Wednesday — Saturday:

7:40 — 7:55 AM

Saturday Afternoon:

3:00 — 3:45 PM

Or by appointment

Eucharistic Adoration

The Sacred Heart Chapel is open for
personal prayer and adoration before
the monstrance on Thursdays from
9:00 AM — 8:30PM.

Parish Office Hours

Monday 8:30 AM — Noon

Tue.-Wed. 8:30 AM — 4:30 PM

Friday 8:30 AM — Noon

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

July 10, 2022



15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"A man fell victim to robbers as he went down from Jerusalem to Jericho. They stripped and beat him and went off leaving him half-dead. A priest happened to be going down that road, but when he saw him, he passed by on the opposite side. But a Samaritan traveler who came upon him was moved with compassion at the sight." - Lk 10:30b-31, 33

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

The Right to Life

On June 24th, 2022, the great Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, in which we celebrate the sacrificial love that flows from the Heart of Christ for every person we also give thanks to God for the courageous decision of the Supreme Court of the United States of America to right tragic wrongs by the overturning of Roe vs. Wade and Planned Parenthood vs. Casey. These past decisions led to the deaths of millions of pre-born Americans. Like Dred Scott before it, these infamous decisions dehumanized whole classes of persons, and this needed to be overturned in order for our Nation to have a chance to live up to her founding ideals enshrined in the Declaration of Independence.

The decision in Dobbs vs. Jackson also comes on the day the Catholic Church celebrates the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, the same pre-born infant who scripture records as leaping for joy within his mother's womb as Holy Mary, pregnant with the incarnate Word of God - Jesus, comes to visit and assist St. Elizabeth in her final weeks of pregnancy.

There is little doubt in my mind of the role that God's mercy and Divine Providence have played in this decision overturning Roe and Casey to be released on this particular day.

This court decision returns the issue of abortion to the political process in the fifty States of the Union. In my mind the court should have stated a further truth, namely, recognizing that innocent life in the womb ought not to be deprived of equal protection and due process of law as befits the dignity of the human person. This argument recognizes that from the first moment of its existence the human embryo requires shelter and nourishment to develop, the same things a child who is born will require. The dependence of the pre-born child does not change after birth. The child requires exactly the same shelter and nourishment before birth and after birth, all that changes is the place of that shelter and the forms of nourishment. The court may not have been comfortable defining personhood, but as a people we must consider these questions if we are to be a truly humane society. When does human life begin? When does that human life become a person? Dehumanizing others and denying them full rights and equal protection under the law as human persons has been part of our history. In the past this was based upon race, ethnicity, and sex. The fundamental question regarding the morality of abortion is the question of dependence. Can the right to life and protection under the law be denied a human life because that life is dependent upon another?

In Minnesota, due to a Minnesota Supreme Court decision issued in 1995, sadly there will be no immediate change to our current laws vis~a~vis abortion. However, to the extent that the Minnesota Supreme Court decision of 1995 might have relied on legal argumentation enshrined in Roe vs. Wade, and/or Planned Parenthood vs. Casey, there is the opportunity to look anew at this matter even in Minnesota.

Therefore, everyone who recognizes the biological truth that a unique human life begins at conception, must therefore work diligently to promote a culture of life both in law and in our wider culture so we recognize the dignity of each and every human person.

This mission includes working to protect innocent life in the womb in our legal system here in Minnesota, it includes supporting women during pregnancy and after they give birth, it includes supporting families, it includes encouraging authentic love and that concomitant responsibility that men and women should have toward each other. This authentic love and responsibility should accompany all acts capable of bringing life into the world. This mission includes inculcating the culture of life in both major political parties, and other parties, it includes electing local officials, legislators, governors, and judges who will recognize that life in the womb is fully human and thus deserving of all the legal protections afforded every other person in the State of Minnesota. Building this culture of life means fighting against throw away culture as well as working against attitudes that dehumanize fellow brothers and sisters, regardless of race, ethnicity, sex, or the presence of disability, whether in the womb or out of the womb. This is the task that lies ahead for Minnesota. May God bless this work and grant continual conversion of mind and heart so we may see our world anew with eyes firmly rooted in that which is true, good, and beautiful.

Yours in the Sacred Heart of Jesus,

Fr. Bryan J.B. Pedersen
Fr. Bryan J.B. Pedersen
Pastor

Appointed Sunday Readings**14th Sunday in Ordinary Time-7/3/2022**

First Reading: "No, it is something very near to you, already in your mouths and in your hearts; you have only to carry it out." (Dt 50:14)

Psalm: Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live. (Ps 69) Or Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life. (Ps 19)

Second Reading: For in him were created all things in heaven and on earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers;... (Col 15:15)

Gospel: "Which of these three, in your opinion, was neighbor to the robbers' victim?"

He answered, "The one who treated him with mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise." (Lk 10:36-37)

Latin Mass Sunday Readings**5th Sunday after Pentecost**

Epistle: Dearly beloved: be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, (1 Peter 3:8-15)

Gradual: Behold, O God our protector, and look on Thy servants. (Psalm 86:10, 9)

Gospel: At that time Jesus said to His disciples: Except your justice abound more than that of the Scribes and Pharisees, you shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. (Matt. 5:20-24)

Appointed Daily Readings**Monday, July 11—Saturday, July 16**

Monday: Is 1:10-17/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/Mt 10:34—11:1

Tuesday: Is 7:1-9/Ps 48:2-3a, 3b-4, 5-6, 7-8/Mt 11:20-24

Wednesday: Is 10:5-7, 13b-16/Ps 94:5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 14-15/Mt 11:25-27

Thursday: Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19/Ps 102:13-14ab and 15, 16-18, 19-21/Mt 11:28-30

Friday: Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8/Is 38:10, 11, 12abcd, 16/Mt 12:1-8

Saturday: Mi 2:1-5/Ps 10:1-2, 3-4, 7-8, 14/Mt 12:14-21

Prayers of the Faithful**Please remember in your prayers:**

Those Who Are Ill: JoAnn Johnson, Patty Wahl, Bruce Lindquist, Brian Hanly

With Chronic Health Concerns:

Tom Ambrose, Brady Swenson, Mary Jo Faustgen, Andrea DeOtis, Medard Keisershot, Cody Binstock, Carol Borman, Delia Roca, Bruce Lindquist

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

Those Who Have Died Recently: Tim O'Neil

Administration**Stewardship-Your Commitment is Vital !**

Collections for Jun 25-26, 2022 (week 52)	Dollars	# Donors
Sunday Envelope Collections	\$3,795.00	62
Electronic Donations	\$1,572.50	19
Plate (non envelope) Collections	\$1,518.10	
Total Collections for Week 52	\$ 6,885.60	81

Year-to-date Sunday Collections

	This Year	Last Year	Ahead
Actual versus last year June 26, 2022 (week 52)	\$615,110	\$579,255	\$35,855
	This Year	Budget	Ahead
Actual versus Budget June 26, 2022 (week 52)	\$615,110	\$610,479	\$ 4,631

Quarterly Contribution Statements

2nd Quarter Contribution Statements will be mailed by the end of July, 2022.

Summer Parish Office Hours

The Parish Office is closed at Noon on Mondays and Fridays during the summer months.

If you need assistance, please call the main number and leave a voice message. Please follow the prompts if you have an emergency and a priest is needed. Otherwise, leave a voice message and your call will be returned as soon as possible the next business day. Thank you!

Save the Date-Fun Fest 2022: Sept. 17, 2022

Watch for more details both in the bulletin and on our website to follow soon, which will include some fun new activities this year!!

Everyday Stewardship

What Jesus Doesn't Say "If Jesus wanted us to (fill in the blank), he would have said so."

We hear this argument applied to every controversial topic under the sun — and even some not-so-controversial topics, too. Whenever someone is trying to make a case for a decision they have already made, they call in Jesus' scriptural silence on the matter as their expert, unimpeachable witness.

And sure, there's much Jesus doesn't talk about in the Gospels. But by this logic, we would have to assume that Jesus doesn't care, for instance, if we drive well over the speed limit (he doesn't discuss cars and highways in the Bible) or what we do online (he never mentions the Internet or websites at all!), when we know that certainly is just not the case.

Like the scholar of the Jewish law who challenges Jesus to define who exactly his "neighbor" is, we can argue semantics all we want. But if we rest in prayer and look deep into our hearts, we know what path we need to take, and it's usually not the easy one.

I find that I do this plenty in ways that are far more subtle. I lament that the situation facing me is not sufficiently "black and white." I become frustrated by the shades of moral grey and toss up my hands, claiming I don't know what the right answer is, insisting that I can't be blamed for the ramifications of whatever decision I make.

What I need to be doing in these situations is asking God for His guidance, even if it makes me nervous. I need to be like the scholar. He was brave enough to ask, even though I think he knew he wouldn't particularly like the answer. Let's strive for that same courage.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Sacred Heart Catholic School



Set up a Tour-We are here during the summer
Parents are welcome to schedule a personalized tour this summer. We have many options for Pre-School and Pre-Kindergarten, including half and full days, along with K-8. Discover our school and the activities that enhance each child's educational experience. Come see how integrated faith lessons combined with our C-STEM program enrich our classrooms each day. We are preparing our students for 21st Century

skills called the 4 C's: Creativity, Critical Thinking, Collaboration, and Communication. Call the school office to schedule a tour, 763.537.1329.

Aim Higher tuition scholarships available for students in K-8----Due August 6, 2022

We encourage families to apply for a tuition scholarship thru TADS. We want to support your family in making a Catholic education affordable for your child(ren).

SCHOLARSHIP DETAILS

Scholarships are awarded in the amount of \$1,000 to students who meet the need-based criteria determined by the Aim Higher Foundation. The scholarship follows students through 8th grade and to other Catholic schools in this Archdiocese.

TADS applications may be filled out by the parent/guardian of a child who is currently attending or plans to attend a K-8 Catholic school in the Archdiocese of the St. Paul and Minneapolis. All scholarship applications must be completed yearly for both new and returning recipients.

Priority for the scholarships awarded during the summer application period will be given to students who are new to Catholic schools, however, all applications will be considered.

How to apply:

1. Visit <https://www.mytads.com/> Click on the purple "Financial Aid Assessment"
2. Create a new account or login to an existing one.
3. Begin filling in the application.
4. Submit the application by August 6, 2022.

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<http://www.facebook.com/SHCSR Robbinsdale>

Follow us on Twitter - <https://twitter.com/SHCSR Robbinsdale1>

Saint of the Week-Examples of our Faith

St. Henry | July 13

Saint Henry was born in 972 to Henry, Duke of Bavaria, Germany, and his wife Gisela of Burgundy. Saint Henry's early life was permeated with Christianity, among those who guided his education was Bishop Wolfgang of Ratisbon, who became a saint himself. In 995, Saint Henry succeeded his father as Duke of Bavaria, and in 1002, upon the death of his cousin, Otho III, he was elected emperor. In 1014, Saint Henry undertook the long journey from Germany to Rome to be crowned Holy Roman Emperor by Pope Benedict XIII.

In 1022 Saint Henry assisted Pope Benedict VIII in holding the Council of Pavia, which promoted clerical celibacy and sought to end simony (the buying and selling of ecclesiastical goods and offices). During his reign, Saint Henry used his wealth and position for the Church. He confirmed Benedict's authority over Rome, was a patron of churches and monasteries, supported the Cluniac Reforms, restored episcopal sees, and founded the Diocese of Bamberg where he built a cathedral.

Saint Henry was married to Cunigunde of Luxembourg, to whom he was incredibly devoted. Although disputed by some historians, some stories of the couple's marriage report they took vows of chastity because their union was childless.

Parish Directory

Phone: 763-537-4561

General Email: csadmin@shrmn.org

Worship

Priest, Fr. Bryan J.B. Pedersen.....ext. 6240
fr.bpedersen@shrmn.org 763-285-6240
Deacon, Dr. James Ramsey.....ext. 6244
jramsey@shrmn.org 763-285-6244
Music, Jamie Schmidtext. 6287
jschmidt@shrmn.org 763-285-6287

Faith Formation

Director of Adult Faith Formation

Bunny Brouillard.....ext. 6247
bbrouillard@shrmn.org 763-285-6247

Youth & Young Adult Ministry

Matthew Kruc.....ext. 6243
mkruc@shrmn.org 763-285-6243

Faith Formation Associate

Morgan Leisgang.....ext. 6246
mleisgang@shrmn.org 763-285-6246

Pastoral Care

Priest, Fr. Bryan J.B. Pedersen.....ext. 6240
fr.bpedersen@shrmn.org 763-285-6240
Deacon, Dr. James Ramsey.....ext. 6244
jramsey@shrmn.org 763-285-6244

Parish Administration

Bus. Admin., Mary Daugherty.....ext. 6241
mداugherty@shrmn.org 763-285-6241
Bookkeeper,ext. 6242
763-285-6242

Facility Manager and Maintenance

Mark Sazama.....ext. 6245
msazama@shrmn.org 763-285-6245

Admin. Asst. Facility Scheduling, Office

Darlene Doranext. 6248
ddoran@shrmn.org763-285-6248

Sacramental Records

Safe Environment Coordinator

Bunny Brouillard.....ext. 6247
bbrouillard@shrmn.org 763-285-6247

School

Main Office: 763-537-1329

Principal, Karen Bursey.....ext. 6255
kbursey@sacredheartschoolrobbinsdale.org

Advancement, Admin. Asst.

Pat Moore.....ext. 6256
pmoore@sacredheartschoolrobbinsdale.org

Admin. Asst. Records,

Sarah Bowback.....ext. 6257
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

Mass Intentions

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

July

Sun. 10	8:00 AM	Thomas Hoffman+
	10:00 AM	Parishioners
Latin	11:35 AM	Fr. Francis Nolan+
Mon. 11	8:00 AM	Communion Service
Tues. 12	6:30 PM	Donald Vandehey+
Wed. 13	8:00 AM	Joseph Willenbring+
Thu. 14	8:00 AM	Mary Lanier+
Fri. 15	8:00 AM	Helen Bauer+
Sat. 16	8:00 AM	Frank Woods+
	4:00 PM	Eileen Hassing+
Sun. 17	8:00 AM	Juanita Condoluci+
	10:00 AM	Parishioners
Latin	11:35 AM	Fr. Marvin Klaers+

Chapel Open for Prayer:

- Monday: 8:30am-2:30pm
- Tues.-Wed.: 8:30am-4:30pm
- Friday: 8:30am-Noon

Confessions

Daily Tuesday-Saturday 7:40-7:55a.m.
Saturdays 3:00-3:45pm

Thursday Eucharistic Adoration

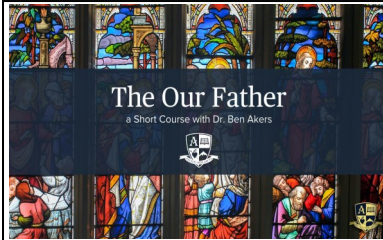
9:00am-8:30pm

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



Faith Formation



The Our Father: A Short Course with Dr. Ben Akers

When asked what they should say in prayer the Lord gives his disciples the "Our Father." This prayer is considered a gift from the Lord and one that we should especially turn to in times of crisis. This six-part series will go line by line through the prayer highlighting what it meant to Jesus' first century audience and what it means for us today.

Session 3: The 2nd and 3rd petitions, Thy kingdom come and Thy will be done.

The very first words of Jesus in his public ministry are "repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Matthew 4:17). What does God's kingdom look like? Why does it need to come? In the third petition we note that God's will is always done in heaven. We will ponder on how to accomplish God's will on earth, in our lives. (29 Minutes)

Session 3 will be shown after 4pm mass on Saturday July 23 and after 8am and 10am masses on Sunday July 24 in the Marian Rooms.

Pre-Baptism Classes



PRE-BAPTISM CLASSES

Pre-Baptism Classes are offered at Sacred Heart on the Second Tuesday of the month. All parents are required to attend a pre-baptism class before the Baptism of their first child or if it has been over three years since they last attended a pre-baptism class. Our next scheduled session is Tuesday July 12 at 7pm in the Activities Building. If you plan to attend this session, please call the Parish Office 763-537-4561.

Volunteers Needed-Eucharistic Adoration



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Thank you to all our COMMITTED ADORERS and to everyone who regularly attend Adoration every Thursday.

We are in need of extra adorers during these times slots:

10-11am, 5-6pm, 6-7pm 7-8pm.

If you can help for any of these time slots on Thursday please call Bunny at 763-537-4561

News From Other Sources



"My Steadfast Love is Everlasting..." Psalms 103 ~ Healing after Abortion

If you or someone you love is grieving the loss of a child to abortion, come and experience the compassionate mercy of Jesus Christ on our confidential weekend retreat. Rachel's Vineyard Twin Cities' retreats are open to anyone impacted by abortion - women, men, grandparents, siblings, and health care professionals. The next retreat is August 5-7, 2022 in the Twin Cities area. For more information contact us at rachels@rvineryardmn.org, call or text 763-250-9313 or see www.rvineryardmn.org.

Respect Life Ministry



Robbinsdale Women's Center
"Walk/Ride for Life",
Saturday, August 6, 2022

Please help the **Knights of Columbus #3656 with the Rusinko Family** (18th year) reach our goal of raising

\$2,500.00 for the **Robbinsdale Women's Center (overall goal \$75,000.00)** to continue reaching vulnerable women by offering free pregnancy testing, ultrasound services, material aid and mentorship programs. Your support helps provide accurate information and compassionate assistance to the clients.

Saturday, August 6, 2022, Clifton E. French Park, Moraine Picnic Shelter
12605 Rockford Rd, Plymouth, MN 55441

Check in 10am; Walk 10:30am

All are welcome!

To contribute go to www.rwcinfo.org/event/walk-for-life

Click on "Sponsor A Walker", then "Give", then "KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS #3656/Rusinko Family" then again on "Give" to record your pledge.

Questions call Carol or Andy at 763-533-8809, leave your name & phone #

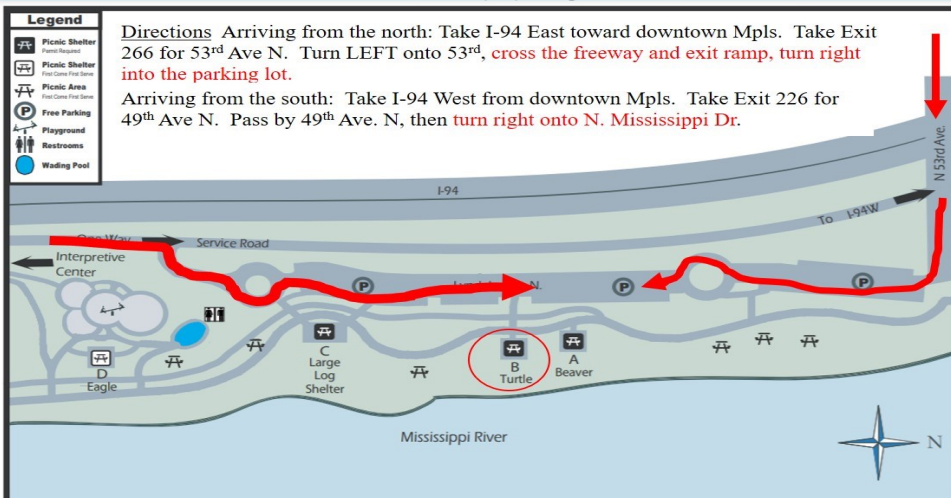
Council of Catholic Women

ANNUAL MCCW PICNIC

Saturday, July 23, 2022, 11 am – 2 pm
North Mississippi Regional Park, Shelter B
5114 N. Mississippi Dr., Mpls 55430

Welcome to ALL LADIES in the deanery and their friends!
We'll provide hot dogs, beans, chips, water and more!
There will be games and plenty of time to socialize with women throughout the Mpls Deaneries. Come and meet a new friend.

There is no cost to attend. Please RSVP by July 18 so we can plan food properly.
Saints Churches: Contact Terri Pontious (763-755-9315, terripontious@aol.com)
Other Churches: Contact Susan Jones (763-427-1714, SusanE.Jones@comcast.net)



Calendar of Events

Sunday, July 10–15th Sunday in Ordinary Time;
5th Sunday after Pentecost, Trad.

Coffee & Donuts Sunday

7:30 AM Rosary Prayed
8:00 AM Mass: Fr. Pedersen
9:00 AM Session 2: The Our Father-M. Rms
10:00 AM Mass: Fr. Pedersen
11:00 AM Session 2: The Our Father-M. Rms
11:35 AM Latin Mass: Fr. Pedersen

Monday, July 11–St. Benedict 543; St. Pius I 167, Trad.

7:35 AM Rosary Prayed
8:00 AM Communion Service
Morning Prayer

Tuesday, July 12– St. Louis Marin 1894 & St. Zelig Martin 1877; St. John Gualbert 1073, Trad.

5:30 PM Confessions till 6:10 PM
6:15 PM Vespers
6:30 PM Mass: Fr. Pedersen

Wednesday, July 13–St. Henry II; St. Mildred 700, Hist.

7:35 AM Rosary Prayed
7:40 AM Confessions till 7:55 AM
8:00 AM Mass: Fr. Pedersen
Morning Prayer to follow Mass

Thursday, July 14–St. Kateri 1024; St. Bonaventure 1274, Trad.

7:35 AM Rosary Prayed
7:40 AM Confessions till 7:55 AM
8:00 AM Mass: Fr. Pedersen
Morning Prayer to follow Mass
Adoration following Mass till 8:30 PM

Friday, July 15–St. Bonaventure 1274; St. Henry II 1024, Trad.

7:35 AM Rosary Prayed
7:40 AM Confessions till 7:55 AM
8:00 AM Mass: Fr. Pedersen
Morning Prayer to follow Mass

Saturday, July 16–Our Lady of Mount Carmel 1251

7:35 AM Rosary Prayed
7:40 AM Confessions till 7:55 AM
8:00 AM Mass: Fr. Pedersen
3:00 PM Confessions till 3:45 PM
4:00 PM Mass: Fr. Pedersen

Sunday, July 17–16th Sunday in Ordinary Time;
6th Sunday after Pentecost

7:30 AM Rosary Prayed
8:00 AM Mass: Fr. Pedersen
10:00 AM Mass: Fr. Pedersen
11:35 AM Latin Mass: Fr. Pedersen

Like and Follow the Church of the Sacred Heart on Facebook

Totus Tuus

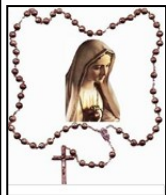
Everyone is invited!

During Totus Tuus this week, the Knights of Columbus will be hosting a supper for the children in Totus Tuus, their families, and ALL parishioners on Wednesday, July 13th! The supper will be in the Marian rooms from 5:00pm-6:30pm. This gathering gives the missionary team the opportunity to meet with our parishioners. The missionaries will introduce themselves, explain a little about the history and mission of Totus Tuus, and lead the children in some songs. Please mark your calendars and join us!

Also, this week there will be Mass at 11:15am Tuesday-Friday (11:30 on Monday due to a funeral) with the children participating in Totus Tuus. All parishioners are welcome to join us for daily Mass.

Please keep the participants and the missionaries in your prayers this week!

15 Promises of Mary



Fifteen Promises of Mary to Christians Who recite the rosary:
Promise X, The faithful children of the Rosary shall merit a high degree of glory in Heaven.

The Rosary is prayed at Sacred Heart before Mass on
Sunday at 7:30am & at 7:35am Monday, Wednesday-Saturday.

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.



Live the Liturgy-Inspiration for the Week

It's important to keep our eyes open. Otherwise, we can easily dismiss things that truly require our attention. Whether it is someone needing care, a wrong that must be rectified, an injustice that must be addressed, or someone in need of a helping hand, the lens through which we view life (and even the rules by which we live) can prevent us from stopping and acting. Whether it's an obsession with being on time, a compulsion to complete tasks according to a schedule, or a rigidity with not breaking a law or fear of taking a risk, we miss daily opportunities to show mercy. We often fail in our duty to be a good neighbor, especially when it involves brothers and sisters remote from us whom we have never met. The pain of the world is our pain. God's law of love, mercy, and compassion is not something remote. It's already within us and very near. All we have to do is open our eyes and carry it out.

*"Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace.
Where there is hatred, let me sow love."
-Francis of Assisi*



WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained:

Question:

What is Lectio Divina, and how is it associated with the Benedictine Monastic tradition, whose founder, St. Benedict, we honor on July 11?

Answer:

Benedict desired his monks to live in community, praying the Liturgy of the Hours together, contemplating sacred texts, and doing manual labor. The monks developed a technique to facilitate a spiritual and devotional reading of the Bible known as Lectio Divina, the holy reading of a text. This method encourages the reader to hear the biblical text with an open heart and focus on whatever God wants to highlight and then apply it to daily life.

There are variations on Lectio Divina, but essentially, the technique consists of a three-step process of reflection. When the reflection is done with a group, the responses are shared by all the participants. Once the text is selected, it is read meditatively, and the following are then explored: a word or phrase that attracts you; how and where the content of this reading touches your life today; what you believe that God wants you to do during this coming week (month, year, lifetime).

Thanks to Benedict, the Christian community has been gifted with this special way of entering into the biblical text. This week, use the Lectio Divina process on one of the readings for the coming Sunday and make a note of the life connections you are making. How is this reflection on the biblical text drawing you closer to God and others?

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