

# Sacred Heart Church



260 High Street, Mount Holly, NJ 08060-1404

Telephone: 609-267-0209 • FAX: 609-267-9293 • Website: <https://sacredheartmh.org>

Parish Office Hours: Monday through Friday 9am to 4pm

## Mass Schedule

**Saturday: 4:30pm (Vigil)**

**Sunday: 7:30am, 9:30am Live Stream, 11:30am**

Weekday: Mon.-Fri. 7:00am & 8:30am

Saturday: 8:30am

## Confessions

**Saturday: After 8:30am Mass**

## Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. John P. Czahur ext. 308

Deacons: Deacon Jim Casa  
[fisherking13@comcast.net](mailto:fisherking13@comcast.net)  
Deacon John Hoefling  
Deacon Stanley Orkis  
Deacon William Rowley  
Deacon Charles Moscarello

Parish Secretary: Mrs. Michele O'Toole ext. 301  
[secretary@sacredheartmh.org](mailto:secretary@sacredheartmh.org)

Business Manager: Mrs. Deneen Thomas ext. 303  
[accountant@sacredheartmh.org](mailto:accountant@sacredheartmh.org)

Cemetery Manager: Mrs. Paula Powell ext. 304  
[cemeterymgr@sacredheartmh.org](mailto:cemeterymgr@sacredheartmh.org)

Coord. of Ministries: Ms. Merry Marcellino ext. 305  
[ministry@sacredheartmh.org](mailto:ministry@sacredheartmh.org)

Parish Communications Facilitator:  
Mrs. Jessica Donohue [jessica@sacredheartmh.org](mailto:jessica@sacredheartmh.org)

## Sacred Heart School

250 High Street, Mount Holly, NJ 08060

Telephone: 609-267-1728

Email: [schooloffice@sacred-heart-school.org](mailto:schooloffice@sacred-heart-school.org)

Website: [www.sacred-heart-school.org](http://www.sacred-heart-school.org)

Principal: Mrs. Joanna M. Barlow ext. 316

Admin. Assist. Mrs. Kimberly Sheaffer ext. 316

## Sacred Heart Religious Education

Telephone: 609-267-6319

Coordinator of Rel. Ed: Mrs. Barbara Kane  
[barbkane@sacredheartRE.org](mailto:barbkane@sacredheartRE.org)

Admin. Assistant: Mrs. Kellie Macrae  
[kmacrae@sacredheartRE.org](mailto:kmacrae@sacredheartRE.org)

please visit our R.E. [website](#) for information.

## R.C.I.A.

Coordinator: Ms. Mary Verme  
[mverme@sacredheartRE.org](mailto:mverme@sacredheartRE.org)

**March 9- March 10 2024**  
**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

### **Parish Registration**

Our Parish family gladly welcomes new members. Please register at your earliest convenience by filling out a blue Registration Form located on the rack near the Altar Servers Sacristy in the vestibule of the Church or contacting Michele O'Toole, the Parish Secretary, by phone or [email](#) to have a Form sent to you.

### **The Sacrament of Baptism**

The Sacrament of Baptism is usually celebrated on Sunday at 1PM but other times and days are possible. We encourage parents who wish to have their child baptized to contact Michele by phone or [email](#) to have a Baptism Information packet mailed to you.

Once the Baptism Preparation session is attended, the Baptism Request Form completed and the Godparent Eligibility Certificates sent to the Parish House, a date for your child's Baptism can be set.

### **Baptismal Preparation**

Catholic Godparents are required to complete an Eligibility Certificate and have the Certificate signed and sealed by the Pastor of the parish where they are currently registered and practicing their faith.

Sacred Heart offers a Baptismal Preparation Session required for all parents preparing for their child's Baptism. The date and time for this Session is arranged at the convenience of the parents and the Priest or Deacon who will minister the Sacrament.

### **Sacramental Sponsorship Letter**

This is a form required to be a Godparent or Sponsor for Baptism or Confirmation. To receive this form from the Pastor of their parish, the Church requires the following:

- Must be at least 16 years of age.
- Received the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation.
- If married, be in a valid sacramental marriage according to the laws of the Catholic Church.
- Be a registered and practicing member of a Catholic Parish.

### **The Sacrament of Marriage**

Engaged couples who wish to celebrate the Sacrament of Matrimony at our Parish are asked to contact Michele O'Toole, the Parish Secretary by phone or [email](#). Arrangements are to be made at a meeting with the Pastor at least a year in advance of the requested date.

At least one person should be a registered member of the parish. All couples are required to attend Pre-Cana Sessions and a number of meetings with the priest or Deacon who will preside at the Wedding Mass/Ceremony

### **Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick**

Any Catholic who is seriously ill, advanced in age or wishes to receive the comfort and grace provided by this Sacrament may contact Michele O'Toole by phone or [email](#). In case of an urgent need for this sacrament please call our emergency number at 609-267-8940.

### **Care of the Sick, Homebound and Elderly:**

The sick, the homebound and the elderly are valued members of our Parish. Please contact Merry Marcellino, our Coordinator of Ministries by phone or [email](#) to see how we may be of assistance.

### **Funerals**

In all cases, the family of the deceased parishioner should contact the Funeral Home. They, in turn, will contact the Church to make further arrangements. Normally, a member of our Parish Staff will then contact the family to plan the Liturgy and provide any other assistance.

For information regarding our Parish Cemetery, please contact Paula Powell our Cemetery Manager by phone or [email](#).

### **Bulletin Articles**

Articles for the Bulletin need to be submitted **No Later than Friday (9 days prior)** to appear the next weekend.

Please email bulletin

[bulletins@sacredheartmh.org](mailto:bulletins@sacredheartmh.org)

March 9- March 10 2024  
**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

*Masses For  
The Week*



March 11<sup>th</sup> - March 17<sup>th</sup>

**MONDAY**

7:00am **The Special Intentions of Jack James DeWitt** Req. By Jeff & Teresa Redder

8:30am **Stephen Rensman** Req. By Carol Ward  
**TUESDAY**

7:00am **Hans Kunkel** Req. By Henry Cruse

8:30am **Choncha V. Rustia** Req. By Isabel Relevo

**WEDNESDAY**

7:00am **Ryan Realbuto** Req. By Jeff & Teresa Redder

8:30am **The Deceased Members of the Surrency Family** Req. By Tony & Aurora Surrency

**THURSDAY**

7:00am **Adela Dizon** Req. By Maridel Tuazon

8:30am **Annie Canavan** Req. Patricia Lounsberry

**FRIDAY**

7:00am **William Southwick** Req. By Dave & Joelle Wentz

8:30am **Rosalina Escudro** Req. By Her Family  
**SATURDAY**

8:30am **Regina Broccoli** Req. By Barb Kane

4:30pm **Joan Teschko** Req. By Howard Gaetjens

**SUNDAY**

7:30am **Norman Landry** Req. By Tom & Chris Soszynsky

9:30am **Paul N. Ferrara** Req. By Tom & Barbara Fox and Family

11:30 **Adelaida Filamar** Req. By The Surrency Family

**and The People of the Parish**

*The Devotional Candle in the  
Chapel of the Two Hearts*



*Will Light in Loving Memory of  
Martin O'Connor*

*Adoration*

**The Eucharistic Adoration** – Come and spend time in the quiet with Our Lord in the Chapel of the Two Hearts located next to the Parish House. Our Chapel is open for you and Jesus to spend some time during the following hours:

**Monday through Friday  
9:00am to 4:00pm**

READINGS FOR THE  
WEEK



**Readings for the Week**

**Monday** Is 65:17-21 Jn 4:43-54

**Tuesday** Ez 47:1-9, 12 Jn 5:1-16

**Wednesday** Is 49:8-15 Jn 5:17-30

**Thursday** Ex 32:7-14 Jn 5:31-47

**Friday** Wis 2:1a, 12-22 Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

**Saturday** Jer 11:18-20 Jn 7:40-53

**Sunday** Jer 31:31-34 Heb 5:7-9 Jn 12:20-33

**SUNDAY OFFERING**

**Weekly 3/2 – 3/3 \$ 14, 721.78**

*Thank you for the faithful and generous support that you continue to give to our Church.*

**Children's Worship Bulletins**

**Ages 3**

[https://sacredheartmh.org/documents/2024/3/pwb\\_gospel\\_bw\\_20240310.pdf](https://sacredheartmh.org/documents/2024/3/pwb_gospel_bw_20240310.pdf)

**Ages 7**

[https://sacredheartmh.org/documents/2024/3/cwb\\_gospel\\_bw\\_20240310.pdf](https://sacredheartmh.org/documents/2024/3/cwb_gospel_bw_20240310.pdf)



📺 Watch the video here:

<https://ow.ly/3ewP50QFzOX>

The Annual Catholic Appeal has officially launched! Check out this video from Bishop O'Connell, who discusses this year's theme, "One Love, One Faith, One Family." Thank you for supporting the Appeal.

March 9- March 10 2024  
**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**



Pray  
for the sick of our parish and  
those that care for them

**THE SEASON OF LENT**

During the holy season of Lent, from Ash Wednesday, February 14th, to Holy Thursday, March 28th, you are strongly encouraged to participate in Mass and receive Holy Communion daily, to receive the Sacrament of Penance, to attend Lenten devotions and the Stations of the Cross, to read the Scriptures prayerfully, and to perform acts of self-denial and works of mercy.

**PRAYER:**

Daily Mass is celebrated at 7am & 8:30am, Wednesday 8:30am will also be Live Streamed. Weekend Mass and Confession times can be found on the front of the bulletin. Stations of the Cross are held at 5pm every Friday during the Lenten Season.

**FASTING:**

The days of fast and abstinence are ASH WEDNESDAY AND GOOD FRIDAY. The other Fridays of Lent are DAYS OF ABSTINENCE.

**ALMSGIVING:**

Give of your time, talent and treasure. Donations of canned or boxed food to the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry can be made by placing the items in the collection bins in the vestibule of the church. Monetary donations are accepted at the Parish House or you may mail them to The Saint Vincent de Paul Society.



**STATIONS of the CROSS**  
**Fridays during Lent, Stations of the Cross will be held at 5:00pm in the Church.**

**Please remember in your prayers:**

Virginia Freck, John Brady, Bobby Sumanga, Mary Barber, Ruth Staub, Cheryl Errico, Stephen Carbone, Aimee Buck, Anne DeFeo, Richard & Janice Riehle, Sue Troise, Maureen Sampson, Sandy & Michael Grant, Nancy Beckett, Brian Burgos, Irene & Richard Moken, Connie Krzywicki, Barbara Hyer, Marianne O'Rourke, Clare Faber, Ed White, Rose & Vincent LoCascio, Dennis O'Donnell, Donald Dederick, Toni Rudd, Peggy Mahan, Lea Hodge, Lloyd Shanahan, Donna Matarese, Sheila Bender, Pete Giambalvo, Charles Beckett, Sam Eckert, Josephine Nast, Mary Sconza, Hank Hess, Madeleine Loffredo, Dorothy Valeri, Catherine Verme, Bob Laraia, Joan Cole, Diane Laraia-Carr, Liz Finn, Tomas Carr, Monica Fredrick, Don Hartman, Noel M. Long, David Michael Benn, Tammy Witt, Richard Dow, Frank Danley, Ann Graff, Clarence Pugh, III, Theresa Matrisciano, Megan Dezur, Ryan Clark, Jeanette McGhee, Frank Anton, William Bromley, Karen Buller, Crystal Faber, Catherine Jefferson, Harold Fahn, Carlyle Clark, Martha Evans, Peggy Stewart, Judith Gomez, Vickie Robles, Margaret Jeffers, Greg MacDonald, Gail Marchese, Arleen Bishop, Annmarie Laraia Bette,

**As a parish family, we remember all who are struggling or suffering in mind, body, or spirit, especially those who have requested our prayers.**

**Please pray for the men and women now serving in the military, especially the loved ones of our parishioners who are serving overseas:**

Capt. Chaplin Roberto Padilla U.S.A.F.  
Sgt. Jason Brenner- U.S. Army  
Anthony Dickenson, FCA3  
Lt. Kurt Malinoski US Navy  
Lt. Col. Stephanie Aaron, USAF  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Troy McCrystal U.S. Army  
Maj. Travis Aiello, USMC  
Corporal Noah Stimiloski, U.S.M.C.  
Maj. Karen Quintana, Army Reserve  
Patrick Arpaia, TSgt. Paul J. Stoshak U.S.A.F.  
Capt. Robert J. Boccio, U.S.A.F.  
Douglas Schwenck, Army Reserve  
Richard DeLorge U.S.M.C.  
Peter Liedman, Dorinia Dibuono  
Capt. James Rankin U.S.M.C.  
SSgt. Daniel E. Naro, Sgt. Alison Lyport  
Sgt. Stephanie Robertson, U.S. Army  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Russell Norton, NG Army  
Capt. Matthew Carr, U.S.M.C.  
GySgt Sean Curran U.S.M.C

March 9- March 10 2024  
**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

**Religious Education News!**

We are so excited for our parish and Sacred Heart School children who will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation on March 14<sup>th</sup>! I am so impressed by their actions of faith that I'd like to share.

As part of their preparation, the Confirmandi are required to complete 8 hours of service to bear witness to our Christian faith in words and deeds. I loved reading their reflections on how they served others and how their service helped them to understand what it means to follow Jesus. They were able to see Jesus in the face of the hungry they fed or the grandparent they cared for. They were able to see how their labors of love brought comfort as they made clay hearts for hospice or cared for rescued farm animals. They made sacrifices of their time to make cards for those who needed a smile, shop for those who needed food, and stock the shelves at the food pantry. One Confirmandi sacrificed her hair and donated it to help children. Their many acts of kindness, patience, and generosity have inspired me, and I will share one's reflection response which speaks volumes, "It's so easy to think about what we need and want, but to make sacrifices and take the time to care for others, whether its people or animals, allows you to experience love and joy." Please join me in praying for these remarkable youth who are getting ready for this beautiful Sacrament. You can find their names on the bulletin board in the vestibule of the Church.



**Would you like to be a Minister of the Word (Reader) at Mass?** If you have received the Sacrament of Confirmation and feel called to help spread the Word of God, this is a great ministry for you. We will have a workshop for new readers on Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm for all those who might be interested. Please give Lisa Welsh a call at 856-816-4040, or email to [lwelsh1961@comcast.net](mailto:lwelsh1961@comcast.net)



**"For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son."**

*John 3:16*

St. Paul speaks of God's mercy, grace, kindness and enormous love for us. St. John's Gospel puts things in perspective for us to believe in the overwhelming love displayed by God in giving us eternal life by sending us His only Son.

May we pray that during this Lenten season our belief grows stronger and we respond in penance, fasting and almsgiving with grateful hearts.

In living today's Gospel account, we demonstrate that we accept the gifts of light and faith by doing good works. We live in the truth as our works are clearly seen as done in God.

**The SVDP Pantry is currently in need of the following:**

Meals in a can, Canned soup, and Soap

Thank you for your continued support. If you would like to make a monetary donation, please make checks payable to: Society of St. Vincent de Paul

**VOCATION PRAYER**



***Prayer for Vocations***

O God, You have called us to salvation and have sent Your Son to establish the Church for this purpose, and You have provided the sacred ministers. The harvest is ever ready but the laborers are scarce. Inspire our youth to follow Jesus in the priesthood and religious life. Amen.

*Bishop John C. Reiss*

***Thank you  
for praying for vocations.***

March 9- March 10 2024  
**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

*The Friends of Sacred Heart School*



**Friends of Sacred Heart School Updates**

**Keeping in touch with SHS Alumni** - The Friends of Sacred Heart School invite our alumni to stay in touch so we can share news about the great things happening at SHS! If you are an alum and would like to be added to our email distribution list, please contact us at [foshs@sacredheartmh.org](mailto:foshs@sacredheartmh.org), or fill out our form under 'Links' at [sacredheartmh.org/foshs](http://sacredheartmh.org/foshs). We also invite you to check out the special opportunities for alumni to attend and/or support our upcoming Blue and Gold Gala; details for this can also be found on our site. We look forward to hearing from you, and staying connected to our amazing SHS family of alumni and supporters!

**Gala sponsorships** - Do you, or someone you know, own a business that you'd like to advertise? Our upcoming Gala, which benefits Sacred Heart School, offers a great opportunity to get some extra attention! We have a few different options for advertising; our sponsors get an ad in our full-color program, which is distributed to all of our attendees, and recognition in our parish bulletin and our school's Facebook page, all while supporting a wonderful cause. Our advertising options are below:

- Center Page Spread - 8.5" x 11" - \$500.
- Full Page - 8.5" x 5.5" - \$300.
- Half Page - 4.5" x 5.5" - \$150.
- Quarter Page - 4.5" x 2.75" - \$75

To secure your ad, go to [sacredheartmh.org/foshs](http://sacredheartmh.org/foshs) - we have online and hard copy form options available there, as well as information about purchasing tickets for the Gala.. Questions? Email us at [foshs@sacredheartmh.org](mailto:foshs@sacredheartmh.org). Thank you!

**OUR PROMISE TO PROTECT**

The Diocese of Trenton is committed to the initiatives outlined in the U.S. Bishops' Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People in regard to the reporting and investigation of sexual abuse allegations involving minors. If you have been sexually abused as a minor by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church, or if you know of someone who was, you can report that abuse through the diocesan Abuse Hotline: 1-888-296-2965 or via e-mail at [abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org](mailto:abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org) The Diocese of Trenton reports any allegations of sexual abuse to the appropriate law enforcement agencies. Anyone with an allegation is also encouraged to provide that information to local law enforcement authorities.

**MARCH 16**

*Saint*  
**PATRICK'S**  
*Beef n' Beer*

Come celebrate St. Patrick's Day with us on Saturday, March 16th!  
Traditional Irish buffet dinner by Cathy's Catering,  
music, prize baskets, super 50/50 and more.

**SACRED HEART SCHOOL**

**PRIZE BASKETS | MUSIC | SUPER 50/50 | FOOD & DRINKS**

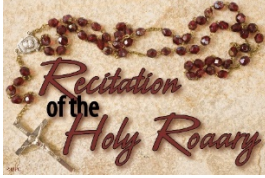
**6PM - 11PM - 250 HIGH STREET, MT HOLLY**

**\$50 PER PERSON**

First and Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ # of guests: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Table Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
You can reserve a table of 10 for \$500 - All guests must be 21+

Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Make check payable to: Sacred Heart School  
Send all orders to: SHS PTA - Questions? Email: [pta@sacred-heart-school.org](mailto:pta@sacred-heart-school.org)

March 9- March 10 2024  
**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**



**INVITATION FROM OUR LEGION OF MARY PRAYER GROUP**

Every other Friday and every other Wednesday, the Legion of Mary hosts four decades of the rosary and Divine Mercy novena. All prayer gatherings will be after the 8:30am Mass in the Chapel of the Two Hearts located in the front of the parish house. There is an access door in the front of the building.

The gatherings are as follows:

**Wednesdays** March 13, 27, April 10, 24

**Friday** March 8, 22, April 5, 19

It will continue following the same schedule.

All are welcome.

Please direct questions to Adele

609-668-8664 or Maridel 609-871-0222



SANTA MARIA COLUMBIETTES #1179  
MOUNT HOLLY, NJ 08048

INVITE YOU

WHAT: INFORMATION SESSION

WHEN: MARCH 12, 2024 7:30PM

WHERE: SACRED HEART LIBRARY  
260 HIGH STREET

MOUNT HOLLY, NJ 08060

As an auxiliary of the NJ State Columbiettes, we are currently hosting a membership drive and invite all interested Catholic women to learn more about our sisterhood. We gather monthly to socialize, pray, and contribute to various organizations. Please join us for an information session and refreshments.

CONTACT: JOANNE DAYWALT

215-206-9906 [JMDAYWALT@COMCAST.NET](mailto:JMDAYWALT@COMCAST.NET)



Terry's Travel Group along with Sacred Heart Church is very pleased to announce our Upcoming Trips with Collette Tours!

Open up your horizons and discover so much beauty of this wonderful Country and the World. Sicily and Southern Italy November 1-13 2024! Discover Spotlight on San Antonio Holiday: December 5-9!

And We are Thrilled to announce a very Special experience

2025: JUBILEE: THE HOLY YEAR! May 14-May 22 2025! Immerse yourself in this Faith Based Tour during this spectacular time!

The Collette Representative will be coming to present all the information of the Jubilee on **March 18<sup>th</sup> at 530 PM in the School Library**, with some information on all the other trips too.

This Tour of Faith features many Holy and Historic Shrines of Rome and amazing Assisi! Please call Terry Rensman 609-284-2517 for brochures, additional information and to reserve your spot for the presentation on March 18<sup>th</sup>.

Italy and so much more awaits you!



The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a "Theology on Tap" inspired event at Spellbound Brewery, in Mount Holly, on Thursday April 4th, at 7PM. Enjoy a local craft beer while you listen to Deacon Jim Casa present on "Lent, 2024? How was the experience? Really good...maybe, not so good."

The event is open to Catholic men aged 21 or over, and there is no fee to attend. The Knights will be providing snacks, but participants will be responsible for buying their own beverages. Please rsvp to [mikejudge@verizon.net](mailto:mikejudge@verizon.net) so we can get a head count.

**March 9- March 10 2024**  
**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

**Living the Good News Today**

*“Whoever lives the truth comes to the light.”*

Last August, my husband Jeff and I returned from a national gathering in St. Louis with an intentional visit to the state of Kentucky. Our primary objective for this detour was to visit Mammoth Cave National Park. At the park’s Visitor Center, we signed up for a guided tour of the cave. Although it was not described as strenuous, this hike offered challenges to many of the people in our group as we climbed and descended narrow places in the cave. We survived!

One of the interesting experiences while inside a cave is to appreciate the immense darkness all around us that conceals the many wonders within the rocks that form the cave, having no sense of how big or deep the cave is. These discoveries must have been incredible to those who first set foot inside the cave. While we stayed on the marked path of the cave with the assistance of powerful internal lighting to guide our way, I found myself wondering two things:

1. What was it like when the first explorers found this “mammoth” cave without the benefit of flashlights and electricity?

2. What kind of backup lighting was there if we lost power while we were deep inside the cave?

In this weekend’s Gospel, St. John makes it very clear that Jesus came into the world to be its light: *“Whoever lives the truth comes to the light.”* In order for there to be sight, there always needs to be light as well as receptors to receive the light. Even though a person is blind in the senses, there is still light around them that affects their sensory experiences. Their bodies adapt by accentuating other senses with a keener awareness of what is around them. Are we aware of the light that Christ brings to our lives? What are the things in our ordinary daily living that can distract us from the light? How do we stay focused?

Darkness manifests itself in the world in many more ways than just physical lack of light. In everyday experiences, we may encounter darkness through violence, hatred, arguments, racism and deep-seated prejudices, poverty, sickness, displacement of millions of people into homelessness, and other dire situations that bring desperation and isolation to others. For many people, those experiences lead to depression and hopelessness.

In his message for Lent 2024, Pope Francis addressed the darkness of global indifference by asking two questions:

- *Where are you?*
- *Where is your brother/sister?*

Because the Holy Father felt that these questions were even more pressing in our world today, he gave us this Lenten instruction:

*“Our Lenten journey will be concrete if, by listening once more to those two questions, we realize that even today we remain under the rule of Pharaoh. A rule that makes us weary and indifferent. A model of growth that divides and robs us of a future. Earth, air and water are polluted, but so are our souls. True, Baptism has begun our process of liberation, yet there remains in us an inexplicable longing for slavery. A kind of attraction to the security of familiar things, to the detriment of our freedom.”*

After we left Mammoth Cave, Jeff and I stopped at two more national park locations that had historical connection to President Abraham Lincoln, one of our country’s great presidents who had sweeping vision and great integrity. In one of those parks, there was a replica of the cabin in which the young Lincoln grew up with his family. It was the size of a two-car garage with one door and one window. Peering through the window, it seemed very dark inside. I wondered what it was like for a family to dwell in such a small place after sunset, with the only light coming from the fireplace and candles. Did our country’s ancestors store the light from their daytime that was spent outside in work and recreation? How did prayer sustain the light of their lives?

In our parish hymnal, there is a wonderful song called *“I Want to Walk As a Child of the Light”* that incorporates the messages of St. Paul’s letter to the Ephesians and the Gospel teaching by Jesus”

I want to walk as a child of the light.

I want to follow Jesus.

God set the stars to give light to the world.

The star of my life is Jesus.

In Him there is no darkness at all.

The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God.

Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

What does it require of us to live the truth? How will we turn toward the light during our waking moments? The song reminds us of our need to be open to how Christ can shine in our hearts, illuminating the way for us to be children of God. This must be our desire!

In St. Paul’s letter to the Ephesians, he uses very beautiful language to convey to them the grace that is theirs for no other reason than the gift of God’s great love for us. It is truly wondrous to be conscious of God’s generosity every day of our lives. God has a plan for all of us to share eternal life with Him. Because of the light of Christ, we are reborn into God’s grace, which allows us to know more fully our call...

*“For we are His [God’s] handiwork.”*

Teresa S. Redder, OFS

March 9- March 10 2024  
**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

**Good News Reflection**

Fourth Sunday of Lent  
March 10, 2024

**Pray:** Clothe me in the light of your mercy and grace so I might share your love with others.  
Amen.

2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23

Ps 137:1-6

Eph 2:4-10

Jn 3:14-21

**Follow the Light of the World into Eternal Life**

God's love is more than we can ever imagine. Through God's infinite and merciful love, He sent his only beloved Son, Jesus, to Earth to teach us how to love. He sacrificed his Son to suffer and die a cruel death on the cross to save us from eternal death and damnation for our sins and the sins of Adam and Eve. He sent the Holy Spirit to guide us out of darkness and promised that if we believed, we would be rewarded with true happiness in heaven.

What an amazing gift this is! Through our faith and commitment to Jesus, we can be assured that God, who knows everything about us, including our faults and imperfections, loves us and promises us salvation rather than judgment for our failings!

But what is meant by the words "everyone who believes in Him?" The action word "believes" is much more than merely saying, "I accept Jesus as my Lord and Savior." Real belief in Jesus involves turning one's life over to Jesus and His teachings. It means making Jesus the center of our lives. It's a commitment to surrender one's selfish ways and to love others the way Christ loves.

It is still true today that many people continue to stay in the darkness rather than have their sins exposed in the light. Sometimes it is self-denial, and they are afraid to confront their own sins. Other times, they don't want to admit to others that they are struggling. They fear that changing will be too hard. If only they would trust our most gracious and merciful God, who forgives and restores our souls when we offer our lives to Him.

We show belief when we come into the light and see, accept, and live in the truth of Jesus and His teachings. When we are true believers, our works of love will be Christ-like. Those who believe in Christ love Him and *want* to be like Him. Our good works will be done out of pure love and gratefulness for our God. Our belief – our faith in Christ – will go hand in hand with our actions – our works – to save us, and we will reach out to bring the Good News to others, too.

**Questions for Personal Reflection:**

How do you live your life in a way that others can see that you believe God loves you and He loves them, too? In what areas of your life must you continue trusting in the love and light of Christ to transform you out of darkness?

**Questions for Community Faith Sharing:**

How can you clearly and simply communicate the Gospel message of God's saving grace through Jesus to others? How can you sincerely share your testimony to show your personal need for a Savior?

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March 9- March 10 2024  
**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

**WEEKLY PLANNER**

**SUNDAY March 10<sup>th</sup>**  
**Fourth Sunday of Lent**



**7:30am Mass, 9:30am Mass Live Stream**  
**11:30am Mass**

**Confirmation Candidates & Families**  
**Mass 3:00pm**

**PARISH HOUSE AND CHAPEL CLOSED**

**MONDAY March 11<sup>th</sup>**  
Daily Mass

7:00am, 8:30am

**Confirmation Practice 5:30pm & 6:30pm**  
**Church**

**TUESDAY March 12<sup>th</sup>**  
Daily Mass

7:00am, 8:30am

Columbiettes 6pm PHCR then LIB  
Knights of Columbus 7:15pm PHMR

**WEDNESDAY March 13<sup>th</sup>**  
Daily Mass

7:00am, **8:30am Live Stream**

Legion of Mary Prayer in the Chapel 9:00am  
Basketball 6:30pm AUD

**THURSDAY March 14<sup>th</sup>**  
Daily Mass

7:00am, 8:30am

**Confirmation 4pm and 6pm**

**FRIDAY March 15<sup>th</sup>**  
Daily Mass

7:00am, 8:30am

Stations of the Cross 5:00pm

**SATURDAY March 16<sup>th</sup>**  
**Parish Office Closed**

Daily Mass 8:30am

**Sacred Heart PTA Beef & Beer 6pm AUD**  
**4:30pm Vigil Mass**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**SUNDAY March 17<sup>th</sup>**  
**Fifth Sunday of Lent**



**7:30am Mass, 9:30am Mass Live Stream**  
**11:30am Mass**



**St. Patrick's Day**

**PARISH HOUSE AND CHAPEL CLOSED**

**MONDAY March 18<sup>th</sup>**  
Daily Mass

7:00am, 8:30am

Travel Group Meeting 5:30pm LIB  
Reader Training 6:00pm Church

**TUESDAY March 19<sup>th</sup>**  
**Feast of Saint Joseph**

Daily Mass

7:00am, 8:30am

Rel. Ed. 5:30pm to 6:45pm  
Knights of Columbus Basketball 7:15pm AUD

**WEDNESDAY March 20<sup>th</sup>**  
Daily Mass

7:00am, **8:30am Live Stream**

Legion of Mary Prayer in the Chapel 9:00am  
R.E. Family Program Meeting 6:15pm Church

**THURSDAY March 21<sup>st</sup>**  
Daily Mass

7:00am, 8:30am

Legion of Mary 3:30pm PHCR  
Boy Scouts 7:00pm PHMR  
Adult Choir Practice Church

**FRIDAY March 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
Daily Mass

7:00am, 8:30am

Legion of Mary Prayer in the Chapel 9:00am  
Stations of the Cross 5:00pm

**SATURDAY March 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
**Parish Office Closed**

Daily Mass 8:30am

**4:30pm Vigil Mass**