

From The Pastor's Desk

The problem Jesus is addressing in our Gospel today is that of living like a mechanical person. A mechanical person lives only on the surface. This kind of person thinks that appearances are what count the most. Our world is full of this kind of living. So much in our culture promotes this kind of life. To find out what a person is worth, we're told that all you have to do is check out their wardrobe, take their weight and their body measurements, find out what kind of house they live in, the model of car they drive, what they do for entertainment, where they take holidays, and so forth. If all of these things fit into what the culture accepts as being in style, then you are worth something.

So much business is pushed by this desire to be thought of as up-to-date or current. Style has definitely more to do with our assessment of people than content. Jesus is saying this is all upside down, it's not how we look or dress that counts. It is not even how we worship. It is what comes out of our heart that matters most. *"...From within people, from their hearts, come evil thoughts."* This also means that it is from within, from the human heart, that good intentions come.

Jesus was making the point that the outward observance of certain ceremonies is not an accurate indication of what a person is really like. You can go to the church and be actively involved. You can sing in the choir, be on committees, give your money, give your time, observe the rules and laws, and outwardly be as faithful and committed as anyone who is a member; and yet, do it all for the wrong reasons. Sitting in church doesn't make you any more a Christian than sitting in a garage makes you a car. While those who seek to follow Jesus will find their way to church, it does not necessarily follow that those who come to church are Christians. We may appear to be something other than what we really are.

This should frighten us. Or if it doesn't frighten us, it should be a wake-up call to stop and take a very close look at ourselves. It is so easy to fool ourselves when it comes to our religious observance. Remember, going to church is a guarantee of nothing! The religious leaders in Jesus' time certainly went to their churches, but their action in itself didn't lead them any closer to God. They honored God with their lips, but their hearts were far from God.

Jesus wants us to live with hearts of flesh. He wants genuine people living genuine lives. If you are living in a family, you know that hiding from one another behind superficial behavior only leads to distance from one another. Nor can parents with children. Nor can we in the community of the Church. We all need to be living authentic lives – lives where heart is not just a mechanic pump but the source of love and kindness.

May we all allow Christ into our hearts, and be willing to show those hearts to one another.

Fr. Joe

Masses, Readings and Activities

Sunday, August 30 Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings Dt 4: 1-2, 6-8; Jas 1: 17-18, 21b-22, 27
Mk 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23

8:00 am Mass—†Zeb Baird
9:15/11:15 am Children's Faith Formation Classes
9:30 am Mass—†Eddy Coto
11:30 am Mass—People of Holy Spirit
1:00 pm ACTS Men's Retreat Team
5:30 pm Mass—Intentions of Flo Hatley
6:30 pm Youth Ministry

Monday, August 31

Readings 1 Thes 4: 13-18; Lk 4: 16-30

8:30 am Mass—†Gordon Mirr
9:30 am Low-Impact Exercise Class
6:30 pm Women's ACTS Renewal Planning
7:00 pm Young Adult Meeting

Tuesday, September 1

Readings 1 Thes 5: 1-6, 9-11; Lk 4: 31-37

8:30 am Mass—Intentions of Bruce Lewis & Family
7:00 pm Knights of Columbus General Meeting

Wednesday, September 2

Readings Col 1: 1-8; Lk 4: 38-44

8:30 am Mass—†Irinea Romualdo
9:00 am Legion of Mary
9:30 am Low Impact Exercise Class
10:00 am Craft Workshop
6:00 pm Family Prayer Group
6:00 pm Confessions
6:30 pm Team Spirit
7:00 pm RCIA Session
7:00 pm Art Committee Meeting

Thursday, September 3 St. Gregory

Readings Col 1: 9-14; Lk 51-11

8:30 am Mass—Intentions of Rev. Jerome Earley, OCD
7:00 pm New Day Grief Support
7:00 pm ACTS Women's SCC

Friday, September 4

Readings Col 1: 15-20; Lk 5: 33-39

8:30 am Mass—Intentions of Robert Rombach
9:15 am 1st Friday Exposition/Benediction/Adoration
7:00 pm 1st Friday Exposition/Benediction/Adoration

Saturday, September 5

Readings Col 1: 21-23; Lk 6: 1-5

8:30 am Holy Mass—†Irinea Romualdo
3:30 pm Confessions
5:30 pm Mass—Intentions of Leslie Baptista

Sunday, September 6 Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings Is 35: 4-7a; Jas 2: 1-5; Mk 7:31-37

8:00 am Mass—†Carlota Rosa Mendendez
9:30 am Mass—Intentions of Robert Rombach
11:30 am Mass—†Eloise M.P. Stampley
1:00 pm ACTS Men's Retreat Team
5:30 pm Mass—People of Holy Spirit

Faith Formation—Youth

It's here! Tonight is the Youth Ministry Kickoff! After the 5:30 pm Mass, come to the dining room for parent orientation and the start of the new year!

Any high schoolers for the '15-'16 school year are invited to join Team Spirit. We meet Wednesdays from 6:30-8:30 pm throughout the school year and plan service projects, retreats and fun activities! Come to our meeting this Wednesday in the youth room!

As a reminder, we will not meet next Sunday because of Labor Day. Enjoy your long weekend!



Sacramental Preparation

The deadline for Confirmation registration is **Sunday, September 13** and for First Communion, **Sunday, September 20**. Children registering for sacramental preparation must have completed one year of Faith Formation last year, whether it was at Holy Spirit or another parish. If it was at another parish, a Letter of Verification from that parish must be on file with our office prior to registering for sacramental preparation. Also, if you have a copy of the child's baptismal certificate, that would be awesome! The Sacrament of Confirmation is celebrated in the 8th Grade or older and First Communion in the 2nd Grade. However, attendance for two consecutive years in Faith Formation/Youth Ministry remains a diocesan mandatory requirement for sacramental preparation. We check attendance when you register for sacramental preparation to ensure you meet the two-year requirement and that attendance was satisfactory the year prior. That means six absences or less during the 2014/15 Faith Formation year. You may contact Deborah, Devyn, Lindee or Lisa with any questions regarding sacramental preparation.

Information and paperwork regarding infant Baptism (ages 6 and under) may be directed to Lisa Estrada. Our next baptismal preparation class for parents and godparents is Saturday, September 12, 2015, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. All **completed** paperwork must be turned in no later than two weeks prior to the baptism class date, which means it's now due.



A big thank you to all of our bulletin sponsors for your participation and helping make the bulletin possible. Bill Strait from Trinity will be here working on the new year's sponsors. You can reach him here at the church office at 972-298-4971 or email: straitbill@yahoo.com or cell phone 972-743-3864. Thank you.



Collection of rummage items for the Fall Festival continues. Bring in your kitchenware, pots, pans, utensils, clothes, shoes, knickknacks, toys, books, CDs, DVDs, garden tools, lamps, linens, electronics, etc. Call Michelle at 214-864-2566 or Mary at the office at 972-298-4971 to arrange for pickup of large items only. If no one is in the office when you bring your items for rummage, please don't leave them outside the door. That creates a hazardous condition for entry to the office.

We need Auction items for the Fall Festival. It's time to begin collecting new items, gift certificates for services, unused new gifts you have received, estate-quality items and items from your business or where you work or shop for the silent and live-online auctions. Please bring them to the community center. Fill out a donation form. The forms are available at the front desk. Questions? Call Sandi Ciarochi at 469-222-4747.

The Sanctuary Lamp will burn this week in memory of †**Tonie Riffel**, requested by Eva Garcia.

Next weekend, September 5/6, we will have a National Collection for the Catholic University of America. This collection provides direct financial aid to students from our diocese. There will be special envelopes on the table in the Narthex next weekend. Thank you for your generous donation.



Sing to the Lord and join the Holy Spirit Choir. We have different choices at 5:30 pm Saturdays or 9:30 and 11:30 am Sunday Masses. For more information, please contact **Felipe Ramirez** at holyspiritcc.org.



The Fall Festival Committee is planning some **exciting changes and additions** to our always enjoyable Fall Festival (Saturday-Sunday, Sept. 26-27). For the first time, the festival's Saturday hours will continue into the evening. The same great food, children's games, musical entertainment, and more will run through 8:30 pm. This new format includes the addition of a new beer garden open from 6:30-8:30 pm on Saturday night. But the most exciting change is that the popular live auction is going **online** - available from Sept. 15 through Oct. 4th. **We know you can help to make this festival the best ever, and we've saved a place for you in the picture!** If you'd like to join the committee, please contact Jeff Miller, Co-Chair, at miller.jeff55@gmail.com or call the parish office at (972) 298-4971. We'd love to have your help!

CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION



**Faith Formation classes
officially kick-off THIS
Sunday, August 30
for all registered children!**

Rosters* will be posted outside classroom doors so you know what class your child has been assigned. For PK3 through 1st Grade, classes are in the Church Building while Grades 2-6 are on the second floor of the Community Center.

Children will attend class while parents will attend orientation in the dining room...**not in the classroom.** Parents, it is very important that you attend orientation because here's where you'll get all the important information on our Faith Formation Program for the 2015/16 year, including all the fun, special events. With an early Lent in 2016, it's going to be a little unusual...☺ Plus, your attendance verifies your child's attendance for the first day. And we can't rule out a surprise or two...

**If your child's name is NOT on a class roster, please see one of the helpful Faith Formation staff at the front desk. There usually is a valid reason for the omission, but children will not be allowed to stay until the matter has been resolved.*

And due to the fun that is the first day of Faith Formation, ABSOLUTELY NO PAPERWORK WILL BE ACCEPTED OR DISTRIBUTED THIS SUNDAY, AUGUST 30!

Also, if you made a credit card payments online to "register" for Faith Formation, thank you! However, this does not register your children for Faith Formation. You still have to complete the required paperwork with us so we have your children's information.

We are still accepting registrations for Faith Formation classes; however, some classes are already full, which may require your children attend another class time. And, fees have also gone up, as we are in Late Registration. Paperwork may be obtained Monday through Thursday from 10 am to 4 pm.

The deadline for Faith Formation registration for the 2015/16 year is Sunday, September 13 for children wishing to enroll in our sacramental preparation program and Sunday, September 20 for children needing to fulfill the one-year attendance requirement (that's first grade and up). After that, classes will be officially closed except for PK3, PK4 and Kindergarten or those who have already celebrated sacraments.

And parents, just because your children have been "sacramented" doesn't mean their faith journey is done....it's on-going and should be continually fed and nurtured! So don't forget to reregister them for this year's Faith Formation!

There will be no Faith Formation classes on Sunday, September 6 as we celebrate the Labor Day Holiday! Faith Formation classes will hit the ground running on Sunday, September 13!



LABOR DAY

Adult And Family Ministry**Adult Faith Formation 2015**

Register for these exciting programs online at <http://www.holyspiritcatholic.com/adult-faith-formation> or pick up registration forms in the Narthex or Community Center.

- Sundays 9:15 – 10:30 am**, starting September 1
 Adult Cluster 1 "Matthew" video series
 Adult Cluster 2 "The Bible Timeline" video series
 Adult Cluster 4 "Finding True Happiness"
Sundays 11:15 – 12:30 pm, starting September 13
 Adult Cluster 3 "Evangelio Según San Lucas"
Mondays 9:30 – 11:00 am, starting September 14
 Monday Morning Scripture Study "Letters from Prison"
Mondays, 10:00 – 11:30 am, starting September 14
 Mothers Together in Christ
Second Tuesdays, 1:00 – 3:00 pm, starting September 8
 Women's Spirituality "ENDOW" JP II Letters to Women
Tuesday Evenings, 7:00-9:00 pm, starting September 15
 Hearts Afire "Consoling the Heart of Jesus"
Tuesday Evenings, 7:00-9:00 pm, starting September 15
 Tues Evening Scripture Study "Biblical Walk thru the Mass"
Wednesdays 7:00 – 9:00 pm, starting September 16
 Wed Evening Scripture Study "Matthew" video series

**WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER**

In today's 2nd reading we are told, "Be doers of the word and not hearers only." Does your marriage show others Christ's love? The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is November 6-7, 2015. To apply for a weekend go to: www.dfwme.org/apply.

Para más información de Encuentro Matrimonial en Español, escribe a emmdfw@gmail.com o www.seccion15.org.



September

Calling all "YAHAS"
Young At Heart Adults

Completely NEW & Re-Invented
NO Hassle, NO Work
JUST FUN



Thursday, September 17th
9:30 am to 10:30 am
Free Coffee & Pastries

Office of Adult & Family Ministry

Richard Johnson ~ richardjohnson@holyspiritcc.org 972-298-4971 x23
 Veronica Houston ~ veronicahouston@holyspiritcc.org 972-298-4971 x26

Community Life

Do you receive our electronic newsletter
Holy Spirit Headlines

If not, please go online to our website www.holyspiritcatholic.com and click on *Email* in the top right corner of the home page. This will allow you to sign up for our newsletter. We send out important information on events, classes, and even church closings.

Don't miss out on the latest news!

Outreach

ESL Class Registration forms are available at the front desk at the Community Center. If you would like to learn English or have already taken our ESL class and want to learn more and practice sign up soon. Class begins on Thursday, September 10 at 9:30 a.m. For information call Donna at ext. 20.

Our Food Pantry is running very low. We are in need of the following items: canned soups and fruit, dry or canned beans, rice, pasta, peanut butter and canned meats such as tuna, chicken, etc. We appreciate anything you can donate. Thank you for your continued support.

Rachel's Corner "I am 50 years old, and for the first time, after 30 years of pain and hiding what I did from everyone, and not being able to receive God's forgiveness or my own, I am free. Now I know my child has forgiven me and God has done so a long time ago. Now I will work on forgiving myself. Now I will work on forgiving myself. With God's help I can. This is the best weekend of my life. I am healed. I am free. I am once again among the living and am walking towards God" (Testimonial from Retreatant). Come on a Rachel's Vineyard™ Retreat and be free. Please contact Abortion AfterCare-Healing /The Rachel Ministries at healing@racheldallas.org. or call 214.544.CARE (2273). All inquiries are kept strictly confidential.

Finance

Weekend of August 22/23

Due to vacations and early deadlines, figures for the weekend of August 22/23 are not available at this time.

Balance in Future Fund \$32,196.00

Thank you and God Bless You for your continued generous support.