

From the Desk of Father Jeff



Sacred Heart of Jesus Devotion:

Our Knights of Columbus Council - South Hills Council 3084 – will again host an Icon travelling nationally of The Sacred Heart of Jesus.

We were blessed several years ago to have the St Joseph icon displayed at our parish. The Knights of Columbus Supreme Council is again giving us this great privilege. We will have the Icon for a full day of viewing and veneration on Wednesday, May 28th in St. Louise Church.

From the Knights of Columbus website:

Through the Pilgrim Icon Program, councils organize a Sacred Heart Holy Hour featuring an icon depicting the most famous image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, painted in 1767 by Pompeo Batoni and now venerated in the Church of the Gesù in Rome. The reproduction bears the blessing of Pope Francis, through the Papal Almoner, and is one of more than 300 icons traveling across the world, from council to council, for veneration and use in prayer services.

The Sacred Heart Holy Hour includes readings from Sacred Scripture and reflections from Pope Francis on the Sacred Heart, as well as the Divine Mercy Chaplet, prayers to the Sacred Heart and time for silent prayer. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament may also be included. Following the holy hour, families are encouraged to enthrone the Sacred Heart in their homes by placing an image of the Sacred Heart in a place of honor and conducting an enthronement ceremony.

Since the first traveling pilgrim icon of Our Lady of Guadalupe in 1979, more than 191,000 council and parish prayer services with some 23 million participants have been held.

Please consider joining us during the day on May 28th for this special opportunity.

Pentecost

At the 10am Mass on June 8th, we will celebrate a special Pentecost Mass with rose petals falling from the ceiling to symbolize the coming down of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Last year we had 2,000 rose petals fall with many parishioners commenting on the beauty of that experience. This year, we will increase the number of rose petals to 12,000, symbolizing one rose petal per each registered parishioner of St. Catherine Labouré Parish. Please join us for this beautiful and unique celebration!

Welcome back, seminarian Thach!

Seminarian Thach Nguyen returns to the parish this Summer as he continues his seminary formation. He will be staying in the St. Louise rectory and will be involved with our many ministries.

Seminarian Dominic Tomasello will also be back throughout the Summer for various events, but will also spend much of the Summer at St. Paul Seminary to conclude his first year.

When I first arrived at St. Catherine Labouré Parish, I lived alone in the St. Louise rectory, which has capacity for four clergy. Now, with Father Mike Conway (Vicar for Clergy) in residence and with Seminarians Thach and Dominic living at the rectory during various times throughout the year, we are at full capacity! In order to accommodate the possibility of additional seminarians being assigned to learn from our wonderful parish as well as our being hospitable to visiting priests, we are renovating part of the first floor of the rectory. As many of you may remember, the front of the rectory on the first floor served as the parish offices. This space has been mostly untouched and unused since the Parish offices were moved into LeGras more than 20 years ago. Thanks to a generous donation from the Labouré Ladies Guild, we will renovate that space to include a full bathroom and 2 additional bedrooms. With this upgrade all spaces in the rectory will be of functional use and will allow our parish to continue to grow!

Children's Liturgy of the Word Update

I am disappointed to report that due to lack of volunteers, Children's Liturgy of the Word will be suspended indefinitely starting in June. If you would like to help this ministry continue, please contact Kathleen McGarvey at 412-328-4128 or kathleenmcg88@gmail.com

Faith Formation and Youth Ministry Thank You!

Thank you to our St. Catherine Labouré Faith Formation Team and catechists for such a great year as we experienced a second year of growth. Our revamped faith formation offerings for families and children proved to be an amazing success!

Our Labouré High School Youth Ministry held their final regular youth night before the start of summer break with an amazing turnout! We are so excited for what God has planned for the future of our program as we have increased participation by a factor of five in just two years! Thank you to our Youth Minister, Kirstin and our core team for their great work!