

God Blesses Those Who Trust Him

The First Reading speaks of our trust in God, even when it is not easy. This excerpt from the Book of Wisdom speaks of God rewarding those who trust in Him, while punishing those who do evil. We are reminded of God's blessings and His faithfulness to His people. So, we can trust that He will surely continue to bless His people now as well. ● The Responsorial continues the wisdom teaching that God will bless those who trust in Him. God has been wonderful to us and blessed us innumerable. These words of praise remind us of our dependence on God, and so we have confidence that He will respond to our every need. ● The Second Reading is a beautiful presentation on the meaning of faith. Faith is not just intellectual; it is an act of trust. When we say, "We believe in God," we are telling God that we trust in Him. The example of Abraham and Sarah is a reminder that we will not receive our full reward until after death. There will be disappointments in this life, which is not to say that God does not love us. Rather, it is a call to keep things in perspective, i.e., our true home is in heaven. To find out how much our faith could be tested we need only look to the story of Abraham's call to sacrifice his only son, Isaac. This request seemed absurd, yet Abraham risked everything and trusted God even when trust seemed totally impossible. We pray that God will grant us all the wisdom and courage to trust Him when we are so tested. ● The Gospel continues the theme of trust in God, not one's possessions. This means trusting in things we cannot see. We all know the uselessness of trying to be self-sufficient here on earth. Jesus reminds us of the futility of depending on our wealth, be it spiritual or material. We are called to view things from an *eschatological* (end things) perspective with the next life in mind. Sometimes the knowledge of the world to come is the only thing that gives us the courage to do what is right. As good as this world is, there is one beyond it that is worth sacrificing for. This truth is God's gift to us, to sustain us.

Faith First

Prayer of the Week

Heavenly Father, we come, reborn in the Spirit, to celebrate our sonship in the Lord Jesus Christ. Touch our hearts, help them grow toward the life you have promised. Touch our lives, make them signs of your love for all people. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Response to God's Communication

God's self-communication and plan for us require a response on our part. That response is known as *faith*, a commitment of our whole lives to a loving God and a resounding "yes" to the truths God has shared with us in Christ our Lord. The letter to the Hebrews defines faith as the "assurance of things we hoped for, the conviction of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1).

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Thursday, August 15 -- Holy Day of Obligation
Masses at 8 am, 12(noon), and 5:30 pm

Where Do We Get Faith?

Faith, like revelation, is a free gift of God. Through the action of the Holy Spirit, the gift of faith enables us to submit our wills and intellects to God. Faith is also a virtue that attracts us to God the Father. It binds us to God in a love relationship, giving us conviction, commitment, and trust with regard to realities that we can neither see nor clearly prove. ● Faith enables us to accept Jesus as Lord. It equips us to immitate his life of loving service in the Catholic faith community. It empowers us to believe the truths God has revealed because God revealed them. ● And faith in Jesus enables us to share in the life of the Holy Spirit who reveals to us who Jesus is. Thus Christian faith proclaims belief in one God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. ● Although faith is a gift from God by which the Holy Spirit empowers us to live and believe divine revelation, our response is only human if it is free. Thus, no one can be forced to embrace faith against his or her will. Faith involves a *free* human act where our minds and our hearts cooperate with the divine grace. ● The Catechism teaches that *faith* refers: (1) to personal knowledge of God, (2) assent of the mind to truths God has revealed, (3) the truths themselves (the content of faith), and (4) the lived witness of a Christian life (living faith).

In Our Prayers

Daily Mass Intentions
August 11 - August 18

Sun	8:00am	For the People of the Parish
	9:30am	Dick Cutting (+)
	11:00am	Mary Esther Sousa (+)
Mon	8:00am	Int...Anne Marie Flaherty
Tue	8:00am	Joan T. Koster (+)
Wed	8:00am	Katheryne Walton (+)
Thu	8:00am	Sr. Marianne Dwyer, CSJ (+)
	12:00pm	Father John Grace (+)
	5:30 pm	For the People of the Parish
Fri	8:00am	Jodene Krenzer (+)
Sat	9:00am	Dolores Glassman (+)
	5:30pm	Frank A. Werry (+)
Sun	8:00am	Don & Anita Cerqui (+)
	9:30am	For the People of the Parish
	11:00am	Efren Santiago Andres (+)

In Memoriam

Lucille "Lou" Whalen • July 7, 2019

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord.
And let perpetual light shine upon her.

Please Pray for the Sick

Thomas Wolfanger, John Vostrez, Robin Aurelius, Diana Zuniga, Suzy Riehl, Isabel Harper, Howard Huston, Mark Zane, Richard Honey, Dale Wooldridge, Donald Anderson, Nancy McGarry, Rita Doherty, Patrick Valenzuela, Cheryl Halm Lincoln, Michael Fletcher, Grayson Kemp, Gary Pepe, William Daniel Reed, Stephanie Merenda, Victoria Generoso, Jim Collins, Robert Arkebauer, Libby Basurto, Dena Foster-Cook, Marie Schumacher, Ralph Goodall, Josephine Haddock, G.R. Gurley, Darren Stewart, Marge Mugartegui, Angel Curiel, Phillip Worth, Sonia Damiano, Barbara Cramer, Ava Grace Arnold, Karen Amnon, Mary Terese Henriksen, Pamela Saenz, Stan Boyd, David Hunn, Addison Parker, Brett Stover, Norma Clark, Robert Clark, Jr.

Back to School

On August 5, Sacred Heart Parish School resumed its regular office hours from 7:30 am - 3:30 pm. The 2019-2020 school year officially begins on this Thursday, August 15 at 8:00 am. Extension services will be available from 7:00 am - 6:00 pm. ● We look forward to seeing everyone back!

Parish School New Programs

We are very excited to announce that, starting in August, we are adding a part time music instructor, Ms. Liz Eshleman, a part time art teacher Ms. Helen Grandy, a Spanish program that will be computer based through Rosetta Stone, and another computer program called IXL, that will meet the needs of all students who may need a little extra practice to those who need a little extra challenge.

Altar Society News

- Jim and Joanne Delaney are providing the flowers on the Blessed Sacrament Altar for the remainder of August. We thank them for beautifying the sanctuary.
- We are looking for a volunteer to care for the altar server vestments for July, August, and September. Duties would include a weekly check that garments are properly sized and hung; setting aside dirty red robes for dry cleaning (which another member handles); and washing and ironing the white surplices in your home as needed. Interested parishioners or altar server parents may contact Linda Rutherford at 916-457-9572. You are not required to be a member of the Altar Society.

Interested in Becoming a Catholic?

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is designed for adults who have never before been baptized, adults who have been baptized in a non-Catholic church, and adults who have been baptized as Catholics as an infant/child yet never received or received limited religious instruction in the Faith. Classes are held once a week starting the end of September and continuing a few weeks after Easter. If you know anyone (a family member, a friend, a neighbor, and a co-worker) interested in joining the RCIA process, please share this information. They are encouraged to contact Rita Spillane at the Ministry Office (916-452-4830) and leave a message or email Rita at ritaspillane@gmail.com

Special Collection TODAY!

This weekend is the Collection for the Church in Latin America! Many people in Latin America and the Caribbean do not have access to church programs and ministries because of a rising secular culture, rural terrain, and a shortage of ministers. Your generosity makes it possible for our brothers and sisters in Latin America and the Caribbean to share in the life of the Church and grow closer to Christ. Please be generous to this special collection! ● To learn more, visit www.usccb.org/latin-america.

Farmers Market at Mercy General Hospital

There is a new Farmers Market in the neighborhood. Every Friday, from 9:30 am to 2:00 pm, Mercy General Hospital sponsors a farmers market in the parking lot in front of the J Street entrance. Shoppers can purchase organic fruits and veggies, fresh baked bread, organic cheese, homemade salsa, tamales and more. This is an initiative of Mercy Hospital as a community service to support healthy food production and the farmers who grow it. Support your local farmers and enjoy organic, fresh produce!

Meetings & Events

Senate Bill 24

This bill would mandate staff at all California state university health clinics to dispense abortion inducing medications.

This is an unprecedented intrusion on university campuses, and strives to further indoctrinate the young to the ideology of abortion. ● A copy of Bishop Soto's letter urging us to join him in opposing this proposed piece of legislation is available in the church vestibule. Please consider contacting your elected representatives to let them know your thoughts on this important issue.

"Second Sunday" Social: This Sunday!

Join us today after the 11:00 am Mass (around noon) for our monthly Sacred Heart "Second Sunday" Social in the Parish Hall. "Second Sunday" is offered each month as a way to help build parish community. All parishioners, and their families/children, are welcome, regardless of the Mass they attend. Walk over to the Parish Hall for coffee and donuts along with fun and fellowship.

2019-2020 Faith Formation Registration

Children attending a non-Catholic school in grades Kindergarten through 8th grades have been signed up for the Parish's Faith Formation Program. In case you did not previously register, registration opportunities will be available after all Masses on the weekends of August 17-18 and August 24-25 in the vestibule. ● Starting Tuesday, September 3, classes will be held from 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm every Tuesday at Sacred Heart Parish School, 856 39th Street. ● The fees for classes are as follows: \$75 for one child and \$100 for two or more children. There are additional per child fees for First Holy Communion and Confirmation. ● If you have any questions regarding the program, please do not hesitate to contact Tila Madrigal, Religious Education Coordinator, at 916-947-2683 or by email at tilamadriral@gmail.com.

SVdP/Sac State Newman Center

Food Donation Weekend, August 24-25

With students returning to Sacramento State and visiting the Catholic Newman Center, the Society of St Vincent de Paul will be collecting non-perishable food items next *weekend August 24-25* to stock the pantry at the Newman Center. ● The Newman Center is in need of ready to eat, small individual/single serving size items such as instant soup/meal in a cup, Top Ramen, mac & cheese, energy/granola bars, instant oatmeal/cereal, fruit/dessert cups, tuna/chicken salad individual pouch/can, dried fruit/nut snack packs, small cracker packages, microwave popcorn, and hot coco packets. ● When selecting items please keep in mind students usually only have access to a microwave and hot water. Also, the Sacred Heart/St Mary food pantry is in need of cereal, marinara sauce, jelly/jam, peanut butter, spam, and crackers. A bag filled with non-perishable, unexpired food may be left inside the altar rail. Many local families and Sacramento State students rely on assistance from our Society of St. Vincent de Paul pantry. Thank you for your generosity! ● Questions about donations please call Emilia Jankowski at 916-927-1667.

Please Remember

Since we do not have security around the church, please, for your child protection and safety, always accompany him/her to the restrooms located in the church vestibule. We are located on a busy corner with increasing foot traffic.