



ILLUSTRATION BY PATT ILLLOULI

Sacred Heart Church

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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

Fourth Sunday of Easter / Good Shepherd Sunday

Truly, Our Good Shepherd

Today's First Reading comes from St. Peter's speech to the Sanhedrin regarding the healing of the cripple. He tells the Jewish leaders that they rejected the Source of salvation that Yahweh had sent them. The implied message is, if they do not change their ways and stop obstructing the preaching of God's Word, then they too will be rejected, much as they rejected Jesus by their own actions. • The Responsorial, Psalm 118, treats of the stone rejected by the builders. When Jesus was crucified, the cross was placed into the cleft of a particular stone left behind by the builders because it was flawed. The One the world rejected became the very Source of salvation. As Jesus did, we are encouraged to trust God above man, for in the end, Jesus was vindicated. Every human judgment declared His defeat, but His love on the cross conquered hate and sin. And finally, in this Psalm, we express true gratitude for all God has done for us. • The Second Reading highlights the present honor we now share in being called God's children; reminding us that when we pass into the next world, we will share an even greater honor, when we share in God's glory. • In today's Gospel, Jesus equates Himself to the Good Shepherd, the fulfillment of that prophecy. Israel had other shepherds, kings and priests that misled God's people, but Israel was promised that God Himself would be her Shepherd. As such, Jesus speaks very affectionately of His care and concern for His flock. He knows them like no one else. Jesus knows each by name, and He will give His life for their protection from all danger, especially the most lethal, namely, sin and alienation from God. He truly is our Good Shepherd. • May we always recognize and follow His voice.

Faith First

Prayer of the Week

God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
 though your people walk
 in the dark valley of darkness,
 no evil should they fear;
 for they follow in faith
 the call of the shepherd
 whom you have sent for their hope
 and strength.
 Attune our minds to the sound of his voice,
 lead our steps in the path he has shown,
 that we may know the strength
 of his outstretched arm
 and enjoy the light of your presence forever.
 We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Christian Ministry

Disciples learn from and strive to imitate their masters. Christian disciples strive to be like Christ Jesus by loving and serving others in imitation of him. • The common vocation of all Christians is to minister--that is, to serve others in the name of Christ. Minister means "one who serves." Christian ministry means serving others in Christ and because of Christ. Through Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist every member of the Church is called to serve others in imitation of Jesus. This is the universal vocation of all disciples. Jesus empowers us for ministry by sending us the Holy Spirit who showers on us the gifts necessary to do God's work.

The Priesthood

The priest is an "alter Christus" which is Latin for another Christ. He is called to be a witness of Christ to the flock that has been entrusted to him as

their shepherd. He is a minister of the sacraments, proclaimer of the word, teacher of the faith, and steward of the Church. The priest is meant to accompany and lead the flock entrusted to his care through this world in such a way as they are able to reach the eternal kingdom of heaven.

The Religious Life

Men and women called to live the religious life as religious sisters and brothers or monks and nuns are also called to this act of accompaniment. They are called through a life dedicated to poverty, chastity and obedience to be a witness of the life of heaven living here on earth. They are to serve as a reminder and an encouragement to us to live our own lives with hearts and minds fixed on Christ. They live their lives in radical contrast to this world that is fading away.

In Our Prayers

Daily Mass Intentions April 25 -- May 2

Sun	8:00am	Int...Steve Flannery
	9:30am	Roger Dhesi (+)
	11:00am	For the People of the Parish
Mon	8:00am	Jose, Anna & Lucy Oliveira (+)
Tue	8:00am	Int...Flannery Family
Wed	8:00am	No Intention
Thu	8:00am	No Intention
Fri	8:00am	Margaret Reindl (+)
Sat	9:00am	Special Intention
	5:30pm	Sch. Found. Mem. & Rem.
Sun	8:00am	For the People of the Parish
	9:30am	No Intention
	11:00am	No Intention

In Memoriam

Let us pray for all those who have died
 and are in need of prayer.
 May they enjoy peace, happiness, and light.

Please Pray for the Sick

Lana Berriesford, Roy Lofing, Mickey Lloyd, Rita Johnston, Patrick Valenzuela, Tom Duval, Dick Grutzmacher, Rick Barbara, 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.

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;

Parish School News

• Congratulations to the second graders who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation this past week. They are now ready to receive their First Communion on Saturday, May 1st.

• The eighth graders have begun the process of ending their time at Sacred Heart Parish School. On Tuesday of last week they posed for their final pictures as Sacred Heart students. We will continue to celebrate them during next five weeks with prayer services, virtual assemblies and some surprises. The 8th grade will graduate on May 18th. • All of our graduates will be attending the Catholic high school of their choice next fall.

ACA: Latest Figures

The latest report from the Annual Catholic Appeal indicate that Sacred Heart's in-pew collection is about 50% of the amount gathered in past years at this point in the Campaign. The campaign accepts and processes donations all year long, but most donations seem to be made between February and April. We have a lot of ground to make up! 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.

Indoor Mass

Our regular weekday and weekend Mass schedule has resumed with health restrictions. The church is opened one half hour before Mass and closed 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.

*The stone rejected by the builders
has become the corner stone. -- Ps. 118*

Altar Society News

We are looking for volunteer(s) to provide and care for the flowers on the Blessed Sacrament Altar during the month of May and June. Several of our months are covered by two friends who share the responsibility. • For more information, please contact Linda at 916-541-0346 if you are interested.

Lenten Food Collection was Bountiful

Never underestimate the generosity of caring Sacred Heart parishioners during this past Lenten season. Our Society of St. Vincent de Paul pantry is restocked and ready to assist families and individuals. Thank you for your kindness and for allowing others to have food they need to feed their families. Because of your generosity, we will NOT have a food collection in April. The next collection will be announced in the bulletin. As always, thank you for your support of this important parish ministry.

Meetings & Events

Year of Saint Joseph

On this, the 150th anniversary of the proclamation of Saint Joseph as patron saint of the universal Church, Pope Francis is asking us to join him in celebrating a special "Year of Saint Joseph." As the universal Church embraces with renewed strength the spirituality of its patron, St. Joseph, we pray for his intercession and to follow his example, along with the tenderness of his beloved Spouse, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the merciful love of our Lord Jesus Christ. • There are a limited number of prayer cards to celebrate this Year of Saint Joseph placed next to the parish bulletins. Please pick up one as we celebrate the feast of Saint Joseph the Worker on May 1st. • St. Joseph, pray for us.

Referrals to

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Sacred Heart and St. Mary's Conference assists individuals and families in need.

If you know someone or a family in need of resources (food, clothing, rent and/or utility assistance) and lives in the parish boundaries of St. Mary or Sacred Heart, they can reach us by calling and leaving a message at 916-476-8481.

First Friday Mass at Noon

Due to the pandemic, Sacred Heart has been unable to offer First Friday Mass at noon (or Adoration followed by Benediction). It is to be hoped that this practice may be resumed at some point in the future, but for now, those who wish to attend on a First Friday should just do so at 8:00 a.m.

**Pastoral Letter
from Bishop Soto**

This week, Bishop Soto issued a Call to Holiness Pastoral Letter on revitalizing Catholic parish life by offering greater hospitality and outreach to all

our parish communities. You are encouraged to read this letter, which can be found on the Diocesan website at <https://www.scd.org/sites/default/files/2021-04/Call-to-Holiness.pdf>

Baptism Class for Parents and Godparents

A baptism preparation class is offered the second Monday of every month at 6:30 pm in the Parish Hall. To attend you must sign up by calling the Parish Office at 452-4236 ext. 2. At the class, the necessity and importance of baptism are explained as are the obligations and duties of parents and godparents. Baptisms take place on the first and third Sundays of the month after the 11:00 am Mass (around 12:15 pm). Parents and godparents must attend a preparation class. For more details, please call the Parish Office.

Diocesan Convocation

On Saturday April 17, Bishop Soto and the Diocesan Pastoral Council hosted a convocation for all parishes and their Parish Pastoral Councils. The convocation, which had over 300 participants from 84 parishes, was held virtually, and was the first of two meetings on the role of a parish pastoral council. The second meeting will be held this fall, in person if possible. The duties of a council were examined and explained. • If you are interested in learning about the Sacred Heart Pastoral Council, visit the Parish website at <https://sacredheart.church/parish-councils> for information and members. • Our Pastoral Council meets monthly.

Support for Advertisers and Local Businesses

During this pandemic, many small businesses in our neighborhood have been struggling due to loss of patronage. Some of these businesses advertise in our bulletin, others are nearby shops that are used to serving our parishioners. If you are financially able, please support these neighborhood establishments at this critical time for them. • We thank the businesses who choose to advertise in our bulletin.



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