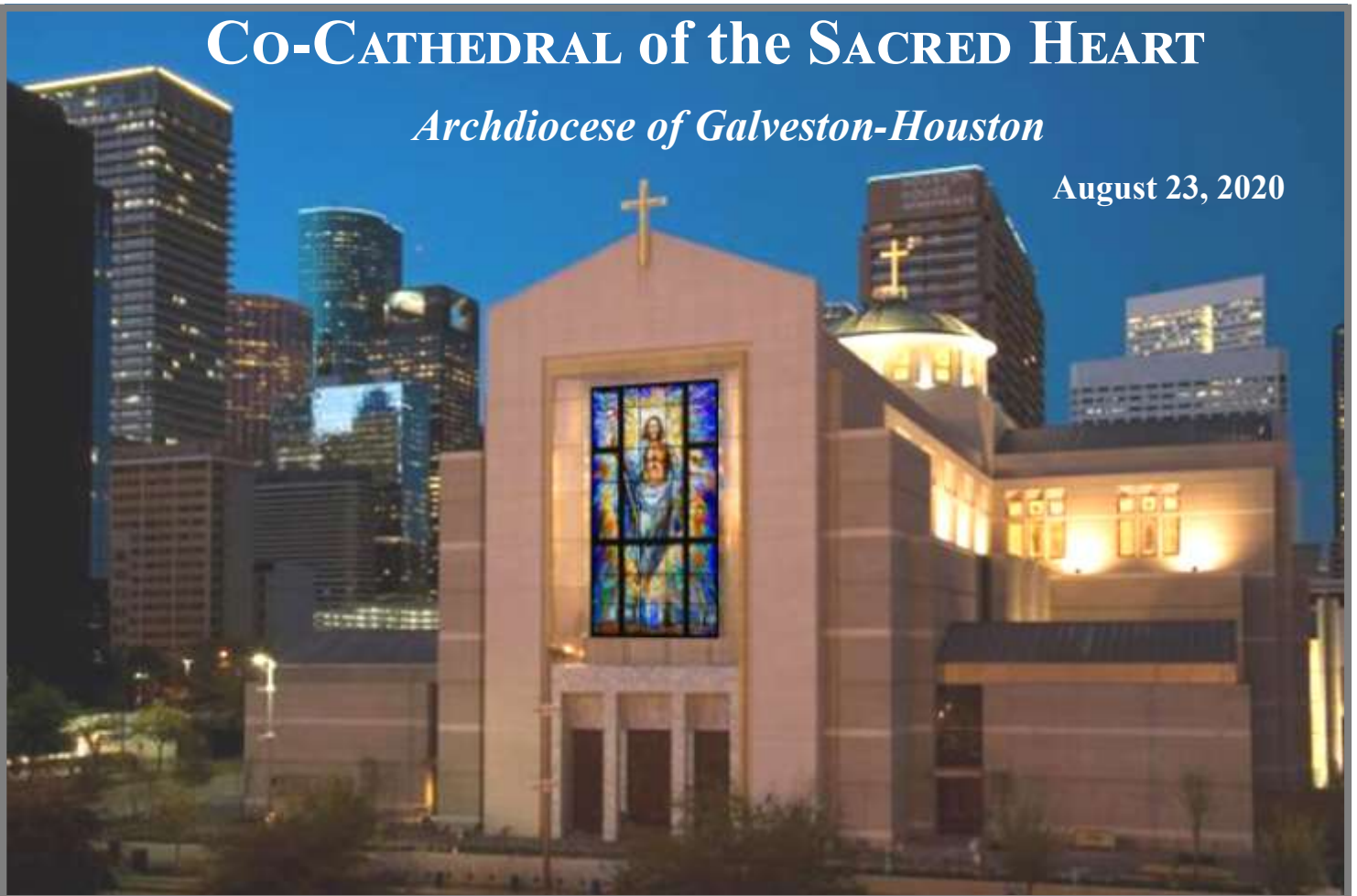


CO-CATHEDRAL of the SACRED HEART

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

August 23, 2020



Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Church Hours: **Mon-Fri** 6:30am-2pm **Saturday** Noon-6:30pm **Sunday** 8:30am-6:30pm

Weekday Mass Schedule

7 am & 12:10 pm

Confession Schedule

Weekdays
*30 minutes
prior to Mass*

Saturday
3:30-4:45 pm

Sunday
*8:30-8:50 am
10-10:45 am
4-4:45 pm*

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday *5 pm Vigil Mass English*

Sunday

9am Vietnamese

*11am English with
Vietnamese and Spanish readings
*Will be Live Streamed**

5pm Spanish



CO-CATHEDRAL
of the SACRED HEART

A PARISH OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON



@CCSHhou

www.sacredhearthouston.org
office@sacredhearthouston.org



Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston



His Eminence Daniel Cardinal DiNardo, D.D., S.T.L.
Archbishop of Galveston-Houston

The Most Reverend George A. Sheltz, D.D., *Auxiliary Bishop*

The Most Reverend Joseph A. Fiorenza, D.D., *Archbishop Emeritus*

The Most Reverend Vincent M. Rizzotto, D.D., J.C.L., *Retired Auxiliary Bishop*

Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart

Clergy

The Very Reverend Jeffrey L. Bame, *Rector & Parish Administrator*

Reverend Loc D. Phan, *Parochial Vicar*

Deacons

Deacon John Carrara * Deacon Daniel Addis * Deacon Lynn Carney * Deacon Gilberto Vela

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Church Sextons

Guillermo Herrera & Ray Garcia



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/CoCathedraloftheSacredHeart

August 23, 2020

Dear Friends in Christ:

Quí Ông Bà và Anh Chị Em thân mến trong Chúa Kitô:
Estimados Amigos y Amigas en Cristo:

As a baseball player growing up and as a huge fan even now, these oppressively hot days are known as the dog days of summer. In a normal Major League Baseball season, these days are the most difficult of the season. The days of Spring Training with its milder weather, when bodies felt fresh, healthy, and energized, seem like an eternity ago. While September brings the final renewed push to make the playoffs, and October brings the intensity of a championship push, the dog days of August find players and teams with their aches and pains just holding on for dear life as they wilt in the heat in the middle of the season.

As the heat of summer brings a certain lethargy of body and mind, spiritual lethargy, the sin of sloth or acedia, is an ever present danger for the Christian. In fact, in the monastic tradition this lethargy, which often started under the appearance of fatigue but often led to a lack of motivation for both prayer and appointed work, was known as the “noonday devil”. (Psalm 91[90]:6) It is the least-often confessed of the capital (mortal) sins because many just presume this sin to be a synonym for boredom – and who could be bored with so many cares?

In fact, sloth is not just about boredom – it can be idleness, aimlessness, or apathy – whether in action or in the spiritual life. In action, sloth can be found in boredom, procrastination, or aimlessness in activity – even in the midst of external busyness. How often have we found ourselves scrolling on a phone, on social media, or on TV and found that the time has flown by and we have not really accomplished anything. Sometimes, we can even find ourselves tired after a day off or vacation when we did nothing – when we failed to even relax well!

Even worse, though, is a spiritual sloth that leads to aimlessness in our lives of faith or prayer. This is the sense where things of God become unappealing, where we cannot move ourselves to pray, to worship, to do works of mercy or anything that our minds or faith tell us we should in fact be doing. In an essay she titled “The Other Six Deadly Sins”, the Anglican writer Dorothy Sayers summarized this deadly sin in this way: “It is the sin that believes in nothing, cares for nothing, seeks to know nothing, interferes with nothing, enjoys nothing, loves nothing, hates nothing, finds purpose in

nothing, lives for nothing and remains alive only because there is nothing it would die for.” Sayers actually astutely notes that sloth partners with other sins to disguise them from us – sloth often does not mean inactivity – it means falling asleep at the wheel!

During this time of pandemic, many of us find ourselves with a reduced activity level – there are fewer social events, fewer activities, and a lot more time at home. And yet, how many of us have found it easier to pray? Absence in our lives, whether of activity or relationship, creates a void – a void that creates anxiety, like a black hole. As the old adage goes, “nature abhors a vacuum” and so we seek to fill it. Often, though, we fill voids aimlessly and sloppily, and in this we suddenly find ourselves with renewed temptations to medicate with familiar vices of food, drink, sex, mindless screen time, shopping (even online!), etc. We do these things, but the one thing we always say we would do more of if only we had the time – pray – somehow still falls by the wayside.

Much like ballplayers in the dog days of August, we can find ourselves slipping into acedia in the middle of pandemic, in mid-life (hello mid-life crisis!), or the middle of a task/job/effort/project that has suddenly lost its savor. Do you ever wonder why the enemy tempts us with distractions during Mass? Temptation often comes to derail us when we are on the verge of something fruitful.

The solution is so simple that it seems like it cannot be that easy – once we notice the noon-day devil, we must attack it. We attack sloth with intentionality. External sloth is attacked with intentional activity, while spiritual sloth is defeated by intentional prayer. Even a simple prayer, spiritual commitment, or devotion can be effective when we find ourselves stuck. To do something deliberately out of love is the antidote to spiritual aimlessness, a sin that is antithetical to love of God and neighbor. If you feel like you are stuck in mud, try making a very modest spiritual commitment (not too ambitious as the momentum of succeeding in fidelity to it is as important as the content).

We can all feel stuck sometimes, especially when we cannot see change in sight. Right now, we can wonder if we will ever see cool weather again. During times of spiritual dryness, we may wonder if we may ever feel God’s closeness again. The important thing when faced with the void is to recognize that it is God we need and long for and that all other substitutes will be unsatisfying. “As the hart panteth after the fountains of water; so my soul panteth after thee, O God.” (Psalm 42[41]:2) Go to God and drink up!

O Sacred Heart of Jesus, we place all our trust in You. Amen.

Yours in Christ,



Very Reverend Jeffrey L. Bame
Rector & Parish Administrator



Stay up to date with our parish by following us online!



Social Distancing Protocols

Please observe social distancing and wear a mask while inside the Co-Cathedral.



Pray for the Deceased

For the repose of the souls of our faithful departed:

Frank Ybarbo†,

Brother- in-Law of Andres Ortiz

Maria Tina Garcia†,

Sister of Bree Delphin

Wanda Whitt Greb†,

Mother of Lee Greb

Robert Farrell†,

Father of John Hernandez

**Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.
—And let perpetual light shine upon them.**

**May they rest in peace. —Amen.
May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
—Amen.**

For consolation & God’s healing graces upon the family and friends of the deceased. Heal their pain and dispel the darkness and doubt that comes from grief. —Amen.

Praise Report!

Our High School Confirmation Candidates have been hosting neighborhood diaper drives to support our parish Gabriel Project!



FORMED: Pick of the week



Parish Code: 0be7ec Mary, Queen Mother

Memorial of the Queenship of Blessed Virgin Mary: August 22

Dr. Edward Sri explains how the tradition of Mary’s queenship and her intercessory role is rooted in the Old Testament office of the Queen Mother, as illustrated in the story of Bathsheba (see 1 Kings 1–2).

Music



Online Choir Camp

Co-Cathedral Music is excited to share our recent online choir camp. If you've never sung the Liturgy of the Hours before, set aside 25 minutes to pray with us.

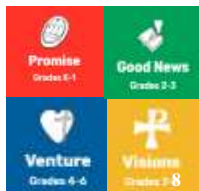
*Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart
Faith Formation, K– 12
2020-2021*



Faith Formation Registration
is now open!

Regular faith formation will be online with an option for in-person Family Connect Sundays.

To learn more about our program [click here](#)



This Week
Collection Goal:
\$26,681

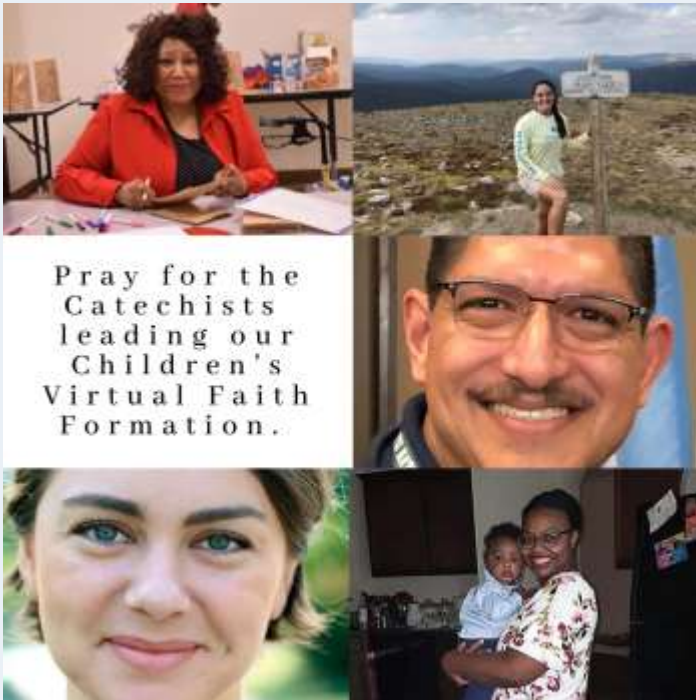
Last Week
Collected \$21,416
Budgeted \$26,889
Amount over (under) (\$5,473)

The Year
Collected \$154,481
Budget \$184,865
Amount over (under) (\$30,384)

Ways to contribute



Talent Time Treasure



Pray for the
Catechists
leading our
Children's
Virtual Faith
Formation.

Stewardship Reflection

St. Paul reminds us of a central fact of stewardship. We cannot give the Lord anything - God already owns it all. God made everything. All we can do is return a portion of God's many gifts back to Him.

Sincere gratitude for our gifts opens our hearts to joyful generosity! Through your generous sharing, you just may be the answer to someone's prayer.

Pray that in gratitude for our gifts, we may grow them and give back with increase.

To serve in any parish in the Archdiocese, volunteers must complete CMG Safe Haven Certification. Complete yours today and join our parish to spread the Gospel & God's Love in our parish, with our families, and throughout our community.

CMG Safe Haven Training



Questions?

E-mail:

safehaven@sacredheartouston.org

Act of 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 into 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.



21° Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario



En aquel tiempo, cuando llegó Jesús a la región de Cesarea de Filipo, hizo esta pregunta a sus discípulos: “¿Quién dice la gente que es el Hijo del hombre?” Ellos le respondieron: “Unos dicen que eres Juan, el Bautista;

otros, que Elías; otros, que Jeremías o alguno de los profetas”.

Luego les preguntó: “Y ustedes, ¿quién dicen que soy yo?” Simón Pedro tomó la palabra y le dijo: “Tú eres el Mesías, el Hijo de Dios vivo”.

Jesús le dijo entonces: “¡Dichoso tú, Simón, hijo de Juan, porque esto no te lo ha revelado ningún hombre, sino mi Padre, que está en los cielos! Y yo te digo a ti que tú eres Pedro y sobre esta piedra edificaré mi Iglesia. Los poderes del infierno no prevalecerán sobre ella. Yo te daré las llaves del Reino de los cielos; todo lo que ates en la tierra, quedará atado en el cielo, y todo lo que desates en la tierra, quedará desatado en el cielo”.

Y les ordenó a sus discípulos que no dijeran a nadie que él era el Mesías.

Palabras del Papa Francisco

«Y Ustedes, ¿Quién Dicen que Soy?».

La pregunta de Jesús a sus discípulos alcanza, después de dos mil años, a cada uno de nosotros y pide una respuesta. Una respuesta que no se encuentra en los libros como una fórmula, sino en la experiencia de quien sigue de verdad a Jesús, con la ayuda de un «gran trabajador», el Espíritu Santo. Pedro respondió con firmeza:

También hoy, escuchamos muchas veces dentro de nosotros» la misma pregunta dirigida por Jesús a los apóstoles. Jesús «se dirige a nosotros y nos pregunta: para ti, ¿quién soy yo? ¿Quién es Jesucristo para cada uno de nosotros, para mí? Simón, en nombre de los Doce, profesa su fe en Jesús como «el Cristo, el Hijo de Dios vivo»; y Jesús llama "bienaventurado" a Simón por su fe, reconociendo en ella un don, un don especial del Padre, y le dice: "Tú eres Pedro, y sobre esta piedra edificaré mi Iglesia". Detengámonos un momento precisamente en este punto, sobre el hecho de que Jesús atribuye a Simón este nuevo nombre: “Pedro”, que en la lengua de Jesús suena “Cefas”, una palabra que significa “piedra”. En la Biblia este nombre, este término, “piedra”, está referido a Dios. Jesús lo atribuye a Simón, no por sus cualidades o sus méritos humanos, sino por su fe genuina y firme, que le viene de lo alto. Jesús siente en su corazón una gran alegría, porque reconoce en Simón la mano del Padre, la acción del Espíritu Santo. Reconoce que Dios Padre ha dado a Simón una fe “fiable”, sobre la cual Él, Jesús, podrá edificar su Iglesia, es decir su comunidad. Es decir, todos nosotros. Todos nosotros. Jesús tiene el propósito de dar vida a “su” Iglesia, un pueblo fundado ya no en su descendencia, sino en la fe, es decir, en la relación con Él mismo, una relación de amor y de confianza. Nuestra relación con Jesús edifica la Iglesia. Y, por tanto, para iniciar su Iglesia, Jesús tiene necesidad de encontrar en los discípulos una fe sólida, una fe “de confianza”. Esto es lo que Él debe verificar en este punto del camino. Y por eso formula la pregunta. El Señor tiene en su mente la imagen del construir, la imagen de la comunidad como edificio. He aquí por qué, cuando siente la profesión de fe genuina de Simón, lo llama “piedra”, y manifiesta la intención de construir su Iglesia sobre esta fe.