



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

First Sunday of Advent

With Hearts Always Open & Ready

Most of Jeremiah speaks of the devastating punishment to befall Israel for her infidelity. However, today's First Reading from Jeremiah focuses on the Lord's restoration of Israel, not because she deserved it but because the Lord favored her and would be merciful, sending an anointed One to guide her in His way. • The Responsorial reminds us that to please God, we must have hearts open to His instruction. By nature, we are inclined to yield to sinful and selfish habits. We may fool ourselves into thinking that we are doing God's will, when in reality we are doing what we want. If we are humble of heart, we can hear what God wants to tell us. He wants us to choose justice, for that will lead us along the real path of peace, joy, and life. True *fear of the Lord* means having the right perspective, recognizing that God is our Creator. We are His creatures, called to obey, wherein we find life's true freedom. • In the Second Reading, St. Paul reminds us to love and serve the Lord with all our heart, soul, and strength *and* to love others as we love ourselves: the two basic elements of Christianity. It is good to be reminded of these so we can keep reaching for that higher plane of conduct and pleasing God. • In today's Gospel we again find Jesus speaking of the end of the world, perhaps not literally but symbolically so that His listeners could understand. The eternal truth here is, that no matter when the world ends, we should be *vigilant*. We do not know how much time we have to live, so we should treat each moment of life as precious. We cannot afford to postpone our conversion until tomorrow. Especially in this holy season of Advent, we should dedicate ourselves to virtue and prayer. Our goal is to be ready to greet the Lord whenever He calls us to Himself, whether at the world's end or at the end of our earthly

life, whenever that is for us. May we always respond be ever-ready.

Faith First

Prayer of the Week

Father in heaven, our hearts desire the warmth of your love and our minds are searching for the light of your Word. Increase our longing for Christ our Savior and give us the strength to grow in love, that the dawn of his coming may find us rejoicing in his presence and welcoming the light of his truth. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing of Advent Wreath

Let us pray. Heavenly Father, we look forward to the celebration of Christmas and to the coming of the Lord in glory. Bless this Advent wreath and all of us. As we pray daily around it, fill us with your life and strengthen us for our daily task. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lighting the First Violet Candle

Heavenly Father, as we begin this Advent, give light to our eyes and peace to our hearts. May the Lord find us doing good, and watching and waiting in joy when He comes. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Advent Giving Tree

Please consider giving a gift to a less fortunate member of our community through our Giving Tree, located by the Our Lady of Grace side altar, near the piano. Place your gift card with its tag by the Giving Tree by Sunday

December 19. Gift cards may also be left in the Parish Office mailbox. • Online donations to the Giving Tree's general fund can also be made through the Sacred Heart Parish website at <<https://sacredheart.com>>. • Your generosity will be greatly appreciated.

Advent Penance Service

Our Advent Penance Service will be on Monday, December 13 at 6:30 pm. Additional priests will be present to hear confessions. The Sacrament of Penance is an excellent way to prepare for the coming of the Lord.

An Advent Reflection

Over the centuries, countless saints have recommended that we spend time every day in silence and prayer, striving to put ourselves in the presence of God. • As we begin our Christmas preparations here is something to ponder: St. Teresa of Calcutta said, "The fruit of silence is prayer. The fruit of prayer is faith. The fruit of faith is love. The fruit of love is service. The fruit of service is peace."

In Our Prayers

Daily Mass Intentions November 28 -- December 5

Sun	8:00am	For the People of the Parish
	9:30am	Martha Anderson (+)
	11:00am	Jeffrey Crawford (+)
Mon	8:00am	Jane Garofalo (+)
Tue	8:00am	Theo Fong (+)
Wed	8:00am	Stefan Jankowski (+)
Thu	8:00am	Hilario Raboy (+)
Fri	8:00am	Nita York (+)
Sat	9:00am	Don Middleton (+)
	5:30pm	SHPS Found. Mem. & Rem.
Sun	8:00am	Edward & Barry O'Connell (+)
	9:30am	For the People of the Parish
	11:00am	Maria Alicia Flores (+)

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

Tom Slakey, Bill Blucher, John O'Connor, Pam Milchrist, Valerie Hoag, Hope Harrington, Diane Peters, Michael Kelly, Brian McKenna, Patrick Valenzuela, Dick Grutzmacher, Rick Barbaria, Margarita Enriquez, Robert McAleese, Helena Enright, Robin Aurelius, Diana Zuniga, 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.

Your ways, O Lord, make known to me; teach me your paths,

Sacred Heart Holiday Home Tour

Mark your calendars for December 3-5. Sacred Heart Parish School will be hosting a wonderful Christmas boutique and café. You can get all your Christmas shopping done in one place and support our Parish School at the same time. Bring a friend or two and have lunch at the café or drinks at the champagne bar. • Visit <Sacredheartthometour.com> for more information and times. • If all goes according to plan we will back touring homes again in 2022.

Choirs on Leave

Schola Cantorum and Vox Nova will take a break from singing at Mass until after the first of the year. The choirs have found it difficult to continue to stay healthy and protected, given constraints of the corona virus and its variants. Despite members being vaccinated and observing all precautions, several singers have tested positive. We will miss their beautiful voices, especially at Advent and Christmas (There will be a cantor and accompaniment at Mass). • Thank you to the choirs for their ministry and for the beautiful music they provide for us. Please pray that the sick be restored to full health and full voice soon.

Altar Society News

Please consider a donation “in memory” or “in honor of a love one to help the Altar Society beautify the church sanctuary with Christmas poinsettias. Make checks payable to the Sacred Heart Altar Society and include your name, phone number, and the name of the person to be remembered or honored. Donations may be in the collection basket at Mass in an envelope marked Attn: Altar Society or mailed to Mary Domyancic at 4501 C Street, Sacramento 95819. Please return donations by December 15. Thank you for your support.

Parish Greeters Ministry

The Greeters Ministry is off to a great start! Greeters welcome members of our parish family as well as visitors to Saturday evening and Sunday Masses. It is a positive, pleasant interaction with everyone as they enter the church for Mass, sharing words of welcome and handing out parish bulletins. Young people are welcome to participate as well – so sign up in the vestibule as a family! • Questions? Call the Parish Office at 916-452-4136 ext. 2.

Accepting Applications for 2021-2022 School Year

Sacred Heart Parish School is now accepting applications for the 2021-2022 school year. Families who wish for their student to join us in TK (Transitional Kindergarten) must be 4 years old by September 1, 2022. Students who are applying for Kindergarten must be 5 years old by September 1, 2022. This policy holds true throughout the grades at Sacred Heart: students must be age appropriate for each grade. Applications are available on the school website at: <www.sacredheartschool.net> • If you have questions please feel free to call the School Office at 916-456-1576.

Meetings & Events

Christmas Food Drive

This is the last weekend of the Christmas food collection. The Parish and School have been collecting food not only for our St. Vincent de Paul Society but also for the families of Cristo Rey High School students. You can support the campaign by filling a bag with non-perishable food items. A suggested list of items is available next to the bags in the vestibule. Return your bag to the **Parish Hall** before or after this weekend's Masses. Thank you to Trader Joe's on Folsom Blvd. for donating the bag and the Parish School children for tying the ribbon on each bag. Because of your ongoing generosity many families and individuals will have a loved Christmas meal. Thank you! Questions, call Emilia at 916-927-1667.

the music issue. The book is organized with the Sunday reading first, followed by the hymns and songs, and lastly by the daily Mass readings. The new book will eliminate the need to trade out the smaller missalette three times during the year as well as costing less!

Thanksgiving Feast

The joint Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Sacred Heart and St. Mary's Parishes was able to connect with 15 families we have provide support to over the past 18 months to provide them with a fresh turkey and other Thanksgiving fixings. Volunteers delivered all the food items on Saturday, November 20 in plenty of time for their holiday celebration. Your ongoing support of our St. Vincent de Paul Society parish ministry makes all of this possible. These 15 families express their heartfelt appreciation to you for your generosity.

Sacred Heart Parish School Winter Sports!

Basketball season has begun for the fifth through eighth grade girls and boys. We are looking forward to a season filled with fun, improved skills and hard work. Our Little Dribbler season has been changed to the spring this year in the hopes of a healthier environment. Go Panthers!

*Be still and know that I am God.
-- Psalm 46:10*

Retreat for Men/Women

We encourage men and women of the parish to make a retreat at Christ the King Retreat Center in Citrus Heights for dates from November through April. Do not miss out on this wonderful experience of spiritual and physical renewal. • Contact Jim or Kim Paquette or go to <www.christthekingretreatcenter.org> to make a reservation. Check out the welcome handbook in the church vestibule.

Bethlehem Olivewood Crafts Sale

Representatives from Bethlehem Christianity Mission will be in the church vestibule after all Masses the weekend of December 11-12 to sell hand-made olive wood crafts. The hand-crafted items are made by Christian families in Bethlehem. This Crafts Sale is their primary source of income. By purchasing a religious item you support our fellow Christians who have chosen to remain in the Holy Land. In doing so, you are also able to give a meaningful religious gift to a loved one at Christmas.

California International Marathon

The Marathon will take place next Sunday, December 5. As in past years, there will be road closures. Most notably, J Street, from Carlson Dr. to Alhambra Blvd., will be closed from 8 am to 1:45 pm. • For more information, visit the Marathon's website at <runcim.org>



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