



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

11:40 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.-Fri. 8:30 AM — 4:30 PM

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

sacredheartsschoolrobbinsdale.org

School Phone: 763-537-1329

August 6, 2023



THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

Jesus took Peter, James, and his brother, John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. - Mt 17:1-2

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

msazama@shrmn.org 763-285-6245

Admin. Asst. Facility Scheduling, Office

Maggie Powell.....ext. 6248

maggiemp@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



Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

What is Christianity finally about? These days if you ask almost anyone who doesn't know the Bible you'll probably hear an answer like this: "Being a good person" or "following the golden rule." No offense to the golden rule, but our faith is simply much stranger than that. This week's feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord is a luminous example of this. Jesus becomes radiantly and overwhelmingly beautiful. The glory of God literally shines forth from his body and even his clothes. Here we see that Christianity is not mainly a moral system, but a relationship with God in Christ, one that finally makes human beings gloriously beautiful.

Now we can see our good and bad deeds in a new and de-centered way. Our morality isn't about a heaven or hell scorecard. It's about lives open (or closed) to transfiguration, lives capable of revealing the glory of God in Christ to the world. Spouses, children, friends, co-workers, priests, consecrated women and men, and so on — we are all called to let the beauty of Jesus make our lives beautiful, little by little. His beauty in us is the center of our faith.

— Father John Muir

Appointed Sunday Readings

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time-8/6/2023

First Reading: His clothing was bright as snow, and the hair on his head as white as wool; his throne was flames of fire, with wheels of burning fire. (Dn 7:9)

Psalm: The Lord is king, the Most High over all the earth. (Ps 97)

Second Reading: When that unique declaration came to him from the majestic glory, "This is my Son, my beloved, with whom I am well pleased." We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven while we were with him on the holy mountain. (2 Pt 1:17-18)

Gospel: And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. (Mt 17:2)

Latin Mass Sunday Readings

9th Sunday after Pentecost

Epistle: "Dearly beloved: We have not followed artificial fables..." (Peter 1: 16-19)

Gradual: "Thou art beautiful above the sons of men..." (Ps 44: 3,2)

Gospel: "At that time Jesus took Peter and James..." (Mt 17: 1-9)

Appointed Daily Readings

Monday, August 7- Saturday, August 12

Monday: Nm 11:4b-15/Ps 81:12-13, 14-15, 16-17/Mt 14:13-21

Tuesday: Nm 12:1-13/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 6cd-7, 12-13/Mt 14:22-36 or 15:1-2, 10-14

Wednesday: Nm 13:1-2, 25—14:1, 26-29a, 34-35/Ps 106:6-7ab, 13-14, 21-22, 23/Mt 15:21-28

Thursday: 2 Cor 9:6-10/Ps 112:1-2, 5-6, 7-8, 9/Jn 12:24-26

Friday: Dt 4:32-40/Ps 77:12-13, 14-15, 16 and 21/Mt 16:24-28

Saturday: Dt 6:4-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 47 and 51/Mt 17:14-20

Prayers of the Faithful

Please remember in your prayers:

Those Who Are Ill: Larry Miskowicz, Bob Gacek

With Chronic Health Concerns:

Tom Ambrose, Brady Swenson, Mary Jo Faustgen, Andrea DeOtis, Medard Keisershot, Cody Binstock, Carol Borman, Kelly Van-Schalk, 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

Administration

Stewardship-Your Commitment is Vital !

Collections for July 22 & 23, 2023 (week 4)	Dollars	# Donors
Sunday Envelope Collections	\$ 13,024.00	68
Electronic Donations	\$ 756.91	12
Plate (non envelope) Collections	\$ 1,079.10	
Total Collections for week 4	\$ 14,860.01	80

Year-to-date Sunday Collections

	This Year	Last Year	(Behind)
Actual versus last year July 23, 2023 (week 4)	\$ 54,015	\$ 36,793	\$17,222

	This Year	Budget	(Behind)
Actual versus Budget July 23, 2023 (week 4)	\$ 54,015	\$ 37,883	\$16,132

August 7th Communion Service

There will be NO communion service on Monday, August 7th.

Save the Date-Fun Fest 2023: Sept. 23, 2023

Raffle Tickets will be mailed by mid-August. Watch for more details in the next couple of weeks regarding volunteer sign-up and donations needed for games, bingo, etc.

Part Time Bookkeeping Help Needed

Anyone with some accounting and/or administrative background who is interested in helping on a part-time basis with bookkeeping tasks in the Parish Office, please contact Mary Daugherty (Business Administrator) at mداugherty@shrmn.org or 763-285-6241.

Quarterly Contribution Statements

The 2nd quarter Contribution Statements have been mailed. Please contact the Parish Office at 763-537-4561 if you notice any errors or you have any questions.

Volunteer 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 adorers during the 9-10am and 10-11am time slots.
 If you can help for this time slot on Thursday please call Bunny at 763-537-4561

Sacred Heart Catholic School

Set up a Tour and Explore our PreK-8th grade program at Sacred Heart

We are scheduling personalized tours this summer. We have openings in our kindergarten program along with grades 1-8. Come in and explore our Believe and Read program that focuses on the Orton-Gillingham instructional methods. Learn how our integrated faith lessons combined with our C-STEM program enrich our academic program 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.

Back to School Day-Wednesday, August 30th 3:30-5:30 pm Open House, 4:00-6:00 pm Picnic/games

We are looking forward to seeing everyone on August 30th. Students and families will meet the teachers and staff, drop off your school supplies and turn in paper work. Outside we will have hot dogs and chips provided by the Knights of Columbus and games sponsored by our PTC group.

Used Uniform Sale August 23-24 8:30-4:15 pm

Purchase gently used uniforms at our sale. We will have logo shirts, long sleeve pullovers, jumpers, skorts, gym uniforms, and spirit wear. We accept cash and checks only.

Hiring a 3rd, and 5th grade teacher

We are hiring a full time 3rd and 5th grade teacher for the 2023-2024 school. Please contact Karen Bursey for more information at kbursey@shcsr.org

- Committed, practicing Catholic, enthusiastic about modeling and teaching our faith
- MN teaching experience
- Strong communication skills
- Ability to communicate well with parents/guardians of students
- Ability to develop and maintain positive relationships with colleagues
- Committed to teaching our young children

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

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



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****

August

Sun. 6	8:00 AM	Venilla Severson+
	10:00 AM	Parishioners
Latin	11:40 AM	Frank Weber+
Mon. 7	8:00 AM	No Communion Service
Tues. 8	8:00 AM	The Family of Nolan Powell
Wed. 9	8:00 AM	Jim Goering+
Thu. 10	8:00 AM	Alphie Cain+
Fri. 11	8:00 AM	The Schroder Family
Sat. 12	8:00 AM	Gail Chapman+
	4:00 PM	Joseph Perlick+
Sun. 13	8:00 AM	Delia Roca+
	10:00 AM	Parishioners
Latin	11:40 AM	Celebrant's Intention

Chapel Open for Prayer:

- Monday: 8:30am-12:00pm
- Tues. & Wed.: 8:30am-4:30pm
- Thursday: 8:30am-8:30pm
- Friday: 8:30am-12:30pm

Confessions

Tuesday 5:30-6:10pm
 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



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 August 8 at 7pm** in the Activities Building. If you plan to attend this session, please call the Parish Office at 763-537-4561.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

We are busy preparing the atrium for Catechesis of the Good Shepherd to begin this fall!

-Donate floor lamps or a medium wall mirror. These can be from a garage sale or thrift store. They do not need to be brand new!

-Purchase this Lectionary and Missal Wooden Books set from the CGSUSA shop: [Lectionary and Missal Wooden Books Set](#)

-Pray for openness to the Holy Spirit from the parents and children who will participate in CGS this fall.

If you have any questions, please contact Morgan Leisgang at 763-285-6246 or mleisgang@shrmn.org.



News From Other Sources

Come to a place where you can hear the voice of the Lord in the quiet and peaceful setting of Lake DeMontreville. Join us for a three-day men's silent retreat at the DeMontreville Jesuit Retreat House in Lake Elmo, Minnesota. The retreat begins Thursday evening September 14, 2023 and ends Sunday evening September 17, 2023. Free-will donations are accepted. Other retreat dates are also available. For more information call our office at 651-777-1311 or see our website:

www.demontrevilleretreat.com



Confirmation Classes for Persons with Disabilities

Saturday, August 5 and Saturday, August 19, 9:30-11:30 a.m., St. Richard Catholic Church, Richfield

Do you know anyone with intellectual/developmental disabilities age 14 or older who has not received the Sacrament of Confirmation? Both classes are mandatory for guardians and candidates. Pre-registration is preferred but walk-ins will be accepted. Thank you in advance for your help in reaching out to all God's people. For more information, please contact Deacon Eric Gunderson or Sonya Flomo at (651) 291-4488 or email us at flomos@archspm.org.

Respect Life Ministry

Come and pray for the most vulnerable in our society!!!

Robbinsdale abortion center 3819 W. Broadway, Robbinsdale: Saturday 10:00 a.m. (Rosary) led by Rev. Thomas Dufner

Brooklyn Park Planned Parenthood 7532 Brooklyn Blvd
Monday 9:30-10:30am, Revive Brooklyn Park Church, call 763-478-7783
Friday 11:30am-1pm (Rosary) Life Matters, St. Stephen's, Anoka (Abortions are done Fridays.)

St. Paul Planned Parenthood 671 Vandalia St., St. Paul
Monday through Saturday 7:20am (Rosary) Bob 612-247-1166
Thursday 5:00 p.m. (Rosary) Bob (612) 247-1166
Third Thursday 10-11am (Rosary) All Saints Church, Lakeville, Mary Bocek 651-528-4617
Friday 9:30-10am (Rosary) led by a priest of the Archdiocese
Friday 3-3:30 pm (Rosary) Legion of Mary
First Saturday 10:00 a.m. (Rosary, Chaplet, Silence) A Community Caring for Life, Michael Gross, gross-me@outlook.com;
Third Saturday 10:00 a.m. (Rosary) Cathedral of St. Paul Knights of Columbus #14752, Al Rohweder (612) 417-6613

Richfield Planned Parenthood 6527 Lyndale Ave., S.; Wednesday 1:00 p.m. (Rosary) Helen (612) 822-8360

Calendar of Events

Sunday, August 6– 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 AM Rosary Prayed
8:00 AM Mass: Fr. Nels Gjengdahl
9:00 AM Bible Timeline Session 5
10:00 AM Mass: Fr. Nels Gjengdahl
11:00 AM Bible Timeline Session 5
11:40 AM Latin Mass: Fr. John Gallas

Monday, August 7– St. Donatus, 362 (Trad.) NO COMMUNION SERVICE

Tuesday, August 8– St. John Vianney, 1859 (Trad.)

5:30 PM Confessions
6:15 PM Vespers
6:30 PM Mass: Guest Celebrant

Wednesday, August 9– St. Romanus, 258 (Trad.)

7:35 AM Rosary Prayed
7:40 AM Confessions till 7:55 AM
8:00 AM Mass: Guest Celebrant
Morning Prayer to follow Mass

Thursday, August 10– Feast of St. Lawrence, 258 (Trad.)

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

Friday, August 11– Sts. Tiburtius & Susanna, 295 (Trad.)

7:35 AM Rosary Prayed
7:40 AM Confessions till 7:55 AM
8:00 AM Mass: Guest Celebrant
Morning Prayer to follow Mass

Saturday, August 12– St. Clare of Assisi, 1253 (Trad.)

7:35 AM Rosary Prayed
7:40 AM Confessions till 7:55 AM
8:00 AM Mass: Fr. George Marete
Morning Prayer to follow Mass
3:00 PM Confessions till 3:45 PM
4:00 PM Mass: Fr. George Marete
5:15 PM Vespers

Sunday, August 13-19th Sunday in Ordinary Time- Coffee & Donuts after 8am and 10am masses

7:30 AM Rosary Prayed
8:00 AM Mass: Fr. George Marete
10:00 AM Mass: Fr. George Marete
11:40 AM Latin Mass: Fr. John Gallas



Like and Follow the Church of the Sacred Heart on Facebook

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

N.E.A.R

NEAR food shelf distribution statistics for recent months:



May - Households served: **460** Food distributed: **54,082 pounds**
June - Households served: **487** Food distributed: **59,522 pounds**

NEAR always needs Volunteers: We are looking for folks that would be available to volunteer weekdays in different areas of the food shelf. Morning, Afternoon, Driver and Phone volunteer opportunities are available. We especially need drivers to help with food rescue pickups and deliveries to senior housing. Please contact Thea Bruley, NEAR Food Shelf Manager at 763-533-2836 for more information.

News From Other Sources

Robbinsdale Public Safety Open House

Saturday, August 12th

11:00am - 3:00pm

4101 Hubbard Ave N

Enjoy Antique fire truck rides, Kitchen fire simulator, Stop/drop/roll Live auto extractions, Hennepin County's Underwater Dive Team, Water squirt house, Live room and contents burn, Police and S.W.A.T. displays And much, much more!





HOSTED BY THE
ST. MATILDA GROUP

END OF SUMMER ICE CREAM SOCIAL



SACRED HEART CHURCH
HUBBARD PARKING LOT

AUGUST 27TH



AFTER 10:00AM MASS



FREE FOR ALL

RSVP MAGGIE AT
763.232.5875

OR

MAGGIEP@SHRMN.ORG
BY AUGUST 25TH



Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

August 2023

Sacred Heart Church
Robbinsdale MN.

One Minute Meditations

A vessel of God's grace

We are each asked to share God's love with others. How much we allow ourselves to be filled with God's grace will determine what we can share with others. We fill up with grace when we frequent the Sacraments, pray, and study our faith. After all, if we don't practice our own faith how can we help someone to become excited about theirs?

Our powerful Lord

In the Gospels, Jesus healed people 20 times. Seven times Jesus expelled demons. Three times He raised people from the dead, and eight other miracles showed His power over nature. With God all things are possible. All we have to do is ask in harmony with His will.

"My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior for He has looked with favor on his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed" (Luke 1:46-48).



Build up the Kingdom of God

As followers of Jesus, we're each called to take our place in the Kingdom of God and help build it up. Consider these suggestions to do your part:

Find your gifts: What special gifts do you possess? In addition to talents and skills, these can include wisdom from life experience or a particularly deep faith. Discern your gifts and ask God where He wants you to use them.

Cultivate gratitude: Write down everything for which you are grateful in a "blessings list." Review it and add to it regularly, especially when tempted to jealousy or discouragement. Praise and thank God daily for whatever is on your list.

Practice humility: St. Thomas Aquinas

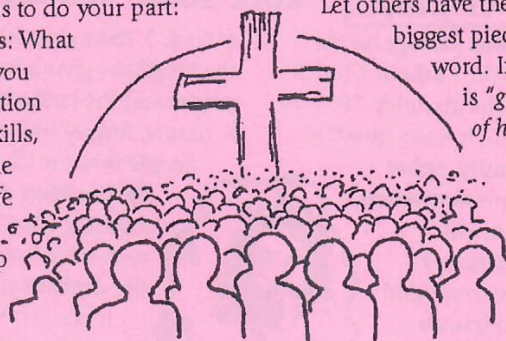
said, "Humility means seeing ourselves as God sees us: knowing every good we have comes from Him as pure gift."

Let others have the best place, the biggest piece of cake, the last word. Imitate Him who is "gentle and humble of heart" (Matthew 11:29).

Be ready to serve: Any act of service can build up your parish, neighborhood, or community. Small

or great, everyone can contribute something. Give of yourself.

Strive for the higher gifts: Jesus asked every one of us to love God and each other. Without love, St. Paul said, "I gain nothing" (1 Corinthians 13:3). If you have true charity, you're on the right track.



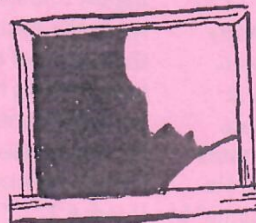
Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics confess their sins to a priest?

On Easter Sunday, Jesus appeared to the Apostles in the Upper Room and said, "Peace be with you" (John 20:19). He breathed on them, saying, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them and whose

sins you retain, they are retained" (John 20:22-23).

With that, Jesus established an efficacious way to dispense forgiveness of our sins. He knew we'd need to be assured of His forgiveness by personally hearing the words, "I absolve you of your sins."



"Go and make disciples"

We're all called to spread the Gospel as missionaries (Mark 16:15), but not everyone is required to travel. As a Carmelite nun, St. Thérèse of Lisieux lived out her "second calling" to be a missionary. Here are three ways to spread the Gospel within any vocation:

Go deeper in your faith. You can't share what you don't have. St. Thérèse developed her "Little Way" of holiness after years of prayer and study. Step deeper into your faith daily: read a section of the Catechism, pray over a verse of Scripture, listen to a

Catholic podcast while driving or walking, pray.

Adopt-a-missionary: St. Thérèse was a "spiritual sister" to several missionaries, writing them letters and supporting them in prayer, indirectly helping hundreds of souls. Adopt a missionary – or anyone who shares the Faith. Contact your parish or diocese for suggestions.

"Intercession fueled by charity": St. Thérèse lovingly offered to God the "thorns" she received from others – discomforts, misunderstandings, hurt feelings – to win souls for Christ. Offer your "thorns" as saving graces.



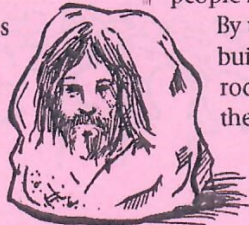
from Scripture

Matthew 16:13-20, The "Rock-solid" foundation

The events in this passage lay the foundations for the Catholic Church. In it, Jesus asks His disciples, "Who do you say that I am?" It was a question about Jesus' identity, rather than about the persuasiveness of His teaching or His popularity. The heart of Catholicism centers around the truth of who Jesus is.

Inspired by the Holy Spirit, Simon answers for the group, identifying Jesus as the Son of God, the Messiah (Matthew 16:17). Jesus proclaims this was divinely revealed to Simon and changes his name to Peter

("Rock"). Jesus gives him the keys to the kingdom, giving Peter (and his successors) the authority to interpret Scripture, forgive sins, and admit people into the Church.



By this, Jesus signaled He was building His Church on a rock-solid foundation – on the confession of Peter about Jesus' divinity. This truth has been handed down through the ages, from the Apostles to the bishops to us. The Holy Spirit would lead Peter – and his successors, the popes – to continue speaking and acting in truth as the visible head of the Church.

Feasts & Celebrations

August 6 – Transfiguration of the Lord. Christ appeared in glory in the company of Moses and Elijah, discussing the Passion (Luke 9:30-31), and a voice was heard to say, "This is my beloved son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him" (Matthew 17:5).

August 14 – St. Maximilian Mary Kolbe (1941). A Polish Franciscan, St. Maximilian was imprisoned at Auschwitz. When the jailers chose ten people to execute, he substituted himself for a man with a family. He was honored as a "martyr of charity" by

Pope John Paul II.

August 23 – St. Rose of Lima (1617). Born in colonial Peru, Rose worked constantly to help her poverty-stricken family. She became a lay Dominican, and cared for homeless children, the elderly, and the sick in her house.

August 29 – Passion of St. John the Baptist (1st century). St. John the Baptist courageously spoke the truth to the leaders of his time, making him powerful enemies. He was arrested by Herod and martyred (Mark 6:17-29).



Q & A How can I avoid gossiping?

Chatting with friends can become gossip – unfairly disclosing another's faults or sins without a valid reason, to people who don't know them (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #2477). Try these ideas when chatting becomes gossip:

Name it: A gentle reminder between friends is an act of kindness. Try, "I think we're edging into gossip," or "Oh, that's not kind!" It's better to risk speaking up than silently allowing sin.

Redirect the conversation: Highlight good qualities of the person about whom others are gossiping. Refocus on inspiring news, a good book you read – anything else that is "honorable ... just ... pure ... pleasing" (Philippians 4:8).

Leave: If nothing else works, excuse yourself and leave the conversation. You'll avoid becoming complicit to sin and wordlessly communicate that you find gossip unacceptable.

Pray: Sins of the tongue (gossip, slander, calumny, detraction) are serious and require grace to resist. Invoke the Holy Spirit for yourself, for those who engage in gossip, and especially for those harmed by it.

Our Mission

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