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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
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 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.net • Sacred Heart Church •

Jesus, our Way, our Truth, our Life!

In the First Reading, St. Luke is addressing two groups of Jews, those who spoke Greek, the Hellenists, and those who spoke Aramaic, the more conservative Jews. The money collected by the community to help widows and orphans was distributed to the Aramaic Jews, not the Hellenists, even though the latter were the majority in Jesus' time. Complaints about this injustice led the Apostles to turn to God for discernment. They chose seven Hellenists for charity within the community. This charitable service was called "diaconia", hence the first deacons of the Church. Later their responsibilities grew to include preaching. • The Responsorial is the 33rd Psalm. In this psalm, God is praised for His fidelity to His Word and the Truth, in spite of all the mistreatment and sometimes murder of His messengers, for the people really did not want to hear the truth. God did not abandon His promises. He did not permit our infidelity to destroy His keeping His promise to us; rather He sent His very Word, Jesus, into the world to save us. Jesus is the incarnate proof that God is always true to His word, for He is the Word of Truth. (*May we as followers of Christ, always strive to be true to our word.*) God is not watching over us to catch us in some fault, but rather to protect us, His beloved, from harming ourselves: much as we watch over our own children to protect them from harm. • In the Second Reading, St. Peter speaks analogously of those inside and outside the Faith. Jesus is the sure, unshakable foundation: the chosen, precious cornerstone upon which the Church is built. We too are stones and Jesus is the image and promise of our becoming such. If we do not follow Jesus, the rock, then He becomes a stumbling stone to us. He has taught us the Truth of God. When we do not follow Him, we choose what is false. We condemn ourselves, for we reject true life, the life He offers. God calls us to incredible dignity as His chosen race. By our Baptism, we share in His royal priesthood. We have been set apart and consecrated unto the Lord, as a holy nation. • The Gospel is taken from the Last Super discourse, found in the part of St. John that covers many of Jesus' thoughts from throughout His ministry. He is *the Way*, the sheep gate; *the Truth*, Wisdom incarnate; and *the Life*, the source and goal of our lives. We

Faith First

cannot know God the Father except through Him. His leaving at that time is not abandonment, but what is best for us, for He prepared the way ahead of us. As His disciples, we can represent Him now, while on earth.

Prayer of the Week

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, you have revealed to the nations your saving power and filled all ages with the words of a new song. Hear the echo of this hymn. Give us voice to sing your praise throughout this season of joy. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Adult Faith Formation Opportunity

Since May 1 a group of individuals have begun to gather via Zoom each afternoon for 10 days to listen to a lecture series by Prof. David Fagerberg, Ph.D., University of Notre Dame on: C.S. Lewis, "Encountering God through Fiction." Many of us have read C.S. Lewis' books, *The Great Divorce*, *Mere Christianity*, and the *Narnia Series* beginning with *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*. Prof. Fagerberg explores themes of atonement, creation, and transfiguration in his 25 minute lectures spread over 15 lectures. • If you are interested in participating in a similar kind of lecture series, please email Rita Spillane at ritaspillane@gmail.com.

Church Hours Have Been Modified

Due to some unfortunate incidents in the church over the past few weeks, we have decided to modify the hours parishioners are able to visit the church. • While the public celebration of Mass is suspended, Sacred Heart Church will be open Mondays through Fridays from 8:30 am to 10:30 am; Saturdays from 9:00 am to 11:00 am and 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm; and on Sundays from 9:00 am to 11:30 am 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 in the area near the piano. We are most grateful to Fr. Guillermo Hernandez for hearing the confessions.

In Our Prayers

**Daily Mass Intentions
May 10 - May 17**

Sun	8:00am	Don & Anita Cerqui (+)
	9:30am	Noreen McNulty (+)
	11:00am	For the People of the Parish
Mon	8:00am	Gene Vittori (+)
Tue	8:00am	John Gilmore (+) & Family
Wed	8:00am	Janice Spillane (+)
Thu	8:00am	Dorothy Domich (+)
Fri	8:00am	John Silviera (+)
Sat	9:00am	Ralph Goodall (+)
	5:30pm	no Mass
Sun	8:00am	Patricia & Creighton Norris (+)
	9:30am	For the People of the Parish
	11:00am	For all People in Need

In Memoriam

Janice Spillane • April 29, 2020
Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord.
And let perpetual light shine upon her.

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, 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.

Sunday's Scripture Readings

Acts 6:1-7; 1 Peter 2:4-9; John 14:1-12.
• Is religion all about how we get to God or all about how God comes to us? Catholics believe God reaches us through Jesus Christ who gives us the way to God, the truth that comes from God, and life with God. • Christ, then, is the key. He is not just another religious figure in human history. He is central in answering the question "How do we get to God?" But he is central in a way we do not often recognize. • Today's Gospel account puts us in the proper setting. In it, we find Jesus at the Last Supper giving final thoughts to his Apostles just before he is about to suffer and die. He is saying goodbye to them and they are confused and upset. In the passage just before today's Gospel, Peter asks, *Master, where are you going?* (John 13:36) and Jesus replies, *Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places... I am going to prepare a place for you.* • Thomas pipes up with, *How can we know the way?* Jesus' reply is, *I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, then you will also know my Father. From now on you do know him and have seen him.* • That is the big clue, and it tells us that we are asking the wrong question when we ask, "How do we get to God? How do we find God?" The truth is that *God finds us!* In Christ, he is among us, searching for us, calling us to himself. • God comes looking for us in his Son, Jesus Christ. It is not we who figure out how to get to God. God is already here. • Back in the Book of Genesis, in the eleventh chapter, we learn of the tower of Babel. Do you remember the story? It was all about a tower we humans tried to build in order to reach heaven. God knocked it down. He knocked it down because it was of our making, fitting our specifications. It was built on human arrogance, and that is exactly the reverse of reality. The reality is that God comes to us, we do not get to God. We do not pridefully achieve heaven; all we can do is humbly receive it. • To receive Christ is to receive the Father. To receive Christ one must be moved by his Spirit. But do we know exactly who has received him? Jesus says, *In my Father's house there are many dwelling places*, which means there is room for anyone. God decides who abides there; we do not. • So it is not a question of how we get to heaven. It is a question, rather, of how we receive and accept God's presence in us. • We go to Christ in the sacraments. Where he now lives, there are many dwellings places, plenty of room for us all, in all of our diversities. The question, "How do we get to God?" has been answered. The only unanswered question is, "Will we accept him and then share his love with others?"

Let Your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in You.

Morning Prayer

Since March 19 a group of 10-14 people have been gathering via Zoom each morning, Monday through Friday at 9:00 am to pray together the Divine Office also known as Morning Prayer. The group uses the Morning Prayer found on the free website universalis.com. This 25 minute practice has given this group a wonderful opportunity to pray the psalms together, to listen to a reading from the New Testament, and to share prayers for patience, endurance, and gratitude. It is a wonderful way to begin each day. • If you are interested in joining this prayer practice, email Rita Spillane at ritaspillane@gmail.com.

Meetings & Events

Food Pantry Donations Needed

Recently, the Parish has received inquiries from families and individuals seeking food. Sacred Heart Parish will be collecting non-perishable food items so we can assemble bags for takeaway. The pantry is in need of canned meat (chicken, ham, tuna, Spam etc.) marinara sauce, pasta, mac & cheese, peanut butter/jelly, crackers, canned vegetables, fruit, and beans, cereal, other canned meals, mayo, mustard, ketchup, salad dressings, microwave popcorn and cake/brownie/cookie mixes. We are also in need of ready to eat, small individual/single serving size items such as, fruit/dessert cups, tuna/chicken salad individual pouch/can, dried fruit/nut snack packs, small cracker packages, juice boxes, and energy/granola bars. A bag filled with non-perishable, unexpired food may be left inside the altar rail. Many local families and individuals rely on assistance from our Society of St. Vincent de Paul pantry. Thank you for your ongoing generosity! Questions? Call Emilia Jankowski at 916-927-1667.

Parish Website Resources

We have posted on the Parish Website at <https://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 helpful spiritual resources and some daily meditations on the Scripture readings of Mass:

- St. Louis University 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
- [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.

*I am the true vine and you are the branches,
says the Lord.*

*Whoever remains in me, and I in him,
bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.*

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Due to the constraints imposed by the spread of the coronavirus, the RCIA members have also learned about flexibility in practicing their Catholic faith! RCIA has continued to meet via Zoom twice a week through this quarantine period. We have focused on reading the gospel of Matthew and the Acts of the Apostles. Each Sunday we go to Mass virtually and then gather via Zoom to discuss the readings of the day. Although we were unable to gather at the Easter Vigil, each RCIA member will be received individually at 3 small gatherings of 10 or less during the month of May. While we earnestly wish we as a parish could be with them at this time we will join with them prayerfully as they enter into full communion with the Catholic Church. • Please pray for the continued conversion of our three RCIA members: Laura Davila, Brennan Murphy, and Bob Spangler. We thank God for the gift and witness of their faith. We welcome them joyfully with open hearts.