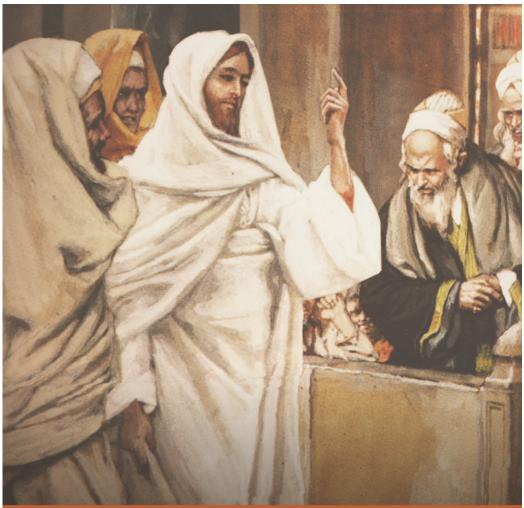


# Sacred Heart

4087 West Broadway • Robbinsdale, MN 55422 Phone: 763-537-4561

Formed in His Heart, Serving with His Heart, Giving From His Heart

## July 7, 2024



## 14<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

GÌÒ

When the sabbath came he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astonished. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What kind of wisdom has been given him? What mighty deeds are wrought by his hands!" - Mk 6:2

#### 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.-Thurs. 8:30 AM—4:30 PM Friday: 8:30 AM—Noon

Parish Web Site www.shrmn.org

Parish Phone: 763-537-4561

#### Sacred Heart Catholic School

Pre-K through 8th grade 4050 Hubbard Avenue North Robbinsdale, MN 55422 School Web Site sacredheartschoolrobbinsdale.org School Phone: 763-537-1329

#### **Parish Directory**

Phone: 763-537-4561 General Email: contact@shrmn.org

#### Worship

Priest, Fr. Bryan J.B. Pedersenext. 6240fr.bpedersen@shrmn.org763-285-6240Deacon, Dr. James Ramseyext. 6244jramsey@shrmn.org763-285-6244Music, Jamie Schmidtext. 6287jschmidt@shrmn.org763-285-6287

#### **Faith Formation**

Director of Adult Faith Forr	nation
Bunny Brouillard	ext. 6247
bbrouillard@shrmn.org	763-285-6247
Confirmation Coordinator	
Maggie Powell	ext. 6248
maggiep@shrmn.org	763-285-6248
Faith Formation Associate	
Morgan Leisgang	ext. 6246
mleisgang@shrmn.org	763-2856246

#### **Pastoral Care**

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

#### Parish Administration

Bus. Admin., Mary Daughert	yext. 6241
mdaugherty@shrmn.org	763-285-6241
Bookkeeper, Audrey Gilbert.	ext. 6242
agilbert@shrmn.org	763-285-6242
Facility Manager and Mainte	nance
Mark Sazama	ext. 6245
msazama@shrmn.org	763-285-6245
Admin. Asst. Facility Schedul	ing, Office
Maggie Powell	ext. 6248
maggiep@shrmn.org	763-285-6248
Sacramental Records	
Safe Environment Coordinat	or
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

ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS

## MONTHLY PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS

## ~ JULY 2024 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2.	3 Rev.	4 Rev.	<u>5</u> Rev.	<u>6</u> Rev.
	POPE	YOUR	John	John	Rodger	Michael
	FRANCIS	PASTOR	James	Michael	Robert	Charles
			Bauer	Bauer	Bauman	Becker Jr
	K		ORD 2008	ORD 1979	ORD 1982	ORD 1999
Z_Rev.	8 Rev.	2 Rev.	10 Rev.	Ц Rev.	12 Rev.	13 Rev.
Terry	Corey	John	James (Jimmy)	Lawrence	David	Daniel
Patrick	Thomas	Wendelin	Andrew	Robert (Larry)	Neil	James
Beeson	Belden	Berger	Bernard	Blake	Blume	Bodin
ORD 2005	ORD 2002	ORD 1998	ORD 2021	ORD 1999	ORD 2004	ORD 2005
14 Rev.	15 Rev.	16 Rev.	17 Rev.	18 Rev.	19 Rev.	20 Rev.
Ronald	Charles	Peter	Andrew	James	John Mary	Harold
Joseph (Ron)	Allen	Brandenhoff	Ronald	Patrick	Burns	Joseph (Harry)
Bowers	Brambilla		Brinkman	Burns	O.Carm.	Bury
ORD 1964	ORD 1970	ORD 1970	ORD 2013	ORD 1993	ORD 1982	ORD 1955
21 Rev.	22 Very Rev.	23 Rev.	24 Rev.	25 Rev.	26 Rev.	27 Rev.
James	Msgr.	Theodore	Scott	Alex	Patrick	James
Francis (Jim)	Aloysius R	Charles	Michael	Bernard	Luke	Allen
Buryska	Callaghan	Campbell	Carl	Carlson	Casey	Cassidy
ORD 1965	ORD 1971	ORD 1972	ORD 2000	ORD 2010	ORD 1965	ORD 1978
28 Rev.	29 Rev.	30 Rev.	31_Abp.		To be added to the	
Mario	Robymon	Mathai	Bernard Hebda		email recipients, send an email to	
Castagnola	Mon (Robin)	Chacko (James)	Auxbp.		send an email to Marie Ziesmer at:	
PES	Chacko CST	Chitteth CFIC	Joseph Williams		ziesmers@usfamily.net	
ORD 2010	ORD 2016	ORD 1986	Auxbp. Michael Izen			

#### WILL YOU PRAY FOR A PRIEST EACH DAY?

#### PRAYER SUGGESTIONS

Eternal Father, we lift up to You these and all the priests of the world. Sanctify them. Heal and guide them. Mold them into the likeness and holiness of your Son, Jesus, the Eternal High Priest. May their lives be pleasing to You. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

- Mass, rosary, fasting - Day of offering

- Eucharistic adoration

- Offering of sufferings or prayer.

- Whatever the Lord inspires you to offer Him

#### **Appointed Sunday Readings**

14<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time-7/7/24 First Reading: But you shall say to them: Thus says the Lord GOD! And whether they heed or resist- for they are a rebellious house-they shall know that a prophet has been among them. (*Ez 2:4-5*)

**Psalm:** Our eyes are fixed on the Lord, pleading for his mercy. *(Ps 123)* **Second Reading:** I will rather boast most gladly of my weaknesses, in order that the power of Christ may dwell with me. *(2 Cor 12:9)* 

**Gospel:** "A prophet is not without honor except in his native place and among his own kin and in his own house." (*Mk 6:4*)

#### Latin Mass Sunday Readings 7th Sunday After Pentecost

Epistle: "Brethren, I speak a human thing, because of the infirmity of your flesh..." (Rom 6:19-23)
Gradual: "Come, Children, hearken to me; I will teach you..." (PS 33:12,6)
Gospel: "At that time, Jesus said to his disciples; Beware of false prophets..." (Mt

## **Appointed Daily Readings**

7:15-21)

Monday, July 7-Saturday, July 13 Monday: Hos 2:16, 17c-18, 21-22/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 9:18-26 Tuesday: Hos 8:4-7, 11-13/Ps 115:3-4, 5-6, 7ab-8, 9-10/Mt 9:32-38 Wednesday: Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12/Ps 105:2 -3, 4-5, 6-7/Mt 10:1-7 Thursday: Hos 11:1-4, 8e-9/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16/Mt 10:7-15 Friday: Hos 14:2-10/Ps 51:3-4, 8-9, 12-13, 14 and 17/Mt 10:16-23 Saturday: Is 6:1-8/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5/Mt 10:24-33

## **Prayers of the Faithful**

Please remember in your prayers: Those Who Are III:

#### With Chronic Health Concerns:

Tom Ambrose, Brady Swenson, Andrea DeOtis, Medard Keisershot, Cody Binstock, Carol Borman, Kelly VanSchalk, Tori Prince, Joyce Hanauska, Lorraine Nelson

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, Chase Anderson

Those Who Have Died Recently: Michael Murry

## Administration

## Stewardship-Your Commitment is Vital !

	Collections for June 22-23, 2024 (week 52)	Dollars	# Donors	
	Sunday Envelope Collections	\$ 3,272.00	50	D
	Electronic Donations	\$ 854.64	20	D
	Plate (non envelope) Collections	\$ 806.00		
	Total Collections for week 52	\$4,932.64	7(	D
Year-to-d	ate Sunday Collections			
		<u>This Year</u>	Last Year	(Behind)
Actual vers	us last year June 23, 2024 (week 52)	\$615,768 \$	605,308	\$10,460
		<u>This Year</u>	<u>Budget</u>	(Behind)
Actual vers	sus Budget June 23, 2024 (week 52)	\$615,768 \$	607,010	\$8,758

## **Parish Registration**

Want to become an official parishioner of Sacred Heart? Well, now you can do it online! Visit https://shrmn.org/join-the-parish/, stop by or call the Parish Office (763) 537-4561, or scan the QR code to fill out a registration form!



## **Volunteer Needed-Eucharistic Adoration**



Thank you to all our COMMITTED ADORERS and to everyone who regularly attend Adoration every Thursday. Due to changes we have an openings during the 10-11am time slot. We have NO ONE scheduled for this time. If you would like to be a substitute Adorer for any of the time slots when our regular volunteers cannot be present on Thursday or would like to commit to a regular hour of adoration please call Bunny in the Parish Office 537-4561 VM#105.

## **Ice Cream Social**

Citizens Independent Bank in Robbinsdale is once again hosting their annual Whiz Bang Day Ice Cream Social in their parking lot – Thursday, July 11<sup>th</sup> 4-6pm. 500 bike helmets will be given away!

## **Baby Bottle Drive**

Thank you to all who participated in our Corporal Work of Mercy for the month of May/ June. We raised **\$2,394.18** for the Baby Bottle Drive. These funds will be forwarded to Abria Pregnancy Resources Center (North Side).

## **Contribution Statements**

2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Contribution Statements will be mailed by the end of July.

## **Prayer for Truth**

Dear Lord,

Your prophets were those who spoke Your Truth.

Help me to be a speaker of truth as well, one who reminds of Your love, encourages the lowly, and points ever more deeply to You.

Amen.

## **Sacred Heart Catholic School**

#### Set up a Tour and Explore our PreK-8<sup>th</sup> grade program at Sacred Heart

We are scheduling personalized tours this summer. We have openings in our PreK program for 3 and 4 year olds, along with grades K-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 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills called the 4 C's: Creativity, Critical Thinking, Collaboration, and Communication. Call the school office to schedule a tour, 763.537.1329.

#### Save the Date---Whiz Bang Day Parade July 14th @ 3 pm

Sacred Heart Catholic School is planning on walking in the parade on July 14th. We would love to see many, many students, parents and staff walk with us. The route starts on West Broadway and ends at Sanborn Park. Please show your school spirit and join us. Parents will receive volunteer hours and students will receive a non-uniform coupon for the 1st week of school. Please use SignUp so we know you are coming! We will pass on parade information as we get closer to the date.

#### We need help weeding our Butterfly Garden

Our butterfly garden in front of school is overgrown and needs to be thinned out. This may be done whenever the time works for you. The volunteer hours will count for the 2024-2025 school. Please use SignUp to volunteer or call the school office.

#### Aim Higher Scholarships Available for Students in K-8—Due August 26, 2024

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

<u>SCHOLARSHIP DETAILS</u>: Scholarships are awarded in the amount of \$1,000 to students, K-8, who meet the need- based criteria determined by the Aim Higher Foundation. The scholarship follows students through 8th grade and to other Catholic schools in this Archdiocese. TADS applications may be filled out by the parent/guardian of a child who is currently attending or plans to attend a K-8 Catholic school in the Archdiocese of the St. Paul and Minneapolis. All scholarship applications must be completed yearly for both new and returning recipients. Priority for the scholarships awarded during the summer application period will be given to students who are new to Catholic schools, however, all applications will be considered.

#### How to apply:

- 1. Visit <u>https://www.mytads.com/</u> Click on the purple "Financial Aid Assessment"
- 2. Create a new account or login to an existing one.
- 3. Begin filling in the application.
- 4. Submit the application by August 11, 2023.

Like our Facebook Page - <u>Sacred Heart Catholic School Robbinsdale, MN Alumni/Paren</u>t <u>http://www.facebook.com/SHCSRobbinsdale</u> Follow us on Twitter - <u>https://twitter.com/SHCSRobbinsdal1</u>

#### **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 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 in the Parish Office.

## **Mass Intentions**

#### **\*\***This Schedule is subject to change**\*\*** July

July	
Sun. 7 8:00 AM	John O'Neil+
10:00 AM	Parishioners
Latin 11:40 AM	Roberta Garcia-Carbarin
Mon. 8 8:00 AM	Communion Service
Tues. 9 6:30 PM	Elizabeth Barry+
Wed. 10 8:00 AM	Fr. Francis Nolan+
Thu. 11 8:00 AM	Veronica Janzen+
Fri. 12 8:00 AM	Shirley Ertel
Sat. 13 8:00 AM	Living & Deceased+
	Members of the SHCCW
4:00 PM	Joseph Willenbring+
Sun. 14 8:00 AM	Jeanne Weber+
10:00 AM	Parishioners
Latin 11:40 AM	Roberta Garcia-Carbarin

#### **Chapel Open for Prayer:**

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

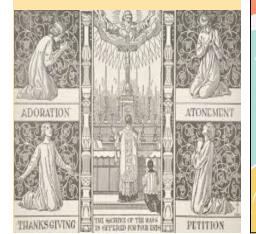
#### Confessions

Tuesdays 5:30-6:00pm Daily Wednesday-Saturday 7:40-7:55am Saturdays 3:00-3:45pm

#### Thursday Eucharistic Adoration

#### **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**

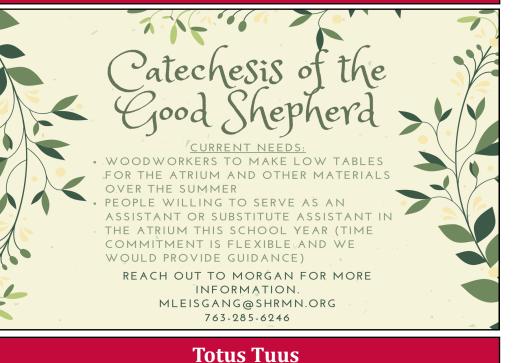
#### **PRE-BAPTISM CLASSES**

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 July 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**



## TOTUS TUUS 2024

## July 21-26

Totus Tuus is a mission for our youth that needs the support of the entire parish.

## There are many opportunities to use the gifts God has given you, including:

- · Providing lodging for two of the missionaries in your home
- · Providing lunch or dinner for the missionaries
- Hosting Coffee and Doughnuts on July 21st
- Serving as a classroom helper in the morning, afternoon, or evening

Contact Morgan to help:

mleisgang@shrmn.org

763-285-6246

## **Respect Life Ministry/Knights of Columbus**



The Crystal Women's Clinic Annual "Walk/Ride for Life" is Saturday, August 3, 2024 Please help the Knights of

**Columbus #3656** to reach

our goal of raising \$5,000.00 for the **Crystal Women's Clinic** to continue reaching vulnerable women by offering free pregnancy testing, ultrasound services, material aid and mentorship programs. Your support helps provide accurate information and compassionate assistance to the clients.

This year our Knights council team consists of members Tony Bangasser, the Rusinko Family and the Ryan Family.

The walk/ride for life will be at French Regional Park. The meeting location at the park is the Moraine Picnic Shelter with check-in beginning at 10:00AM.

The easiest way to contribute to this walk is by going to the **Walk for Life** webpage: <u>www.rwcinfo.org/event/walk-for-life</u>

Click on "Sponsor A Walker", then "Give", then pick one of our team members then again on "Give" to record your pledge.

## **Rosary Gems**



"When people say the rosary together it is far more formidable to the devil than one said privately, because in this public prayer it is an army that is attacking him. He can often overcome the prayer of an individual, but if this prayer is joined to that of other Christians, the devil has much more trouble in

getting the best of it. It is very easy to break a single stick, but if you join it to others to make a bundle it cannot be broken. " St. Louis de Montfort, The Preacher of the Rosary 1673-1716

## **Council of Catholic Women**

#### ANNUAL PICNIC

Minneapolis Deaneries Council of Catholic Women SATURDAY, JULY 13, 2024, 11am — 2pm North Mississippi Regional Park, Shelter "B Turtle" Picnic Area

5114 N. Mississippi Dr., Minneapolis 55430



Welcome all ladies in the MCCW Deanery and their friends!

We'll provide hot dogs, beans, chips, water and more! There will be games and plenty of time to socialize. Come and meet a new friend! Bring a white elephant gift for Bingo prizes! No cost to attend, but please RSVP by July 9 call, text, or leave a message Saints Churches: Contact Gerri Herman, 763-647-8258

Other Churches: Contact Kathy Williams, 763-339-3961

## **Spiritual Adoption**



#### **MONTH FIVE – Developing Baby Spiritual Adoption Program**

Your spiritually adopted baby weighs over one pound now, and his mother can feel his movement. Before this time, he was too small for her to feel. Although he swam with ease in his watery world, he needed to be big and strong enough to kick hard against the outside wall and dent it - the inside wall of the uterus has little feeling. We are mid-way through the pregnancy now. Yourprayers have helped your baby's mother continue with her pregnancy and seek the help she needs. 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

## **Calendar of Events**

Sunday, July 7– 14<sup>th</sup> 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

Monday, July 8– St. Elizabeth of Portugal, 1336 (*Trad.*)

8:00 AM Communion Service

Tuesday, July 9– St. Augustine Zhao Rong, 18155:30 PMConfessions in the Chapel6:10 PMSung Vespers in Choir Stalls6:30 PMMass: Fr. Pedersen

## Wednesday, July10–The 7 Holy Brothers, 2nd C.

& Sts. Rufina and Secunda, 257 (Trad.)7:35 AMRosary Prayed7:40 AMConfessions till 7:55 AM8:00 AMMass: Fr. Pedersen<br/>Morning Prayer to follow Mass

#### Thursday, July 11– St. Pius I, 167 (Trad.)

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

#### Friday, July 12- St. John Gualbert, 1073 (Trad.)

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

#### Saturday, July 13– St. Henry II, 1024

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

Sunday, July 14–15th 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/

## **Totus Tuus**

#### WANT TO GET TO KNOW THE TOTUS TUUS MISSIONARIES?

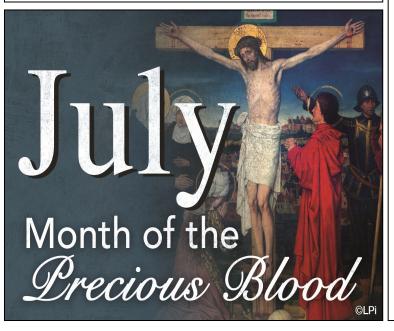
## JOIN US FOR COFFEE AND DOUGHNUTS ON SUNDAY, JULY 21ST



## **News From Other Sources**

#### Calling All Homeschoolers!!!

Friday June 28th the Northwest Homeschool Co-op will be having our second meeting at St. Raphael's. All homeschool families are welcome to join us! We'll begin with 8 am Mass, followed by a potluck brunch and time for the kids to play together. We'll also discuss an official name and patron saints for the group, so please come with ideas! For more information, please email Nick Ryan at npryan6565@gmail.com, or call at (763) 232-5805.



## Sacred Heart Bridge Club

Are you a Bridge player? The Sacred Heart Bridge Club, which started about 50 years ago, is in need of new players and subs. We play on the third Friday of each month from 10am to 3pm.

Questions? Interested? Please call Carol at 612-242-5807.

## **NEAR Food Shelf**

Your monetary donations made to the NEAR food shelf during July allows NEAR to qualify for vital additional operating monies from *Open Your Heart– 2024 Summer Challenge.* 



## **News From Other Sources**



#### **Gospel Meditation** Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Recently I watched a bunch of YouTube videos on how to optimize willpower in the face of weakness. The message was: do not accept your weakness. Crush it. Dominate it. In one video, however, at the end of a rant by a willpower coach, the muscular stoic admitted, "You'll never actually get what you want, no matter how hard you try." Amazingly, he admitted that willpower alone is not sufficient for us weakwilled humans.

What does God want us to do with our weaknesses, if crushing them with willpower won't work? For example, what should I do with my tendency to arrogance and self-isolation? Or my procrastination? Or my intellectual and physical limitations? Or my selfishness?

The counter-intuitive answer is clear in this week's words from St Paul, "I will rather boast most gladly of my weaknesses in order that the power of Christ may dwell in me (2 Cor. 12:9)." Boast of our weaknesses? Paul isn't promoting weak-mindedness or laziness. Rather, he perceives that Jesus loves us not despite our weaknesses but because of them. Boasting of our weakness means claiming human will is not all we have. It means turning to God whenever we feel weak, which-let's face it-is almost all the time. When we do, we learn to love our weaknesses, because it's there that we meet the strength of Christ. This week, I challenge us to find ways to boast not in willpower but in weakness.

— Father John Muir

