

Sacred Heart

Catholic Church

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

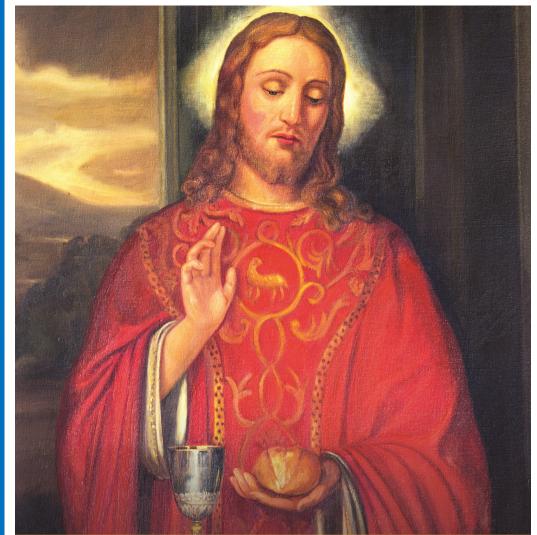
Pre-K through 8th grade 4050 Hubbard Avenue North Robbinsdale, MN 55422

School Web Site

sacredheartschoolrobbinsdale.org

School Phone: 763-537-1329

June 11, 2023



THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

GÍO

"Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him." - Jn 6:56

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 763-2856246

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 mdaugherty@shrmn.org 763-285-6241 Bookkeeper, Diane Yazvec.....ext. 6242 dyazvec@shrmn.org 763-285-6242 Facility Manager and Maintenance Mark Sazama.....ext. 6245 763-285-6245 msazama@shrmn.org Admin. Asst. Facility Scheduling, Office Maggie Powell.....ext. 6248 maggiep@shrmn.org 763-285-6248 Sacramental Records Safe Environment Coordinator Bunny Brouillard.....ext. 6247

School

Main Office: 763-537-1329

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

Advancement, Admin. Asst.

Zach Fimonext. 6256
zfimon@sacredheartschoolrobbinsdale.org

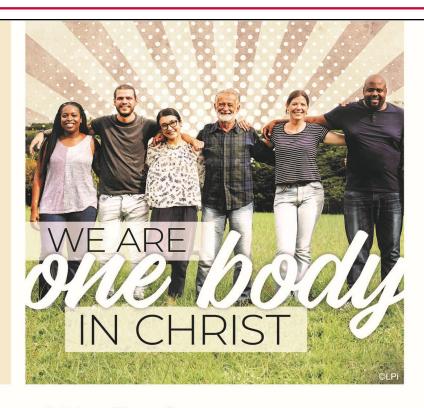
Admin. Asst. Records,
Sarah Bowback....ext. 6257
sbowback@sacredheartschoolrobbinsdale.org

bbrouillard@shrmn.org 763-285-6247

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



Gospel Meditation Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Years ago, a woman at daily Mass approached me in the communion procession. She had her arms crossed, indicating she wanted a blessing instead of the Sacred Host. She had tears in her eyes. I gave her a little blessing. She returned the next day. And the next. The same thing repeated. After a few weeks, I asked her why she didn't receive Holy Communion. She said she wasn't Catholic yet and was preparing to become so. I asked her why she wanted to be Catholic. She said, "Because I long to be in a real communion with Christ and with everyone I love." That, I submit, is a darn good reason. A few months later, she became Catholic and received the Body and Blood of Christ with unspeakably great joy and still does to this day.

Saint Paul says of the Eucharistic bread, "Is it not a participation in the body of Christ?" For Paul, the answer is obvious. Yes, it is exactly that. Which is why he can say, "we, though many, are one body." Jesus is truly, really, and substantially present in the Holy Eucharist. This is no magic trick, but a mystery of our salvation. He feeds us with the Sacrament of his body so that our communion with him — and with the other members of his body — is built up and becomes mature. That's why the Eucharist quenches our deep thirst for love and communion. The Body and Blood of Christ is the best reason to be Catholic. It's our participation of love in the one we love.

— Father John Muir

Appointed Sunday Readings

Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ-6/11/2023

First Reading: "He therefore let you be afflicted with hunger, and then fed you with manna, a food unknown to you and your fathers." (Dt 8:3)

Psalm: Praise the Lord, Jerusalem. (*Ps 147*) **Second Reading:** Because the loaf of bread is one, we, though many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf. (*1 Cor 10:17*)

Gospel: "For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him." (*Jn 6:55-56*)

Latin Mass Sunday Readings

2nd Sunday after Pentecost

Epistle: Dearly beloved...(Jn 3:13-18)
Gradual: In my trouble I cried...(Ps 119:1-2)
Gospel: At that time ...(Lk 14:16-24)

Appointed Daily Readings

Monday, June 12- Saturday, June 17 Monday: 2 Cor 1:1-7/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7,

8-9/Mt 5:1-12

Tuesday: 2 Cor 1:18-22/Ps 119:129, 130,

131, 132, 133, 135/Mt 5:13-16

Wednesday: 2 Cor 3:4-11/Ps 99:5, 6, 7,

8, 9/Mt 5:17-19

Thursday: 2 Cor 3:15—4:1, 3-6/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Mt 5:20-26 Friday: Dt 7:6-11/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 10 (see 17)/1 Jn 4:7-16/Mt 11:25-30 Saturday: 2 Cor 5:14-21/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12//Lk 2:41-51

Prayers of the Faithful

Please remember In your prayers: Those Who Are III:

With Chronic Health Concerns:

Tom Ambrose, Brady Swenson, Mary Jo Faustgen, Andrea DeOtis, Medard Keisershot, Cody Binstock, Carol Borman, Delia Roca, John LaSota, Kelly VanSchalk, Helen Wilger, Tori Prince, Joyce Hanauska

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: Louise McLaughlin

Administration

Stewardship-Your Commitment is Vital! Collections for May 27-28, 2023 (week 48) Dollars # Donors Sunday Envelope Collections \$ 7,044.00 63 Electronic Donations \$ 804.79 15 Plate (non envelope) Collections \$ 976.00 Total Collections for week 47 \$ 8,824.79 78

Year-to-date Sunday Collections			
	This Year	<u>Last Year</u>	(Behind)
Actual versus last year May 28, 2023 (week 48)	\$ 564,741	\$ 560,766	(\$3,975)
	This Year	<u>Budget</u>	(Behind)
Actual versus Budget May 28, 2023 (week 48)	\$ 564,741	\$ 572,220	(\$7,479)

Volunteer Outdoor Summer Garden Maintenance

Do you have a green thumb? Do you like to be outside in the summer? Do you like to weed? Do you have any extra time this summer? If you answered YES to any or all of these questions, Sacred Heart has a great volunteer opportunity for you! We have several landscaping areas on our property that are in need of spring cleanup and on-going summer weeding maintenance. If this sounds like something you might want to help out with, please contact Mary Daugherty at 763-285-6241 or mdaugherty@shrmn.org.



Volunteer Summer Maintenance Project Assistance

Do you have a knack for maintenance-related project work? Do you like to work on "do It yourself" projects? We have a wonderful part-time maintenance staff here at Sacred Heart with a long list of summer projects in both the school and parish. If anyone has a



few extra hours during the weeks this summer and would like to volunteer their expertise and assistance to our maintenance staff, please contact Mary Daugherty at 763-285-6241 or mdaugherty@shrmn.org.

New Sacred Heart Playground

Thank you to all in the Sacred Heart Community who helped to make the new school play-ground on the Hubbard Parking Lot a reality. It would not have been possible without your contributions of time, talent and treasure. It is fully installed and looks fantastic! Father blessed the new playground on June 5th and the students had a chance to play on it before school ended for the summer. A special thank you to Mark Sazama and Pete Krych on our



maintenance staff, Karen Bursey our school principal for coordinating this project, as well as all the volunteers who helped install the new structure. Check out our website for photos and a video.



Sacred Heart Catholic School

NEW PLAYGROUND IS INSTALLED LAST WEEKEND

On Monday at 8:45 a.m., Fr. Pedersen blessed our new playground before the students began to play on our new structure. A BIG THANK YOU for your support of our new playground. Without you our school and parish volunteers, our playground would not have happened.

Our community came together to build our new playground with the help of St. Croix Recreation staff. It was very warm outside both days but we persevered! We had an awesome group of school parents, parishioners, and Knights of Columbus members that volun-

teered. THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

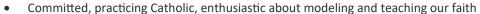
Save the Date---Whiz Bang Day Parade July 9th @ 3 pm

We have started to plan our float for the parade. Please consider walking with us in the parade to show our school spirit. More details to come.

Hiring a 5th grade teacher

We are hiring a full time 5th grade teacher for the 2023-2024 school. Please contact Karen Bursey for

more information: kbursey@shcsr.org



- Elementary teaching experience
- Strong communication and written skills
- Ability to communicate well with parents/guardians of students
- Ability to develop and maintain positive relationships with colleagues

Hiring a PreK Teacher for our 4 year old program

Do you know a person looking to work at a great place? Our preschool position is full time with benefits. We have a great community with awesome students. If you know someone that might be interested, please pass on the information.

Contact: Karen Bursey

kbursey@sacredheartschoolrobbinsdale.org

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

Follow us on Twitter - https://twitter.com/SHCSRobbinsdal1

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.



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

Juile			
Sun.	11	8:00 AM	Anna Sullivan
		10:00 AM	Parishioners
Latin		11:40 AM	Celebrant's Intention
Mon.	12	8:00 AM	Communion Service
Tues.	13	6:30 PM	Helen Pavnica+
Wed.	14	8:00 AM	Len & Patty Anderson+
Thu.	15	8:00 AM	Bob Lanier+
Fri.	16	8:00 AM	Donald Churilla+
Sat.	17	8:00 AM	Ryan Weltman+
		4:00 PM	Rose Abram+

Sun. 18 8:00 AM John Hammrich+ &

Laverne Kaufman+
10:00 AM Parishioners
Latin 11:40 AM Patricia Mitchell+

Chapel Open for Prayer:

Monday: 8:30am-2:30pmTues.-Wed.:8:30am-4:30pmFriday: 8:30am-4:30pm

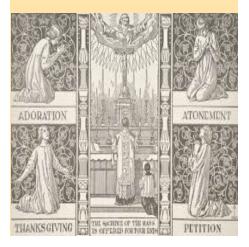
Confessions

Tuesday 5:30pm
Daily Wednesday-Saturday 7:40-7:55am
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

A Bible Study on the Joyful Mysteries

After Mass on Saturday, June 24 and after the 8 and 10am Masses on Sunday June 25, in the Marian Rooms

Session 2: The Visitation: Have you ever wanted to grow in your understanding and devotion to the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary? Join Dr. Ben Akers and professors from the Augustine Institute Graduate School as they walk through



these Biblical mysteries and seek to grow in understanding and love for Christ through

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 prebaptism 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 June 13 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, 1-2 Watercolor sets, 1 Soap dish, 3 Easel card stands, 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 <u>mleisgang@shrmn.org</u> or 763-285-6246.

Prayer and Silence

The most essential element for prayer is silence. Just as a fish cannot live outside of water, because water is its natural habitat, there can be no prayer without silence, because silence is the life-giving element of prayer. In the Catechesis of the

the life-giving element of prayer. In the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd atrium, the children are given the space and time to develop their prayer





Sacred Heart will be hosting Totus Tuus again this summer from July 16-21! There will be a day session for students entering 1st-6th grades and an evening session for students entering 7th-12th grades. The theme this year is the Mystery of Salvation. Scan this QR code to join the Totus Tuus Flocknote group and receive more information. Register by June 19th, and your child will receive a Totus Tuus t-shirt with their registration!



Respect Life Ministry



Well, your little baby now weighs six ounces. He has fingernails and eyelashes. He has his own unique fingerprints, which will remain the same until he dies. His taste buds are working. His sense of hearing is developing and present at 14 weeks. There are no major developments anymore. Your spiritually adopted baby is already well -formed, internally and externally. At this stage rapid eye movements have been observed – a sign of dreaming. What a miracle he is!

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

News From Other Sources

Dobbs Day Prayer Rally at the Minnesota Capitol

Saturday, June 24, 2023, 10:00 AM

Carpool from Sacred Heart W. Broadway parking lot at 9am. RSVP Carol at rusinko@usfamily.net or 612-242-5807 (leave VM)

Join with us to pray before God for our state, to recommit to the work of saving the innocent babies, and to thank Him for the overturning of Roe v. Wade (more than 60,000 lives have been saved from abortion nationwide in the first 11months after Dobbs).

"Be watchful, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love." 1 Corinthians 16:13-14





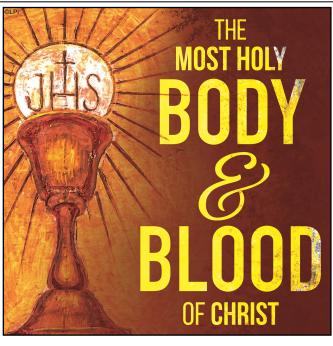
NEAR Food Shelf

March 2023 MN FoodShare Campaign was a big success for NEAR and we greatly appreciate ALL the church partners, civic organiza-

businesses, and individuals that supported this effort!

NEAR collected; \$66,508 in funds and 66,883 lbs of food





Calendar of Events

Sunday, June 11- Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ; Coffee & Donuts after masses sponsored by SHCCW

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

Monday, June 12-St. John of St. Facundo (1479), Trad.

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

Tuesday, June 13-St. Anthony of Padua (1231), Trad.

5:30 PM Confessions till 6:05 PM 6:10 PM Vespers

6:30 PM Mass: Fr. Pedersen

7:00 PM Pre-Baptism Class—Deacon Ramsey

Wednesday, June 14-St. Basil the Great (379), 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

Thursday, June 15-Sts. Vitus, Modestus and Crescentia (300), 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, June 16-Sacred Heart of Jesus

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, June 17- Immaculate Heart of Mary

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, June 18-11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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/

News from Other Sources

CATHOLIC

The Priesthood and the Eucharist

"These two Sacraments were born together," wrote St. John Paul II of the priesthood and the Eucharist, "and their destiny is indissolubly linked until the end of the world."

The Eucharist is such a beautiful example of how God, conscious of our limitations, bends to meet us. He once came to us cloaked in the flesh, that we might recognize Him. Now He comes as the very means by which we nourish ourselves: food and drink, the most familiar and comforting thing in the world to us. How easy He makes it to fulfill his command that we become one with Him. How generous He is to make such a sacred thing also accessible.

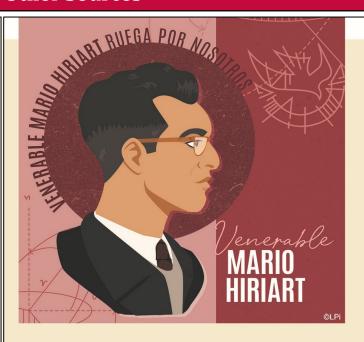
We can say the same of the priesthood, and of the men He calls to its number. How generous of Him to make such an accessible thing — our sons, our brothers, our uncles, our cousins — sacred. How generous of Him to allow these human creations — who share in our own faults — to be the means through which He comes to us in the Eucharist.

Without the Eucharist, we would have no eternal life. Without priests, we would have no Eucharist. On this, the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, let's give thanks for our priests, and redouble our prayers that God will send us good and holy ones — manna from Heaven in our wandering exile.

"Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day." — John 6:54

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman





Saint of the week

Venerable Mario Hiriart helped develop the Schoenstatt Apostolic Movement in South America. As a civil engineer and devout Catholic, he wanted to help shape the world, stating in a letter that, "I want to be a personified encounter between heaven and earth!"

Prayer

Jesus, our Good Shepherd, we praise you because you desired to remain close to us in the sacrament of the Eucharist. We praise you for giving Mario Hiriart the vocation to be a living chalice, your bearer to all people according to Mary's example.

He followed you as your disciple in the midst of the world, heroically faithful to his Covenant of Love with the Mother Thrice Admirable of Schoenstatt. Confident that you hear his prayers we entrust ourselves to his intercession.

(mention the intention being praying for)
Lord, with gratitude we ask you
to grant that Mario be recognized by the Church.
May he be beatified to the benefit of all God's
People,

for your name's glory, and that of the Father and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

(Prayer Source: https://sites.google.com/site/hiriartfoundation/beatificationprayer)



Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

June 2023

Sacred Heart Church
Robbinsdale MN.

One Minute Meditations

Pray for priests daily

The average parish priest is celebrant, teacher, counselor, minister, and financial manager. He works more than 60 hours per week, does everything from administering Sacraments to bringing comfort to troubled souls to taking out the trash, and he is paid just enough to get by. Yet, nearly nine out of

Love at home

calling.

"God has created us so we do small things with great love. I believe in that great love that comes, or should come from our heart, should start at home: with my family, my neighbors across the street, those right next door. And this love should then reach everyone." Saint Teresa of Calcutta

ten priests report being happy

in their ministry. Our support

can help them stay strong in

their faith and true to their

"The father of the righteous will greatly rejoice; he who begets a wise son will be glad in him" (Proverbs 23:24).



God so loves the world

In 1673, Jesus appeared to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, a French nun, and revealed the intensity of His love in the image of the Sacred Heart, "Behold the Heart which has so loved [mankind] that it has spared nothing...in order to testify Its love."

God's love is intense: The famous image illustrates the reality of a love that is intense, extravagant, passionate, and eternally faithful. Display the Sacred Heart image in your home or workplace to remind you that His extravagant love is for you.

His Heart is our safe place: Jesus advised St. Faustina: "Do not bargain with temptation but lock yourself

immediately in my Heart." Seek
His protection often throughout
the day, "O Sacred Heart of
Jesus, I place all my trust

in You."

God shares our
nature: The Sacred
Heart illustrates the
mystery of the
Incarnation – when
the Son of God
became (sinless)

man. He "worked with human hands; he thought with a human mind ... with a human heart he loved" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, #470). He shared and understands our human

condition.

Our hearts can conform to His: When we put others needs before our own, find the good in others, and show patience, we love like Christ. We do this with His help, "O Sacred Heart of Jesus, make my heart like Yours!"

Why Do Catholics Do That

Why do Catholics believe the Eucharist is more than a symbol?

Catholics have it on divine authority that Jesus is really, truly, and substantially present in the Eucharist, "Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life" (John 6:54). When the priest, acting in the person of Christ, consecrates the

bread and wine, we believe that Jesus becomes truly present. Scientific investigations of the hundreds of Eucharistic miracles support this amazing mystery. In the Eucharist, Christ fulfills His promise to remain with us "to the end of time" (Matthew 28:20).

The best father on Earth

Scripture doesn't tell us that St. Joseph was born with special graces, yet he was chosen to raise God's Son. The Bible doesn't say that he had a gift of prophecy, yet Joseph never doubted God's word. He was an ordinary man who lived an extraordinary life.

Ever faithful. It would have been hard for any man to believe his fiancée was pregnant by the Holy Spirit. As a faithful Jew, though, Joseph knew what was written about the birth of the Savior. His devotion to God's

Word helped him recognize God's will.

Steady protector. At a moment's notice, Joseph left everything behind to whisk his family to safety (Matthew 2:13-15). Joseph's hard work and skill helped keep his family safe in a foreign land.

Good man. Scripture calls St. Joseph, a "righteous man," meaning he lived a virtuous life (Matthew 1:19). For example, he was compassionate by his treatment of Mary. Who better to raise the Son of God and care for his Mother than the best father on Earth?



Matthew 10:26-33, "Be not afraid"

In this Gospel passage, Jesus teaches us that the only thing we should fear is God, who has the final say in judgment

over us. This is the virtue of reverence (holy fear) - not fearing God as if He were a tyrant, but fearing to offend Him because He is good, holy, wise, and infinitely worthy of our honor and love.

If we faithfully follow Jesus Christ, we will encounter persecution.

Even in the United States, we face efforts to undermine Catholic beliefs and values. These attacks don't hurt us physically, but can eat away at our faith, our self-respect and respect for others, and ultimately, our happiness.

> Iesus' advice to His followers 2,000 years ago applies to us today. Instead of being afraid, we can trust God, who watches over all the details of our lives and who wants us in Heaven even more than we want to be there. He won't make all our

problems disappear but He will give us the strength and grace we need to get through them, especially through daily prayer and the Sacraments.



June 1 - St. Justin Martyr (c. 165). Justin was a Christian convert who searched for Truth. After his conversion, he held debates with pagans. When ordered by a pagan judge to renounce his faith or die, St. Justin responded, "Nobody in his senses would give up truth for falsehood." He was martyred for

June 4 - Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity. Today, we honor the central mystery of our Faith - that there is one God in three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Jesus revealed this mystery

after the Resurrection (Matthew

June 9 - St. Ephrem the Deacon (373). Born at Nisibis in Mesopotamia, he became a deacon and taught catechism classes, opposed heresy, and wrote hymns, prayers, and commentaries on Scripture.

June 29 - SS. Peter and Paul (1st Century). Peter was the apostle chosen by Jesus to lead the Church - an ordinary fisherman, made extraordinary by God's grace. A persecutor of the Church, Paul became the Great Apostle, also transformed by grace.

Q What can I do to & promote respect A for life?

All Catholics are called to protect the dignity of life from conception to natural death. While casting votes for candidates who pledge to protect life is important, there are many options outside the voting booth.

Assist pregnancy support centers. Many centers offer counseling, material



assistance, and even provide daycare. Find one in your area and volunteer your time, talents, or

treasure in support.

Speak up. When you hear or read about a story in the news in which the value of life is demeaned, write a letter to the editor and to government leaders supporting life-affirming and non-violent

Consider becoming a foster parent. Many local social service agencies are overwhelmed by the number of children whose families cannot care for them. Contact your local social services department to inquire about the necessary training and certifications you'll need to take in a child who needs a temporary shelter.

Visit local nursing homes and offer residents the gift of companionship. Many older people feel lost and forgotten and would welcome the attention.

Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living. Success Publishing & Media, LLC Publishers of Growing in Faith™ and Partners in Faith™ (540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax http://www.growinginfaith.com (Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible)

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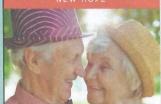


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