



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 - In Church

10:00 AM Mass - In Church

11:40 AM Latin Mass - In Church

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:

7:40 — 7:55 AM

Saturday Afternoon:

3:00 — 3:45 PM

Or by appointment

Eucharistic Adoration

The Sacred Heart Chapel will be open for personal prayer and adoration before the monstrance on Thursdays from 9AM-8:30PM

Parish Office Hours

Monday 8:30 AM — 2:30 PM

Tues.-Thurs. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM

Friday 8:30 AM-4:30 PM

Parish Web Site

www.shrmn.org

Parish Phone: 763-537-4561

Sacred Heart Catholic School

Pre-K through 8th grade

4050 Hubbard Avenue North

Robbinsdale, MN 55422

School Web Site

sacredheartschoolrobbinsdale.org

School Phone: 763-537-1329

April 16, 2023



2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY)

Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." - Jn 20:26-27

Parish Directory

Phone: 763-537-4561

General Email: contact@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, Diane Yazvec.....ext. 6242
dyazvec@shrmn.org 763-285-6242

Facility Manager and Maintenance

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

Admin. Asst. Facility Scheduling, Office

Maggie Powell.....ext. 6248
maggiep@shrmn.org 763-285-6248

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.

Zach Fimonext. 6256
zfimon@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

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

TRUST IN FAITH



Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

A young, engaged couple sat on the couch in front of me as we chatted about their upcoming marriage. The young lady was struggling to trust her future husband. She told me her father had been unfaithful to her mother. She said of her fiancé, “I want him to prove to me that he won’t cheat on me.” The young man looked at me helplessly, raised his eyebrows and shrugged his shoulders. What evidence could he possibly give to validate such a proof? Nothing. All he could do was invite her to trust him.

We all are wounded by experiences of imperfect love. We also are tempted to demand from God proof of His fidelity and goodness. We are like St. Thomas the Apostle who, on that second Sunday of Easter, demands proof of the Lord’s resurrection. **“Unless I see the mark of the nail ... I will not believe.”** Our science, technology and mathematics can indeed prove a great deal. But there are some things that require trusting another person. We prove promises of love only by trusting.

St. Thomas indeed saw the wounds of Jesus and believed. But there is an even greater blessing for us who simply trust Him — and all the truths the Church proclaims — because of the trustworthiness of the Risen One who speaks. This week let’s trust Jesus without seeing him.

— Father John Muir

Appointed Sunday Readings**2nd Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)-
4/16/2023****First Reading:** Every day they devoted themselves to meeting together in the temple area and to breaking bread in their homes. (Acts 2:46)**Psalm:** Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, his love is everlasting. (Ps 118)

Or Alleluia.

Second Reading: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy gave us a new birth to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. (1 Pt 1:3)**Gospel:** On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." (Jn 20:19)**Latin Mass Sunday Readings****2nd Sunday of Easter- Divine Mercy Sunday****Epistle:** Dearly beloved: Whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world...(1 Jn 5:4-10)**Alleluia:** Alleluia, alleluia. (Matthew 28:7)**Gospel:** At that time, when it was late that same day...(Jn 20:19-31)**Appointed Daily Readings****Monday, April 17-Saturday, April 22****Monday:** Acts 4:23-31/Ps 2:1-3, 4-7a, 7b-9/Jn 3:1-8**Tuesday:** Acts 4:32-37/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5/Jn 3:7b-15**Wednesday:** Acts 5:17-26/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jn 3:16-21**Thursday:** Acts 5:27-33/Ps 34:2 and 9, 17-18, 19-20/Jn 3:31-36**Friday:** Acts 5:34-42/Ps 27:1, 4,13-14/Jn 6:1-15**Saturday:** Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19/Jn 6:16-21**Prayers of the Faithful****Please remember in your prayers:****Those Who Are Ill:** Philomena Loch, Victoria Prince, Kellie VanSchaik**With Chronic Health Concerns:**

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

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, Joseph Eckman

Those Who Have Died Recently:

Margaret "Peggy" Diedrich

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

Collections for Apr. 1-2, 2023 (week 40)	Dollars	# Donors
Sunday Envelope Collections	\$ 6,239.00	112
Electronic Donations	\$ 6,255.12	61
Plate (non envelope) Collections	\$ 1,536.00	
Total Collections for week 40	\$ 14,030.12	173

Year-to-date Sunday Collections

	This Year	Last Year	(Behind)
Actual versus last year April 2, 2023 (week 40)	\$ 475,469	\$ 480,160	(\$4,691)
	This Year	Budget	(Behind)
Actual versus Budget April 2, 2023 (week 40)	\$ 475,469	\$ 483,726	(\$8,257)

Sacred Heart Raffle

Sacred Heart is once again selling raffle tickets for our major raffle. Chances are \$100 per ticket with a grand prize of \$12,000 cash, 2nd Prize \$1500 cash and 3rd Prize \$500 cash. The drawing will be held on Sunday June 11, 2023 after the 10:00am Mass. Don't delay! Only 600 chances will be sold. Watch future bulletins, the Sacred Heart website and Flocknote e-mails for raffle ticket order form information.

2nd Annual Women Owned Business Expo

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE WOMEN'S EXPO HAS SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 22ND HAS BEEN CANCELLED

Seven Sisters Apostolate

A Seven Sisters group begins when at least seven women respond to a call to the mission of the apostolate. Their mission: each member commits to a Holy Hour on a distinct day of the week, thus covering a complete week. The commitment is to that day; the Seven Sisters may pray at any time that day. This commitment is asked for a period of one year. The recipient of these prayers is the Parish Priest. This Apostolate was started at Sacred Heart about 3 years ago. If you committed to this Apostolate or would like more information or would like to commit to a Holy Hour, Please Call Bobbie Ramsey at 612-859-4251.

N.E.A.R**NEAR 2023 January & February food shelf activity;**

served 821 households and distributed 100,041lbs of food.

Volunteer...NEAR is always looking for individuals able to volunteer weekdays.*Morning, Afternoon and Phone volunteer opportunities are available.*

Contact Thea Bruley, NEAR Food Shelf Manager at 763-533-2836 for more info.

Eucharistic Adoration**Spend one hour with the Lord!!**

How about spending a little more time in prayer with the Lord.

Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament is available to us every

Thursday beginning after the 8am Mass and ending with Benediction at 8:30pm. If you

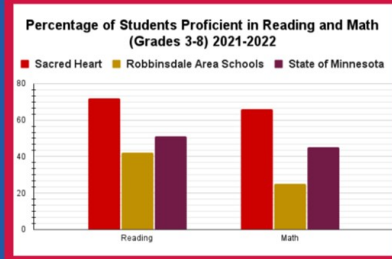
would like to be part of this ministry, please call Bunny in the Parish Office, 763-537-4561

Need 2 Committed Adorers to cover the 5-6 pm Time slot.

Sacred Heart Catholic School

Sacred Heart is a PreK-8th Grade Catholic School in Robbinsdale, MN

- Small class sizes ensure students get the attention that they need to succeed.
- Wide and varied curriculum taught by an experienced, enthusiastic, and extremely talented staff.



SACRED HEART
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

4050 Hubbard Ave N Robbinsdale MN 55422 763-537-1329

Schedule a Tour, PreK-8th grade

As you consider your educational options for the 2023-2024 school year, we invite you to schedule a personalized tour of Sacred Heart Catholic School for Pre K -8th grade.

We have many options for Pre-School and Pre-Kindergarten, including half and full days. 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

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

St. Matilda Group

EASTER CELEBRATION

HOSTED BY THE ST. MATILDA GROUP

The St. Matilda Group is a newly formed group for moms AND dads, and their children. The purpose of the group is to allow families an opportunity once a month to gather at the church and build community together. There is no age limit on the group, however, all planned activities will be targeted toward children ages 0-7 years old.

PARENTS MUST ATTEND EVENTS WITH THEIR CHILDREN

When: Saturday, April 22nd from 2:30PM-3:30PM

Where: Sacred Heart Church, in the Marion Rooms

What: Easter Egg Hunt, Snacks, Coloring

Please bring your own basket for the egg hunt

If you have any questions, please contact Maggie Powell at (763) 537-4561 or maggiiep@shrmn.org



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 Morgan Leisgang in the Parish Office.

Religious Education

For students grades 1—10. Meets Wed. evening 6:30pm—7:45pm, Oct. through April. Please call Morgan Leisgang or Matt Kruc in the Parish Office.

Mass Intentions

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

April

Sun. 16	8:00 AM	Julius W. Loch+
	10:00 AM	Parishioners
Latin	11:40 AM	Patricia Mitchell+
Mon. 17	8:00 AM	Communion Service
Tues. 18	8:00 AM	James Schreiber+
Wed. 19	8:00 AM	Margaret "Peggy" Diedrich+
Thu. 20	8:00 AM	Mary Mckee+
Fri. 21	8:00 AM	Richard & Betty Bellert+
Sat. 22	8:00 AM	Elizabeth Ann Jude Nelson+
	4:00 PM	Tom & Anna Pavnica+
Sun. 23	8:00 AM	Lance Corporal Scott Modest+
	10:00 AM	Parishioners
Latin	11:40 AM	Celebrant's Intention

Chapel Open for Prayer:

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

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 Bible Timeline:

The Story of Salvation

Developed by Jeff Cavins

Session 10: Conquest & Judges-Part 2

Conquest & Judges-Part 2: The book of Judges chronicles Part 2 of Conquest & Judges, in which the children of Israel fall into a pattern of sin & are rescued by a series of judges sent by God.

Session 10 on Tuesday April 18 1:00pm or 7:00pm Sessions.

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 May 9 at 7pm** in the Activities Building. If you plan to attend this session, please call the Parish Office 763-537-4561.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Sacred Heart will be offering The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd method of faith formation for the three to six-year-old children of our parish beginning in the fall of 2023. The catechists will prepare a special environment for the children, which is called the atrium. Please consider donating some of the following items:

2-3 Houseplants, Sacred art images, 4-5 Floor lamps, Sheets of parchment, 1 Water can, 1 Child sized broom, 1 Child sized dustpan and hand brush, 1 Wood spoon, 1 Heat lamp, 3 small pots for dirt, 1 Funnel, 3 Manual Pencil Sharpeners.

If you are a **woodworker, seamstress, calligrapher**, or anyone that would like to be involved with setting up our atrium or creating some of our materials, please contact Morgan Leisgang at mleisgang@shrmn.org or 763-285-6246.

This month we look at some locations within (or near) the City of Jerusalem:



The House of Caiaphas

In the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd atrium, the children work with a raised surface model of the city of Jerusalem. Jerusalem is one of the most important cities in the land of Israel because Jesus lived the greatest moments of his earthly life there. At the house of Caiaphas, the high priest, is where they questioned Jesus after his arrest. They asked him if he claimed to be the Son of God? Jesus said, "Yes." They thought Jesus' words were blasphemy, a terrible offense against God.

Respect Life Ministry



This is the current prolife billboard at 29th Av. N. & West Broadway (County 81), Minneapolis.
(In collaboration with Pro Life Across America)

Located between the Robbinsdale Women's Center and ABRIA North Side Pregnancy Resources

To date **\$547.00** is needed to cover the cost of the billboard thru June 2023.

This project began Feb. 2012 with an annual anonymous donation of \$3,000.
Each billboard cost \$600/mo. or \$7200/year.

Please make checks payable to Church of the Sacred Heart
with "Prolife Billboard Fund" in the memo and drop in the collection basket
or mail to 4087 West Broadway, Robbinsdale, MN 55422

Flyers with envelopes may be found in the Commons Area Kiosk and in the SH Chapel.
Suggestions: Make a donation in honor of birthday, wedding, anniversary, new baby,
in memory of a deceased loved one or **just because!**
Questions call Carol at 763-533-8809, leave message.

"Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves..." Proverbs 31:8



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."

Council of Catholic Women

Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women

90th Convention, Friday, April 28, 2023

St. Peter Catholic Church, Mendota, MN

"Walking Together, Sharing Our Gifts"

8am Registration, Vendors, Coffee & Refreshments,

Speakers, Lunch, Divine Mercy Chaplet, 5pm Mass,

Banquet, Lay Woman Awards;

Confessions 4pm

Register online www.archspm.org/accwconv2023

\$65 thru April 13; after April 13 \$75

Or mail checks payable to ACCW, 777 Forest St., St. Paul, MN 55106

Questions call Chris at ACCW Office 651-291-4545

The first ten SHCCW ladies to attend will be reimbursed after the convention by SHCCW.



Calendar of Events

Sunday, April 16– Divine Mercy Sunday; Low Sunday; Quasimodo Sunday

7:30 AM Rosary Prayed
8:00 AM Mass: Fr. Pedersen
10:00 AM Mass: Fr. Pedersen
11:40 AM Latin Mass: Fr. Pedersen

Monday, April 17– St. Anicetus, 175 (Trad.)

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

Tuesday, April 18– St. Apollonius, 185 (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

Wednesday, April 19– St. Elphege, 1012 (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, April 20– St. Agnes of Montepulciano, 1317 (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
Adoration following Mass till 8:30 PM

Friday, April 21– St. Anselm, 1109

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, April 22– Sts. Soter, 175 & Caius, 296 (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
3:00 PM Confessions till 3:45 PM
4:00 PM Mass: Fr. Pedersen
5:15 PM Vespers

Sunday, April 23– 3rd Sunday of Easter; Coffee & Donuts

7:30 AM Rosary Prayed
8:00 AM Mass: Fr. Pedersen
10:00 AM Mass: Fr. Pedersen
11:40 AM Latin Mass: Fr. Pedersen



Like and Follow the Church of the Sacred Heart on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/shrobbinsdale/>

St. Bernadette Soubirous- April 16

At the age of 14 St. Bernadette (1844-1879) was living in abject poverty with her family in a one-room basement which had previously been used as a jail, in the town of Lourdes in southern France. She was a sickly child, having fallen victim to Cholera in 1854 and would battle asthma and tuberculosis for the rest of her short life. Bernadette was illiterate and is characterized in many accounts as slow or ignorant. It was in her 14th year that Bernadette was granted 18 visions of a 'Lady' at a grotto in Massabielle. The Lady instructed Bernadette to come daily to the grotto to receive the visions, eventually proclaiming 'I am the Immaculate Conception'. A spring at the grotto, which appeared where Bernadette was instructed to dig, has been a site of miraculous healing. The Lady also asked that a chapel be built in the grotto for pilgrims. Today the Marian shrine at Lourdes is one of the world's most popular.



During and following the period of visions, the saint was examined rigorously by Church and local authorities. The popular excitement around the visions left her subject to persistent questioning and attention. Eventually she sought protection by retiring to a home for the poor in a nunnery. She took her vows in 1866 with the Sisters of Charity at Nevers. She worked as an infirmarian assistant, and later a sacristan, but by the end of her life she was too sick to participate in convent life. She died at the age of 35, humble and penitent until the end.

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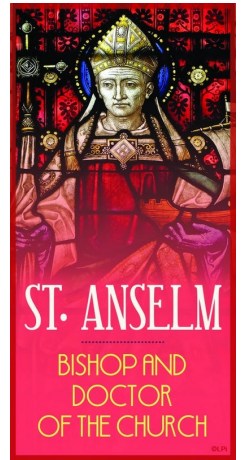
St. Anselm- April 21

St. Anselm of Canterbury left his home in Italy to travel as a young man and ended up at the monastery in Bec, France, which was known for the teachings of its leader, Lanfranc. Anselm rose quickly to become abbot of the community and his writings are now compared in importance to those of St. Augustine.

In 1093 Anselm was appointed Archbishop of Canterbury by William II Rufus, the son and successor of William the Conqueror. However, at the time there was a controversy in Europe over whether kings or the pope had the power to invest bishops. Anselm, who believed only the pope should have the right to invest an ecclesiastical authority, spent much of his time as Archbishop exiled in Rome.

St. Anselm's teaching and works of theology are his most important contribution to the Catholic faith. He is considered of the fathers of scholastic theology and his chief achievement in philosophy was the ontological argument for the existence of God. His work *Cur Deus homo?* taught that atonement for sins could only be achieved through Christ. He was canonized in 1494 and named a Doctor of the Church in 1720.

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**(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC- RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS**

The Doors We Lock
By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

As a child, and even for a while as a teenager, I experienced an enormous amount of anxiety whenever I went to confession. For so many years I feared it. For so many years I waited in the confession line trembling, feeling sick to my stomach.

In the upper room after Christ's Passion and death, the anxiety of the disciples was so strong that they locked themselves away. But still Christ found a way into their midst. He would not be prevented from bringing mercy and hope to a place shrouded in despair. No door barred in a moment of fear could keep him out.

This is the genius of the sacrament of Reconciliation — and of all sacraments, really. Here we are, restricted in so many ways by an existence that is woefully physical. We feel fear, and our body reacts, just as we feel anger and our body reacts.

How can God deliver mercy to us in this flesh-bound state? Through that very flesh which can feel so confining. Through confession, which requires a physical action, and the physical participation not just of the penitent but of the priest.

I don't know how or why my anxiety around the sacrament has lessened over the years. Sometimes, I still feel it come roaring back unexpectedly, and maybe one day it will come back to stay. It doesn't surprise me: after all, I am in the flesh, and I will, as Peter says today, "suffer through various trials." But in all of them Christ will find me. He will not be kept away.

Let the house of Aaron say, "His mercy endures forever." — Psalm 118:3

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