

"The kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls."

MATTHEW 13:45



©IPPC

**Sacred Heart Parish - July 26, 2020
Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**



Sacred Heart Church

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Reverend Frank Giuffre

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MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 4:15 PM

Sunday: 8 AM and 11:15 AM

Daily Mass: 8 AM

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Saturday at 3 PM

and by appointment by calling
610-948-5915.



Dear Parishioners,

Man Yearns for God

1. It is generally believed that people are inherently religious, or

“opened to God”. Many, however, ask why so many people, being naturally drawn to religion would deny the existence of God and describe themselves as non-believers. To define man as “non-religious” is inaccurate; we cannot include nonbelievers in the human species. Consider this image. A person (caveman) not familiar with modern technology, who finds a CD with Chopin’s music, would not know what to do with it. He might use it as a mirror or hang it in his cave. He would consider it his greatest treasure but he would not discover what constitutes the essence of this CD. He would not even guess or hear the beautiful music it holds.

2. Similarly, the truth about the openness of man to God is currently in doubt. This happens for a variety of reasons. A part or outright rejection of the openness to God and closeness with Him can be a consequence of the human rebellion against the presence of evil in the world. People explain it this way: God may not be a good God, since the world is so evil and there is so much misfortune in the world. It may also be caused by ignorance or religious indifference - such people are totally caught up in what others don’t even wonder about God. The longing of the human for God can override the cares and riches after all, even a small thing put close enough to the eye, is able to hide man’s vision of the whole world. People can reject God due to the bad example of those who say they believe in Him but act quite differently or due to the mental condition hostile to the religious life. Another reason for the rejection of God can be traced to Genesis - The story of Adam and Eve - by disobeying God - eating fruit from the forbidden tree - sinning against God and trying to hide from God because of fear of punishment (Genesis 3.8-10). Finally, a man, with a false image of God may also fear God because, according to his thinking God made many demands on him, so he escapes before he hears God’s voice just as Jonah did. All this however, does not mean that a person is not intrinsically open to God and the only thing that a man can lose is a natural openness to God. This is what we are now witnessing more and more often.

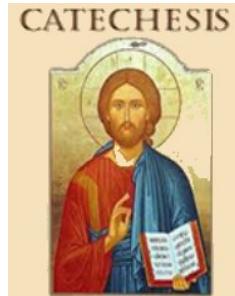
Known historian of religion, Mircea Eliade, based on archeological excavation finds, maintains that people in prehistoric times already had religious beliefs - most commonly associated with ceremonial burials. Mircea Eliade proved that in ancient times people believed in the supernatural - it doesn’t matter where and when they lived. Even though all efforts and attempts to eradicate the faith and religion, which took place throughout the ages especially in the 20th century show that man is by nature, open to God, in spite of the enormous pressures and efforts for people to stop believing - one cannot talk about the decline of religion. The fact is that a lot of people left their Christian religion and replaced it with all kinds of “secular ritual” and “secular cult”, primitive forms of religion, horoscopes, and magic. This shows hunger for God even though they are trying to eliminate God from their lives.

3. St. Augustine in his “Dialogue” stated, “You created us for you and our heart is restless until it rests in you my God.” And, the Catechism of the Catholic Church states “The desire for God is written in the human heart, because it was created by God and for God. God never ceases to attract a man to himself and only in God, man will find truth and happiness, which he is constantly seeking.”

Have we, by our daily activities and fast pace of life, lost sight of this natural openness to God? What are we doing or plan to do to develop this openness to God? Remember: Man is open to God but he has free will and therefore, he can decide which road to take: to God or from God. If he turns away from God he will never be happy. God created man in his love and to love. Man will attain happiness only when he opens himself to God who is love itself.

May God bless you always.

Fr. Tad





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**Tuesday, July 28
7:30 PM to 9:00 PM
Event: Victorious, a Virtual
Retreat for Women**

Retreat consists of six (6) virtual sessions (held live) over a zoom video conference, beginning Tuesday, July 28, and ending Tuesday, Sept 1st. Father Steve DeLacy will kick off the retreat with an opening talk on Tuesday, July 28. Our retreat focuses on: claiming Christ's victory over our identity and our worthiness, claiming His authority over lies and fears and crowning Christ as the Victorious King of our hearts!

Retreat Leaders: Father Stephen DeLacy, De Yarrison of You Are Made New Ministry, and Laura Ercolino of Hope's Garden + + + **For more info and to register:**
<https://youaremadenew.com/victorious-virtual-retreat>

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NEW DATE: Saturday, October 23, 2021

National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa

We are sorry to announce that the 2020 Catholic Women's Conference (CWC) scheduled for Saturday, October 24, has been cancelled due to pandemic restrictions. Please save the date for next year's CWC on Saturday, October 23, 2021!

**Friday, September 18 to Sunday, September 20, 2020
Shine Your Light 2020 Retreat/Conference Hosted by
Catholics Online** - Join other ministry leaders, evangelizers, Catholic bloggers, and business owners for a weekend of faith, fellowship, and growth. Our goal is to help you reconnect with God and follow His lead in your work and your mission. Keynote speaker, John Kinuthia, will share about Intentional Evangelization – Defining Your Purpose and Bridging the Gap between Knowing and Doing. Other workshops include, marketing like Jesus, budgeting your ministry, and more. Come experience a time of prayer and reflection, social hour, workshops, networking, free photo sessions, Confession, and Holy Mass. Location: National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Doylestown PA
<https://catholicsonline.net/retreat>



Kevin Schurr, Steven DiGiuseppe, Elizabeth, Caroline and Tommy Cummings, William Good, Garrett Rogers, Brian Szalabofka, Stephen Spitko, Brian Spitko, Dan Dordea, David Hritz, Aria Gessner, James Coccia, Alex Stadelmaier, Elizabeth Cassidy, Polly Tornetta, Kathy Caffarella, Ed and Johanna McLaughlin, Gerald Daskiliewicz, Chris Chrisman, Lauri Ronan, Alice Pitcock, Louis DiMaria, Alyson Layser, Keith Garnett, Nathan Wilgeroth, Orville Otis, John Breslawski, Faye West, Madison D'Annunzio, Nancy McNamara, Patricia Berner, Charles Crowder, Elena Craft, Patricia McMinn, Walt Kalil, Tara Clarke, John Hoff, the Gonzalez Family, Steve Cull, Colleen Haines, Ed Reynolds, Joyce Corretini, Mary Jimick, Irene Stoffel, Annalies Frisco, Dorando Faggioli, Barbara Battista, Monica Liebman, Bryce Bennie, Kitty Heebner and all the sick and suffering of the parish.

We pray that God will bless you all with His healing hand.

When your loved one recovers, please notify the Parish Office so we can offer a prayer of thanks!

Father Tad



**Please Pray for
Those Serving in the Military**

1st Lt. Dan Cummings, U.S. Army; SPC John Patrick Dougherty, U.S. Army; Capt. Ian Gardocki, U.S.A.F., Special Forces; 2nd Lt. Nicholas Gardocki, U.S. Army; 2nd Lt. Michael McCormick, U.S. Army; SSG Daniel A. Manildo, U.S. Army; P/O HM2 Ryan M. Sirico, U.S. Navy, Medical Corps; PFC Michael Yacovelli, U.S. Army; Lance Corporal Justin Solorio, U.S. Marine Corps



**August's prayer intentions are for
Fr. Frank Giuffre.**

Online Rosary Campaign for an End to the Coronavirus continues on Monday nights at 8 PM (final day is August 15) with a Family Rosary on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 8 PM. visit: <http://www.phillyevang.org/rosary>

**Sacred Heart Lottery Calendar Winner
July 10 - 16, 2020**

07/12	521	\$45	Bob Swier	Café
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MON, Jul 27

8:00 AM

Richard Dulski

Request of Annie Cody & Eric Nesser

TUES, Jul 28

8:00 AM

Don Carter

Request of Tracy, Brandon, & John Patrick Dougherty

WED, Jul 29

8:00 AM

Saint Martha

Arlene Quinn

Request of Eric & Leah Braun

THUR, Jul 30

8:00 AM

Saint Peter Chrysologus, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Artiles & Barrella Families

Request of Tom & Sunny Dougherty

SAT, Aug 1

8:00 AM

Saint Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Marian Possino

Request of Peirce and Dolores

4:15 PM

Damian

Request of Mr. & Mrs. Alfred Tarlecki & Family

SUN, Aug 2

8:00 AM

Pro Populo

11:15 AM

Claire Conwell

Request of Joseph Gill



SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You in my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.



Spiritual Adoption Update... Please Keep Praying!

On March 25 we began Spiritual Adoption to pray for an unborn baby. The baby you are praying for would now be four months old. At this stage, the baby is four and a half inches long. He looks like an infant, with facial features, clear fingers and toes, and fingerprints! The eyes blink, and the heartbeat is easier to locate.

Source: https://www.onhealth.com/content/1/fetal_development_stages

Please continue or join us in praying for an unborn child using the following prayer each day until he would be born on Dec. 25:

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, I love you very much. I beg you to spare the life of the unborn child, whom I have spiritually adopted, who is in danger of abortion.

~ Prayer of Venerable Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen

Saint of the Day

July 29 - Saint Martha and her sister and brother had the privilege of being personal friends of Jesus, whose home he went to, it seems, to relax with friends. Saint Martha also expressed her deep faith in Jesus at the time of her brother's death. Friends are there for us in happy and sad times.

July 30 - Saint Peter Chrysologus, Bishop and Doctor of the Church - There were abuses and vestiges of paganism evident in his diocese, and these Peter was determined to battle and overcome. His principal weapon was the short sermon, and many of them have come down to us. They do not contain great originality of thought. They are, however, full of moral applications, sound in doctrine, and historically significant in that they reveal Christian life in fifth-century Ravenna. So authentic were the contents of his sermons that some 13 centuries later, he was declared a Doctor of the Church by Pope Benedict XIII.

Mount Saint Joseph Academy invites all interested girls entering 8th grade to the Practice Test (Pre-HSPT) on Saturday, August 15. Register today at msjacad.org/practicetest. For more information or with any questions, email the Admissions Team at admiss@msjacad.org

Saint of the Day (Cont'd.)

Aug 1 - Saint Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of the Church was a great moral theologian as well as the founder of the Redemptorists. He wrote in the areas of spirituality and doctrine to the edification of his diocese and others. He also suffered at the hands of some Redemptorists who betrayed his dream. Even the saints have difficulties in this life.

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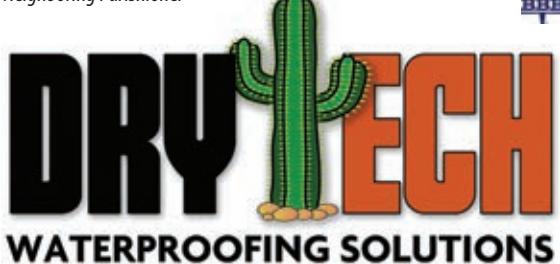
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