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ILLUSTRATION BY PATT ILLOULI

# Sacred Heart Church

1040 THIRTY-NINTH STREET  
 SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95816  
 916-452-4136  
 HTTPS://SACREDHEART.CHURCH  
 OFFICE HOURS: M - F, 8:30 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

PARISH STAFF  
 MSGR. ROBERT P. WALTON, PASTOR  
 SERGIO DIAZ, DEACON  
 GILBERT PARRA, DEACON, RET.  
 MRS. THERESA SPARKS, SCHOOL PRINCIPAL  
 PARISH SCHOOL, 856 39TH STREET, 916-456-1576  
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 RITA SPILLANE, RCIA AND  
 ADULT FAITH FORMATION DIRECTOR, 916-452-4830  
 PAUL SUNDERMAN, YOUTH MINISTER, 916-456-1576  
 DR. DONALD KENDRICK, MUSIC DIRECTOR, 916-847-0424

LITURGY SCHEDULE  
 WEEKEND MASSES:  
 SATURDAY VIGIL 5:30 P.M.; SUNDAY 8, 9:30,  
 AND 11 A.M. (MUSIC WITH SCHOLA CANTORUM)  
 WEEKDAY MASSES:  
 M - F: 8 A.M.; SAT 9 A.M.  
 FIRST FRIDAY: 8 A.M. AND 12 NOON  
 HOLY DAYS: PLEASE SEE BULLETIN  
 NATIONAL HOLIDAYS: 9 A.M. (NO 8 A.M.)  
 LITURGY OF THE HOURS - MORNING PRAYER:  
 M - F: 7:30 A.M.; SAT 8:30 A.M.  
 RECONCILIATION: SATURDAY 4-5 P.M.  
 BAPTISM: PLEASE CALL RECTORY  
 MARRIAGE: PLEASE CALL RECTORY SIX MONTHS IN ADVANCE

Church Bulletin #2 2020 Sacramento, CA 916 / 921-8584 or cbco@cbco.net • Sacred Heart Church

**Divine Mercy Recreates Us**

In the First Reading, St. Luke, perhaps the first vocations director, presents the good side of Christian life: to win over the pagans to Christianity. This first, early Christian community is described as dedicated to the celebration of the Eucharist, prayer, and mutual support. It is easy to get caught up in community difficulties; here we are reminded to look beyond them to see God working among us. • The Responsorial is a song celebrating God's everlasting mercy, while maintaining fear of the Lord, that is, *the awe* that recognizes His goodness and mercy. We know how hard it is to forgive sometimes. This knowledge gives us a small glimpse into the depth of God's merciful love. He destroys the power of sin by responding to us with even greater mercy; hence, our great rejoicing at this last day (the eighth day) of the Easter octave. We do not ignore life's problems, but confront them with the knowledge that nothing can separate us from God's love. He loved us so much that He died for us, so how much more will He lead us through life's present trials into His peace. • In the Second Reading, St. Peter celebrates the dignity we gain from baptism. As God's adopted children, our inheritance is imperishable, undefiled, un-fading. If we view suffering from this perspective, St. Peter argues, it will lead to our purification by helping us learn what is really important and worth living and dying for. In this way, suffering purifies our intentions by teaching us to trust unconditionally God's providence. It helps us to see *sin* not as breaking the rules, but living in a way that falls short of our new dignity. In His death and resurrection, Jesus taught us that we are too

**Faith First**

precious to sell ourselves short. He thought so highly of us that He died for us. • Today's Gospel is Jesus' first apparition to His disciples after His death on the cross. He dispels their fear, greeting them with words of peace. Like a flashback to the creation story in Genesis, He breathes God's Spirit into them, recreating them in His Spirit. The handing on of the Holy Spirit, like Pentecost, is a powerful outpouring of love for the forgiveness of sin. Jesus' appearance in the flesh, with Thomas touching His wounds, is concrete evidence of the resurrection. For all generations of the faithful since these eyewitnesses, there is praise for believing without seeing.

**An Act of Spiritual Communion**  
 When we cannot attend Mass, we can still make an Act of Spiritual Communion, in which we express our faith in Christ and in His Presence in the Eucharist, and we ask Him to unite Himself with us. The basic elements of an Act of Spiritual Communion are an Act of Faith; an Act of Love; a desire to receive Christ; and an invitation to Him to come into your heart.  
 My Jesus, I believe  
 that You are in the Blessed Sacrament.  
 I love You above all things,  
 and I long for You in my soul.  
 Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally,  
 come at least spiritually into my heart.  
 As though You have already come,  
 I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You;  
 never permit me to be separated from You.  
 Amen.

**Prayer of the Week**

Let us pray as Christians thirsting for the risen life. • Heavenly Father and God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for He is alive and has become the Lord of life. From the waters of death you raise us with Him and renew your gift of life within us. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

*Give thanks to the Lord for He is good,  
 His love is everlasting.  
 His mercy endures forever.  
 ---Psalm 118*

**In Our Prayers**

**Daily Mass Intentions  
 April 19 - April 26**

<b>Sun</b>	8:00am	Coronavirus Victims (+)
	9:30am	For the People of the Parish
	11:00am	Bill & Mary Riehl (+)
<b>Mon</b>	8:00am	Jim Delaney (+)
<b>Tue</b>	8:00am	Altar Society Members (+)
<b>Wed</b>	8:00am	Kang Simon Lee (+)
<b>Thu</b>	8:00am	Jose, Anna, Lucy Oliveira (+)
<b>Fri</b>	8:00am	Frank & Catherine Werry (+)
<b>Sat</b>	9:00am	Kang Simon Lee (+)
	5:30pm	no Mass
<b>Sun</b>	8:00am	Creighton Norris (+)
	9:30am	For the People of the Parish
	11:00am	John Maitland (+)

**In Memoriam**

**Jim Delaney • April 12, 2020**  
 Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.  
 And let perpetual light shine upon them.

**Please Pray for the Sick**

Dick Grutzmacher, Rick Barbaria, Gene Yeager, Adria Laubacher, Margarita Enriquez, Marjorie Green, Robert McAleese, Helena Enright, John Vostrez, Robin Aurelius, Diana Zuniga, Suzy Riehl, Isabel Harper, Richard Honey, Dale Wooldridge, Donald Anderson, Nancy McGarry, Patrick Valenzuela, Michael Fletcher, Gary Pepe, William Daniel Reed, Stephanie Merenda, Victoria Generoso, Jim Collins, Robert Arkebauer, Libby Basurto, Dena Foster-Cook, Marie Schumacher, Ralph Goodall, Josephine Haddock, G.R. Gurley, Darren Stewart, Marge Mugartegui, Angel Curiel, Phillip Worth, Sonia Damiano, Ava Grace Arnold, Karen Amnon, Mary Terese Henriksen, Pamela Saenz, Stan Boyd, David Hunn, Addison Parker, Brett Stover, Norma Clark, Robert Clark, Jr.

**Meetings & Events**

**Sunday's Scripture Readings**

*Acts 2:42-47; 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31* • Happy Easter! It is true that Easter Sunday was last week, but the season of Easter continues for seven weeks, until Pentecost. Throughout those weeks, we are encouraged to bask in the glow of the Resurrection-to rejoice in the mystery of Christ's life, death, and resurrection that brought our salvation. Since 2000, the Church has combined the Easter celebration with the acknowledgment of the mercy of God that restored our right relationship with Him and allowed us entry into everlasting life. Thus, we have the Sunday after Easter celebrated throughout the Church as Divine Mercy Sunday. • Today's readings fit this theme. Both the first and second readings tell how people lived peaceful and blessed lives as they rejoiced in the Lord. In our reading from the Acts of the Apostles, we hear how the early Christians lived together-worshiping, sharing meals, and living in community. There appears to be a spiritual shield protecting them from the rest of the world. Under this shield, God adds to their numbers and strengthens their faith. This shield is God's mercy. • The First Letter of Peter also speaks of the blessings the early Christians experienced. Peter names the source of this grace when he says, *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy gave us new birth to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.* It is God's mercy that Peter celebrates and acknowledges as the source of our salvation. • The Gospel of John shows this mercy in action. Jesus appears to the disciples for the first time after his resurrection. He wishes them peace, and assures them he has truly died and been raised from the dead. He has fulfilled his promise to them, and his presence among them confirms all the teachings he had given them as they did the Father's work together. Then, through his own breath, Jesus passes on to the Apostles the Holy Spirit, granting them the ability to forgive sins. In this way, he commissions them to take an active role in imparting divine mercy on those they serve in God's name. • Finally, we hear the story of Thomas. This gives us a concrete example of divine mercy. Thomas could not believe in the Resurrection unless he saw evidence. Jesus accepts this weakness of faith, and accommodates Thomas' unbelief. This loving acceptance is an integral part of divine mercy. Thomas represents us and our various weaknesses. As he did with Thomas, Jesus strengthens us when we have doubts, and raises each of us

above our human frailties and, through his mercy, brings us into communion with the Father. • What love this is-what mercy he showers on us! As we contemplate the wonder of such mercy, let us show our gratitude by living as Jesus taught us, loving one another and showing mercy to those we encounter each day.

**Novena to End the Coronavirus Pandemic**  
 To be prayed for nine consecutive days  
*Novenas are an ancient tradition of prayer in times of great need. The practice traces its origin to when the apostles prayed for nine days between the Ascension of Jesus and the descent of the Holy Spirit.*  
**O** Mary, full of grace, patroness of this nation and Mother of the Church, in this time of worldwide illness we ask your intercession for the human family before your Son's throne of grace and mercy. We ask for strength in adversity, health in weakness, and comfort in sorrow. We pray for all who have lost jobs or security in this time. May your Son watch over all who are sick and their caretakers, bring to heaven all who have died, and give wisdom to all who are seeking a cure to the Coronavirus.  
**St. Damien of Molokai**, minister to lepers, pray for us.  
**St. Anthony the Great**, who healed infectious diseases, pray for us.  
**St. Edmund**, patron of victims of pandemics, pray for us.  
**St. Frances Cabrini**, foundress of hospitals, pray for us.  
**St. Agatha**, patron of nurses, pray for us.  
**St. Luke**, patron of doctors, pray for us.  
**St. Joseph**, patron of the dying, pray for us.  
**All you holy angels and saints**, pray for us.  
**Help** us, O Blessed Mother, to be filled with confidence in the tender compassion of our God. Calm our fears and help us to trust in the Divine Physician. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Season of Easter**

We focus on St. Luke's Acts of the Apostles. We are encouraged to open our Bibles or go to [USCCB.org](http://USCCB.org) to journey and pray with the first disciples. Though still apart, our prayers will unite us.

**Suspension of All Public Masses and Meetings**

Bishop Jaime Soto has suspended the public celebration of Sunday and weekday Masses for the Diocese of Sacramento and public parish meetings until further notice. • Visit the Diocese of Sacramento website at <https://www.scd.org/coronavirus> for more information and help-

ful resources.

**Resources to Sustain our Faith and Prayer Life**

While celebration of the Mass is suspended, Sacred Heart Church will be open Mondays through Fridays from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm; Saturdays from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm and 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm; and on Sundays from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm for private prayer and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. • Confessions will continue to be heard on Saturdays from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm. **We have posted on the Parish Website at [www.sacredheart.church](http://www.sacredheart.church) some spiritual resources:**

- There are a number of websites that celebrate Mass daily.
- [Daily Mass with Word on Fire](#), Bishop Barron's website
- [EWTN](#) Eternal Word Television Network
- [Catholic TV](#)
- Salt and Light Media [Canadian Daily TV](#) on You Tube.

Here are some spiritual resources: You may also find the following daily meditations on the Readings of Mass helpful:

- The University of St Louis has a brilliant website exploring the depths of Sunday readings. Explore historical cultural context, thoughts from the early church, scripture in depth, and other areas of significant import. Find it at [liturgy.slu.edu](http://liturgy.slu.edu)
- [Word on Fire](#) is Bishop Barron's website which is extremely popular. Bishop Barron explains the Sunday readings each week. The site has numerous videos, homilies, and other Catholic resources.