



ILLUSTRATION BY PATT ILLOULI

# Sacred Heart Church

1040 THIRTY-NINTH STREET  
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95816  
916-452-4136  
[HTTPS://SACREDHEART.CHURCH](https://sacredheart.church)  
OFFICE HOURS: M - F, 8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.

## PARISH STAFF

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## 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.)

RECONCILIATION: SATURDAY 4-5 P.M.

BAPTISM: PLEASE CALL RECTORY

MARRIAGE: PLEASE CALL RECTORY SIX MONTHS IN ADVANCE

## Fifth Sunday of Lent

### Jesus' Death Gives Us Freedom

In the First Reading, the stage is set, God wants to create a new covenant with His people, despite their prior lack of fidelity.

The *new covenant* is more profound and internal, written on our *hearts* (not the center of affection, but the source of our intellect, our *minds*). In this way, our knowledge of the Lord's ways would be as natural to us as breathing. • The Responsorial Psalm 51 not only asks for forgiveness, but also asks God to recreate our heart. Sin is spiritual death, so by sinning we choose death; only the Holy Spirit can give us back our life, His breath. The Holy Spirit imparts the knowledge of the Lord's ways and brings about our deliverance from sin and our conversion to the Lord's path. • In Old Testament Jewish terminology, *perfect* meant to become a priest. In today's Second Reading, St. Paul presents us with two meanings for perfect: trust and obedience to God and being priest. Jesus was not only our high priest and advocate with God, but also the Victim being offered for our sin. He both offers and is the offering. He is fully perfect. • In today's Gospel the word *glorify* is redefined. It was normally understood to indicate power or magnificence. Here it acquires a new meaning: *an outpouring of God's love for us*. This outpouring is most manifest by Jesus' death on the cross. The crucifixion is the *Sacrament*: the *visible sign of the invisible reality* of His love for us. In this passage, Jesus forecasts His own death. He is about to be lifted up on the cross. This is the moment of judgment; the choice has to be made between life (found in Jesus' death on the cross) and death (Satan's realm in this world).

### Through Death to New Life

"Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed" (1 Peter

### Faith First

2:24). • The immense suffering of humanity can easily be understood as a sign of God's wrath, as a punishment. And we, looking at the horrors that plague our world, are saying, "How can there be a loving God when all this is happening?" Jesus, however, took upon himself all this suffering and lifted it up on the cross, not as a curse but as a blessing. Jesus made the cup of God's wrath into a cup of blessings. That's the mystery of the Eucharist. Jesus died for us so that we may live. He poured out his blood for us so that we may find new life. He gave himself away for us, so that we can live in community. He became for us food and drink so that we can be fed for everlasting life. Our suffering can no longer be a divine punishment. Jesus transformed it as the way to new life. His blood, and ours too, now can become martyr's blood--blood that witnesses to a new covenant, a new communion, a new community. --Henri Nouwen.

### Prayer of the Week

Father in heaven,  
the love of your Son led him to accept  
the suffering of the cross  
that his brothers and sisters  
might glory in new life.  
Change our selfishness into self-giving.  
Help us to embrace the world  
you have given us,  
that we may transform the darkness  
of its pain into the life and joy of Easter.  
Grant this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

*Saint Joseph, Protector and Guide, pray for us.*

### Indoor Mass

Our regular weekday and weekend Mass schedule has resumed with health restrictions. The church is opened one half hour before Mass and 10 minutes after Mass, so that the pews may be sanitized. • Please continue to follow all health restrictions: wearing a face mask, sanitizing your hands frequently, maintaining social distancing, and contact tracing. Thank you for observing these restrictions.

### Attend Mass Virtually!

If you are choosing to stay home during the pandemic, you can still attend Sunday Mass virtually online. Visit the parish website at <https://sacredheart.church> for various Masses available.

*Create a clean heart in me, O God.*

*Psalm 51*

## In Our Prayers

### Daily Mass Intentions March 21 -- March 28

Sun	8:00am	Joe Doscher (+)
	9:30am	Roger Dhesi (+)
	11:00am	For the People of the Parish
Mon	8:00am	Roy Lee (+)
Tue	8:00am	Int...Justin Lee
Wed	8:00am	Mary Maitland (+)
Thu	8:00am	Kang Simon Lee (+)
Fri	8:00am	Int...George Rust
Sat	9:00am	Ken Barber (+)
	5:30pm	No Intention
Sun	8:00am	Don & Anita Cerqui (+)
	9:30am	For the People of the Parish
	11:00am	Barbara Reed (+)

### In Memoriam

#### Martin McGovern

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord.  
And let perpetual light shine upon him.

### Please Pray for the Sick

Rita Johnston, Anne Smith, Patrick Valenzuela, Tom Duval, Dick Grutzmacher, Rick Barbaria, Margarita Enriquez, Marjorie Green, Robert McAleese, Helena Enright, Robin Aurelius, Diana Zuniga, Richard Honey, Dale Wooldridge, Nancy McGarry, Michael Fletcher, Gary Pepe, William Daniel Reed, Stephanie Merenda, Victoria Generoso, Jim Collins, Robert Arkebauer, Libby Basurto, Dena Foster-Cook, Josephine Haddock, G.R. Gurley, Darren Stewart, Marge Mugartegui, Angel Curiel, Phillip Worth, Sonia Damiano, Ava Grace Arnold, Karen Amnon, Mary Terese Henricksen, Pamela Saenz, Stan Boyd, David Hunn, Addison Parker, Brett Stover, Norma Clark, Robert Clark, Jr.

**Whoever serves me must follow me, says the Lord;**



## Catholic Relief Services Collection

This weekend we take up the CRS collection to help Jesus in disguise. This collection helps six Catholic agencies to provide relief and support for struggling communities and to work for peace and reconciliation among our marginalized brothers and sisters here and around the world. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection. • Learn more about the collection at [www.usccb.org/catholic-relief](http://www.usccb.org/catholic-relief).

## First Holy Communion

The third grade students at Sacred Heart Parish School have been patiently waiting to receive First Holy Communion. They received their First Communion on Saturday, March 13 at a special Mass. • Some of our Catholic Faith Formation students, attending non-Catholic schools, were able to make their First Holy Communion before the suspension of indoor Mass, and others were not. These students will be receiving Holy Communion in the coming weeks at a Sunday Mass chosen by their families. Please keep our children in your prayers as they join us at the Table of the Lord.

## Sacrament of Confirmation

The Catholic Faith Formation students received their Confirmation on Friday, March 6 at a special Mass. • The eighth grade students at Sacred Heart Parish School will receive the sacrament of Confirmation this Friday, March 26. • Our students have looked forward to this day for well over a year and feel especially grateful for this opportunity. Please remember them in your prayers, asking the Holy Spirit to strengthen their faith as Christian disciples..

## St. Vincent de Paul 2020 Year-End Report

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul conference serving St Mary's and Sacred Heart parishes just completed its 2020 annual report. Even during the COVID-19 pandemic, the SVdP volunteers provided virtual home visits. Through your support of the Annual Catholic Appeal and your monthly food donations the SVdP volunteers made 78 home visits in the two-parish area. The volunteers served 137 adults & 87 children, provided 186 bags of food, assisted 16 with rent or lodging payments, another 14 with utility payments and 9 vouchers for clothing and mattresses. Additionally, food donations are provided to the Catholic Newman Center at Sacramento State when school is in session. Thank you for your generosity! • Questions please call Emilia at 916-927-1667.

## Pietà Chapel Update

The wood paneling has been installed, and the decorative ceiling has been completed. This week, the artist will return to paint the walls above the paneling and add final decorative trim. It won't be long before the chapel will reopen. • As a reminder, the entire Pietà Chapel project, as well as new exterior lighting and anti-graffiti sealant applied to the church, parish hall and rectory, have all been funded, not by the ordinary offertory contributions but from the Parish Building Fund. • Thank you for your donations to the Parish Building Fund.

## Meetings & Events

### Did You Know?

March 15, 1931 was the date the cornerstone of Sacred Heart Church was blessed and laid. It began a construction project that included the church and rectory, and was completed on September 13, 1931. (The entire project was completed in six months!) The granite cornerstone is located on the 39th Street side of the church, south of the Bell Tower. Take a look at it, and say a prayer of thanksgiving for the parishioners who made it possible for us to come together for Mass in our beautiful church.

## Food Donation Next Weekend

As we continue our Lenten journey, consider making a food donation to The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul. The next collection will be next weekend, March 27/28. The pantry is in need canned meat such as chicken, spam and ham, cereal, jelly/jam, peanut butter, juice boxes, crackers, cake, brownie, and/or cookie mixes, mayo, mustard, relish, pickles and salad dressing. Wrapped plastic utensils from take-out food is also in needed. Please check expiration dates on all items as we are not able to distribute out-of-date items. A bag filled with non-perishable, unexpired food may be left inside the altar rail. Questions please contact Emilia at 916-927-1667. Thank you for your generosity!

## Altar Society News

Please consider a donation *in memory of* or *in honor of* a loved one to help us beautify the church sanctuary with flowers for Easter. Checks should be made payable to *Sacred Heart Altar Society*. Include your name, phone number, and the name(s) of those being remembered or honored. An envelope marked: "ATTN: Altar Society" may be dropped in the collection basket at Mass or may be mailed to Claire Hyde at 5500

Spillman Avenue, Sacramento 95819. Please return donations by March 23. Thank you for your generosity.

## Sign Up to Attend Weekend Mass—Then Attend!

During this stage of pandemic categories, we are allowed to have only 90 people in the church: 70 who sign up ahead of time on the parish's website online Sign-Up Genius and 20 walk-ins. Last weekend, we were close to capacity at the Masses. Sign ups are highly recommended. If you signed up and are unable to attend, then please call the rectory, as soon as possible, so that we can remove your name. This will enable us to admit more walk-ins without asking them to wait.

## Annual Appeal Continues: Please be Generous!

Preliminary reports on the Annual Catholic Appeal indicate the Sacred Heart in-pew collection is about 25% of the amount gathered in past years at this point in the Campaign. Because of the pandemic, this drop-off is understandable. But in a twist of fate, the pandemic also created a greater-than-normal need for donations. Please, if you have not yet donated, you can do so by using an envelope found in the vestibule (or received in the mail from the Diocese) or by donating online by clicking on the website <https://www.scd.org/catholic-foundation/donate-annual-catholic-appeal>. Remember, 25% of your donation is returned to the parish.

## Landscape Changes

Several weeks ago, an arborist recommended that the tree in front of the Rectory be removed. However, to our surprise, the damage was not as extensive as first thought. As a result, the tree has been pruned in an attempt to save the tree for a few more years. Unfortunately, the four Italian Cypress alongside the church on 39<sup>th</sup> Street needed to be removed.



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