



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 — 2:00 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

sacredheartsschoolrobbinsdale.org

School Phone: 763-537-1329

January 7, 2024



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. - Mt 2:10-11

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

Confirmation Coordinator

Maggie Powell.....ext. 6248

maggielp@shrmn.org 763-285-6248

Faith Formation Associate

Morgan Leisgang.....ext. 6246

mleisgang@shrmn.org 763-2856246

Pastoral Care

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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, Audrey Gilbert.....ext. 6242

agilbert@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

maggielp@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

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

A stranger in a foreign land, I was exhausted and homesick as my summer Spanish immersion ended in Guatemala. The rusty minivan arriving outside my small residence filled me with joyful hope. I was flying home to the U.S. and would be, at long last, completely happy. Or so I thought. After about half an hour of being home, I thought to myself, “This place is boring. I want to go somewhere.” So, I hopped in my car and left to see my friends. As I drove, I wistfully wondered, “Where am I truly at home?”

The feast of Epiphany has a lot to do with our notion of home. Where is our origin? Where are we going? When is our wandering done? Saint Matthew tells us of the Magi, **“They were overjoyed at seeing the star.”** This star will bring them home, to a place where their questing will end, and they will be satisfied. Their real home is neither in the East nor in the earthly Jerusalem. Somehow, their home is wherever this boy and his parents are.

If you’re a teenager or older, you probably know by now that every physical home we have is temporary. So, we look up at the countless stars in our proverbial skies: things which bedazzle and beckon us to follow toward peace. The Gospel invites us to behold that — at long last — God has sent us a star to follow home, one that whispers, “Follow me! I will take you home!” Perhaps that star is your spouse. A friend. An opportunity. A cause. An intuition about a new direction. A prayer group. What is it for you? How will you know? It will lead you to Mary and Joseph and their son, and you will be home.

— Father John Muir

Appointed Sunday Readings

The Epiphany of the Lord— 1/7/24

First Reading: Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you. (*Is 60:1*)

Psalm: Lord, every nation on earth will adore you. (*Ps 72*)

Second Reading: It was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. (*Eph 3:5-6*)

Gospel: “Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.” (*Mt 2:2*)

Latin Mass Sunday Readings

The Feast of the Holy Family

Epistle: “Brethren, Put ye on therefore, as the elect of God...” (*Col 3:12-17*)

Gradual: “One thing I have asked of the Lord...” (*Ps 26:4*)

Gospel: “When Jesus was twelve years old, they going up into Jerusalem...” (*Lk 2:42-52*)

Appointed Daily Readings

Monday, Jan. 8– Saturday, Jan. 13

Monday: *Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 (3)/1 Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-11*

Tuesday: *1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Mk 1:21-28*

Wednesday: *1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Mk 1:29-39*

Thursday: *1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/Mk 1:40-45*

Friday: *1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/Mk 2:1-12*

Saturday: *1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk 2:13-17*

Prayers of the Faithful

Please remember in your prayers:

Those Who Are Ill:

With Chronic Health Concerns:

Tom Ambrose, Brady Swenson, Mary Jo Faustgen, Andrea DeOtis, Medard Keisershot, Cody Binstock, Carol Borman, Kelly VanSchalk, Tori Prince, Joyce Hanauska, Mike Murry, Jeanne Rose

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: Catherine Jones, Sister Andriette Schommer, JoAnn Johnson

Administration

Stewardship-Your Commitment is Vital !

Collections for December 23-24, 2023 (week 26)	Dollars	# Donors
Sunday Envelope Collections	\$9,453.00	90
Electronic Donations	\$756.70	17
Plate (non envelope) Collections	\$5,841.85	
Total Collections for week 26	\$16,051.55	107

Year-to-date Sunday Collections

	This Year	Last Year	(Behind)
Actual versus last year December 24, 2023 (week 26)	\$308,072	\$322,381	(\$14,309)
	This Year	Budget	(Behind)
Actual versus Budget December 24, 2023 (week 26)	\$308,072	\$307,891	\$181

Year-End Contribution Statements

Year-end 2023 contribution statements will be distributed by no later than Jan. 31, 2024.

January Corporal Work of Mercy

January’s corporal work of mercy is to ‘Clothe the naked’. Sacred Heart will once again be collecting packs of **NEW, WHITE**, athletic and/or tube socks. There is a collection barrel located in the Parish Commons. All socks will be brought to Sharing and Caring hands. We will be collecting socks through the end of January. Thank you!

A Gift From Sacred Heart

There are a few remaining **Beautiful Eucharist** books. If you did not get one yet, please pick one up at main reception desk or from one of the church entrances.



Sacred Heart Catholic School



SACRED HEART

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Schedule a Tour for PreK-8th grade

Come visit Sacred Heart Catholic School to see what is putting smiles on our students' faces! As you consider your educational options for the 2023-2024 school year, we invite you to set up a time for a tour during the school day to see our teachers and students in action.

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. See how our 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 Scholarship Application Open for 2024-2025 school year

The application window is now open for new families. If you received a scholarship this year, you must re-apply each year. Deadline: February 23rd <https://mytads.com>

1. Create an account or login to an existing one.
2. Begin filling in the application.
3. Near the end, add your child(ren)'s name when it asks if you'd like to be considered for the Aim Higher Foundation scholarship(s).

Sacred Heart 10th Annual Gala

Tickets for the 2024 Gala are now for sale! There are 8 more days to purchase your gala tickets at a discounted rate.

Discount Code: From now until January 15th, you can use code **earlybird** to get \$15 off your ticket at checkout. Regularly priced tickets are \$65 but with the early bird rate, tickets are \$50.00!

Link to our gala website: <https://one.bidpal.net/shcsgala2024>



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.

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****

January

Sun. 7	8:00 AM	Parishioners
	10:00 AM	Honey Delmonico+
Latin	11:40 AM	Allan Dudley Olson+
Mon. 8	8:00 AM	Communion Service
Tues. 9	8:00 AM	Wesley Eckman
Wed. 10	8:00 AM	Juan Xinastle
Thu. 11	8:00 AM	Tina Xinastle
Fri. 12	8:00 AM	Lance Eckman
Sat. 13	8:00 AM	Wesley Eckman
	4:00 PM	Michael & Barbara Molinet
Sun. 14	8:00 AM	Parishioners
	10:00 AM	John Arlandson+
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 16: Return**

Return: This next time period, the Return, chronicles Judah's return home after seventy years of Babylonian exile.

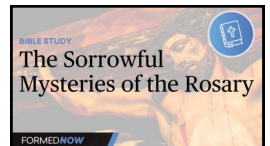
Session 16 on Tuesday January 9 1:00pm or 7:00pm Sessions.
Questions call Bunny: Direct Line: 763-285-6247 contact@shrmn.org

A Bible Study on the Sorrowful Mysteries

After Mass on Saturday January 13 and after the 8 and 10am Masses on Sunday January 14, in the Marian Rooms

Session 1: Agony in the Garden: Have you ever wanted to grow in your understanding and devotion to the Sorrowful 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 the.

This episode on the Agony in the Garden is the First episode of a five part series on the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary.



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 January 9 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

...and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and called the Son of the Most High

The angel Gabriel tells Mary that her Son will be named Jesus, which means "God saves." Gabriel goes on to tell her that the child will be called "Son of the Most High", which is a title for God and indicates that no one is higher, more exalted, or more powerful. In the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd atrium, the children love to proclaim all the wonderful names that tell us about the identity of this Child. Read Luke 1:30-33.



We need the following materials purchased for the children in the atrium. Please consider donating by writing a check to the Church of the Sacred Heart and noting the item in the memo line. Thank you for your generosity!

- Sing with Joy: Music of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd for Children Three to Six Years \$60.00
- Presentation in the Temple Diorama \$60.00
- Adoration of the Magi Diorama \$55.00
- Centennial Holy Family, Set of 3 - Fontanini® 5" Collection \$80

Respect Life Ministry

Prayer Service for Life

Date: Monday, January 22, 2024 Time: 10:30am

Location: Cathedral of Saint Paul, St. Paul, MN

Please join us for the Annual Prayer Service for Life. This prayer service commemorates the millions of lives lost to abortion and the many women and men wounded by abortion's aftermath. Saint John Paul II Champions for Life

Awardees will be recognized during the prayer service. This event is sponsored by the Office of Marriage, Family and Youth, 651-291-4488.

MCCL MARCH FOR LIFE

Monday, January 22, 2024

12:00 - 1:00 p.m., Minnesota Capitol, St. Paul

Participants will each have the opportunity to carry one of 12,000 baby models to place in a large display—each life-size model representing a life lost to abortion in Minnesota last year.

St. Raphael's Catholic Church is renting a bus to go to the Capitol. More info in January 14 bulletin.

SHCCW

Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women

Invites you to: LEGISLATIVE DAY

February 3, 2024, St. Pius V Catholic Church

410 W Colvill St, Cannon Falls, MN 55009

8:15 am Mass & Rosary

9am Welcome

11:30am Lunch

Cost for the morning \$15.00. After January 24, 2024, \$20.00

To register online: www.archspm.org/accwleg2024 Or Mail to: ACCW 777 Forest St. St. Paul, MN 55106

Speakers: Maggee Hangge, Minnesota Catholic Conference & Rep. Pam Altendorf, MN House of Rep.

Save the Dates:

MCCW Deanery Day, Monday, March 11, 2024, Holy Cross Catholic Church, Mpls.

ACCW Convention, Friday, April 19, 2024, Mary, Mother of the Church, Burnsville

NEAR Food Shelf

2023 SHC December food donations to NEAR totaled: **405lbs.**

NEAR extends special thanks to SHC parishioners VICTORIA and HELEN who assembled and transported **258lbs.** of this total donation.

Activities Building Gym Floor

Please support our gym floor fundraising effort. We have raised over \$50,000 so far! Thank you to the many people that have made a contribution to Sacred Heart or through Give to the Max for our gym floor. For over 50 years, students have experienced joy while playing and working together in our gymnasium. Learning lessons about fair play and wholesome competition – winning and losing graciously. This beloved space has served us well, it is an important part of our vibrant school community hosting gym classes, assemblies, school celebrations, holiday programs and many parish events. As a member of the Sacred Heart family you know just how important this space is to our students and to our parish and school community.

Please consider a gift to Sacred Heart Catholic Church/School to help us keep the gymnasium the hub of activity for another 50 years. You may donate online on our school website: <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YRF5/home> or drop off a check at the parish desk.

Calendar of Events

Sunday, January 7–Epiphany of the Lord Feast of the Holy Family (*Trad.*)

7:30 AM Rosary Prayed

8:00 AM Mass: Fr. Pedersen

11:40 AM Latin Mass: Fr. Pedersen

Monday, January 8– St. Apollinaris the Apologist, 175

8:00 AM Communion Service

Tuesday, January 9– St. Adrian of Canterbury, 710

7:35 AM Rosary Prayed

7:40 AM Confessions till 7:55 AM

8:00 AM Mass: Fr. Pedersen

Morning Prayer to follow Mass

1:00 PM Bible Timeline

7:00 PM Bible Timeline

7:00 PM Pre-Baptism Class

Wednesday, January 10– St. William of Bourges, 1209

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, January 11– St. Hyginus, 142

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, January 12– St. Marguerite Bourgeoys, 1700

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, January 13– Commemoration of the Baptism of Our Lord (*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

5:00 PM Adult Ed

5:15 PM Vespers

Sunday, January 14– 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Coffee & Donuts After 8am & 10am Masses

7:30 AM Rosary Prayed

8:00 AM Mass: Fr. Pedersen

9:00 AM Adult Ed

10:00 AM Mass: Fr. Pedersen

11:00 AM Adult Ed

11:40 AM Latin Mass: Fr. Pedersen

Like and Follow the Church of the Sacred Heart on Facebook

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

Save the Date

DENIM

&

Diamonds

Sacred Heart Catholic School's
10th Annual Gala

February 9, 2024

5:30pm-10:30pm

Sacred Heart Catholic School
4050 Hubbard Ave. N.
Robbinsdale, MN 55422

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

January 2024

Sacred Heart Church
Robbinsdale MN.

One Minute Meditations

St. Marguerite Bourgeoys

Born at Troyes, France in 1620, St. Marguerite

consecrated herself to God and became a missionary.

A friend introduced her to the mayor of Ville Marie (now Montreal) in Canada and, on his invitation, traveled to the New World to teach. With several others, she founded the Congregation of Notre-Dame de Montreal – a non-cloistered teaching order that was formally approved in 1676. By her death in 1700, she was called "Mother of the Colony."



Celebrate life

January is the month during which our Church celebrates life. This is when we take time to recognize that we are all reflections of God and have great value in His eyes from the moment of conception to a natural death. Celebrating life means being pro-human every day of the year.

"For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; and the former things shall not be remembered or come into mind" (Isaiah

65:17).



This year, don't neglect "the one thing needful"

When St. Martha complained to Jesus that her sister, Mary, was sitting at His feet instead of helping to host Him, He corrected Martha for neglecting the "one thing ... needful" (Luke 10:42) – intimacy with Him. In the New Year, resolve not to neglect the "one thing needful" and remain intimate with Him.

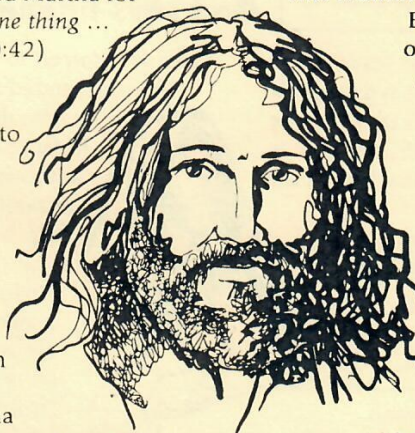
Build an "inner chapel." While on mission in the world, St. Catherine of Siena maintained an "inner chapel" in her soul to speak with God, heart to heart. Jesus urged us to do the same (Matthew 6:6). Shut out the world for a while and take refuge in your inner chapel every day.

Sit at His feet. Mary believed in Jesus and gave Him her best. He must be our hope, our salvation, our all. This is absolutely necessary.

Encounter Him in others. Mother Teresa said, "Until you can hear Jesus in the silence of your own heart, you will not be able to hear Him saying 'I thirst' in the hearts of the poor." The closer we grow to God, the better we'll "see" and love Him in others.

Serve Him.

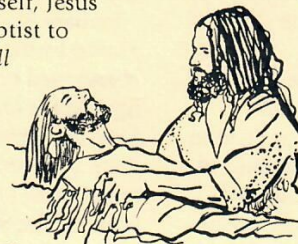
Although Mary wasn't waiting on Christ like Martha, she was ministering to him in a deeper and truer sense. No one serves Christ better than by hearing His Words and doing His will.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why was Jesus was baptized?

Although sinless Himself, Jesus allowed St. John the Baptist to baptize Him to "fulfill all righteousness" (Matthew 3:15). By this action, Jesus signaled His willingness to take away our sins by His death and bring us new life by His Resurrection. It



was also by His baptism that Jesus instituted Baptism as a Sacrament – the Sacrament by which we're sanctified and recreated as children of God. We are mystically baptized into Jesus' death, to be raised by Him in glory.

Reclaim the Name

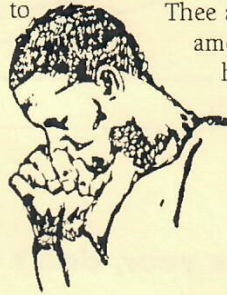
January is the month traditionally devoted to honoring the holy name of Jesus. What can we do to reclaim reverence for His name in a culture that considers it to be just another word?

Bow your head. "At the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth" (Philippians 2:10). Make a slight, reverent nod whenever you hear Jesus' name in public, in conversation, on TV or in movies.

Offer a prayer. Don't hesitate to ask others not to misuse God's or Jesus' names. If they don't

respond, offer a prayer of reparation: "I kneel before Thee and offer Thee reparation; I would make amends for all the blasphemies uttered against Thy holy name."

Don't normalize blasphemy. Curate the media you watch, listen to, or sing along with. Avoid songs, shows, or movies in which Jesus's name is disrespected. We are called to strive for holiness, not worldliness. More importantly, it's a way to give Christ the reverence and love He is due.

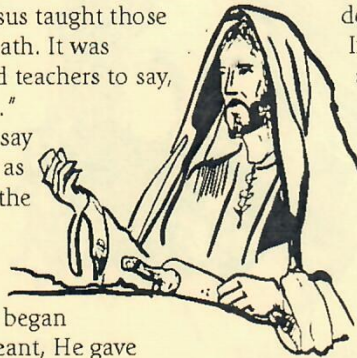


from Scripture

Mark 1:21-28, What God says happens

In this Gospel passage, Jesus and His apostles entered the synagogue at Capernaum where Jesus taught those gathered on the Sabbath. It was customary for learned teachers to say, "Thus says the Lord..." Instead Jesus said, "I say to you..." He taught as one who spoke with the authority of God.

His calm authority astounded Jesus' listeners. Just as they began to wonder what it meant, He gave them a sign. He further demonstrated His authority by performing an exorcism. Spirits that bedeviled an unfortunate man at the synagogue recognized who Jesus was.



They were forced to obey Him when He commanded them to depart, despite their reluctance. In fact, God's power and authority isn't just a formality. What God says, happens.

Our kind and gentle Savior is also our powerful and awesome Lord. As the Second Person of the Trinity, Jesus has supreme majesty and we will one day appear before Him to be judged. Yes, He is our divine savior and mediator. But if we say, "Jesus is Lord," then we give Him our loyalty and obedience.

Q & A What to do when prayer feels flat.

"I just don't feel close to God." "Is He really listening?" In fact, God is constantly pursuing us in love, wanting to share His joy with us (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #1). Yet, even the most passionate prayer life can feel flat sometimes. Try these tips to keep prayer fresh:



Cultivate gratitude. Although God never abandons us, factors like health or mood can affect our prayer. St. Alphonsus Liguori recommended, "Often recall the loving way in which [God] has acted toward you." Reviewing our blessings helps us appreciate God's love for us over time.

Don't wait to ask for help. God's heart is always opened to us. "Good" prayer happens when we're honest with Him. This is an exercise of faith, which He generously rewards.

Treat Him with love. God wants a relationship of love, respect, and faithfulness with each of us. If prayer feels empty, try treating God with the love, consideration, and tenderness you give and receive from those closest to you. It will make a difference!

Feasts & Celebrations

January 1 – Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. When we celebrate this feast, we honor Mary, but also acknowledge Jesus as true God and true Man.

January 8 – Baptism of the Lord (1st Century). Jesus began His public ministry by getting baptized by St. John the Baptist. Jesus was to be baptized to "fulfill all righteousness" (Matthew 3:15). This was also when God reveals Jesus as His "beloved Son" (Matthew 3:17).

January 26 – St. Paula (404). After

her husband – a Roman senator named Toxotius – died, St. Paula gave up her wealthy lifestyle for the Gospel, devoting herself to prayer, poverty, and charitable works. She also befriended and supported St. Jerome in translating the Vulgate.

January 31 – St. John Bosco (1888). Moved by the plight of the young, abandoned boys in Rome, St. John opened the Oratory of St. Francis de Sales and provided workshops for them in shoemaking and tailoring. In 1859, he founded the Salesians who were committed to education and mission work.



Our Mission

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