

Salvation Through Commitment

The First Reading was written shortly after the return from the Babylonian exile. We hear how *God will reach out to all nations*, for Yahweh is the only God, and therefore, the God of all people. He will bring them to His holy city and make them part of His holy people. They will even be invited to be priests and serve God in His holy temple. ● The Responsorial continues the theme of God reaching out to all the peoples of the earth. Until now, only the Israelites experienced God's kindness and fidelity. The Hebrew word for kindness (*hesed*) means the love God expresses in His covenant. The word for fidelity (*emet*) means the truthfulness and loyalty God shows by keeping His promises. ● In the Second Reading, St. Paul speaks of the discipline the Lord uses with those He loves, because like a parent does with a child, it is in the child's (*our own*) best interests that He does so. If a child is not punished, he may not learn to distinguish right from wrong, a form of child abuse. Hence we, like children, need clear boundaries to develop a balanced moral life. ● In today's Gospel, Jesus cautions the "chosen" people, for many who consider themselves to be chosen will find themselves excluded at final judgment, while many who are considered excluded (*the Gentiles*) will be part of the promise (*invited to recline at the table of the heavenly banquet*). Jesus tends to speak in a Middle Eastern manner, which although contradictory, both opposing verses are true. When He says that few will be saved He is emphasizing that to enter the Kingdom is not like belonging to a club, rather it is a question of committing oneself to the Kingdom at all costs. May we live our love for Him with this kind of commitment.

Prayer of the Week

Lord our God, all truth is from you, and you alone bring oneness of heart. Give your people the joy of hearing your word in every sound and of longing for your presence more than for life itself. May all the attractions of a changing world serve only to bring us the peace of your kingdom which this world does not give. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Faith First

What is Salvation?

Jesus' name is highly symbolic in that it means "God saves." This is most appropriate since Christians acknowledge Jesus Christ as our Savior. Jesus came to rescue us from those evil forces within and outside us that keep us from being the kind of people God wants us to be. Jesus came to reconcile humans to God, to heal our brokenness, to renew all of creation. ● When we speak of "salvation" we mean the good and happiness that God intends for us, the healing of our hurts, the attainment of God's peace. Salvation is the mending of broken relationships that keep us alienated from God and other people. It is the showering of God's blessings and attention, God's grace, adoption into the divine family, the sharing of his life with us. Salvation means the forgiveness of our sins and redemption from the power of evil and death. ● Jesus is the Savior. It is his love, his service, his sacrifice, his presence, his death and resurrection that have won eternal life for us. No one else and nothing else can accomplish what Jesus has accomplished: the forgiveness of sin and the gift of eternal life. Jesus is the good news the apostles preached after his resurrection. "For of all the names in the world given to men, this is the only one by which we can be saved" (Acts 4:12).

*Go out to all the world and tell the Good News.,
-- Psalm 117*

Salvation History

The history of God's saving actions is known as salvation history. The story of God's generous love began with the creation of our first parents. After their fall God promised to redeem us and gave hope of eternal life to the human race. God's abiding love revealed itself in covenant-loving agreements between God and humans. ● Salvation history reached its high point in the coming of Jesus Christ, the fullness of God's revelation. Jesus is the Word of God made flesh, the Son, who lived among us, taught us in human words and deeds about his Father, and completed the Father's work of salvation. Jesus is God's final Word; God has no other word to give us. To see Jesus is to see the Father.

In Our Prayers

**Daily Mass Intentions
August 25 - September 1**

Sun	8:00am	Kang Simon Lee (+)
	9:30am	For the People of the Parish
	11:00am	Dick Cutting (+)
Mon	8:00am	Souls in Purgatory (+)
Tue	8:00am	Rosemary Navarra (+)
Wed	8:00am	Hinde Westfall (+)
Thu	8:00am	Jodene Krenzer (+)
Fri	8:00am	Patricia Norris (+)
Sat	9:00am	Dick Cutting (+)
	5:30pm	Martha Denny (+)
Sun	8:00am	Andrew Cochrane (+)
	9:30am	For the People of the Parish
	11:00am	Eileen Hyde (+)

In Memoriam

Jack R. McIntyre • August 7, 2019
Father Ben DeLeon • August 18, 2019
Eternal rest grant unto to them, O Lord.

Please Pray for the Sick

Susan Finnegan, Thomas Wolfanger, John Vostrez, Robin Aurelius, Diana Zuniga, Suzy Riehl, Isabel Harper, 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 Mugarategui, 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.

Meetings & Events

Parish Study Group

On Tuesday, September 10, we will begin a NEW study of *Catholicism: A Journey to the Heart of the Faith* by Bishop Robert Barron. From Archbishop Chaput (Philadelphia): "If you read one book this year on what Catholics believe and why, this is the book to read – and share with others." We hope to share it with you. We meet every other Tuesday from 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm in the Parish Hall located behind the rectory. **NEWCOMERS ARE ESPECIALLY WELCOME** as we begin something new. The assignment for Tuesday, September 10 is the Introduction & Chapter 1, pages 1-35. ● For more information call Mary Anne Smith at 530-676-7874.

Parish School on Facebook and Instagram

We would love to share all the ways we are helping our students at Sacred Heart Parish School grow in mind, body, and spirit. If you would like to stay up-to-date on all the wonderful things happening at the Parish School, be sure to follow us on social media! ● On Facebook and Instagram, search for **sacredheartsac**. You may find our profile with our school logo and click "Like" on Facebook or "Follow" on Instagram.

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 today and next weekend. ● Starting Tuesday, September 3 and continuing every Tuesday, classes will be held from 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm 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 tilamadrigal@gmail.com.

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

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.

Altar Society News

● We are needing a volunteer to care for the altar server vestments for September. This is not a time consuming commitment and any interested parishioner (you need not be a member of the Altar Society) or altar server parent can contact Linda Rutherford at 916-457-9572 for more information. ● We have several crafters to participate in our Fall Festival event, but would welcome more. Now is the time to be working on your inventory for the sale. Contact Tila Madrigal at 916-947-2683 or tilamadrigal@gmail.com for more information.

Parish Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2018-2019

The Parish Finance Council has prepared a financial report for the period of July 1, 2018 thru June 30, 2019. Parishioners may pick up a copy of the report in the church vestibule. ● If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Frank Werry (Finance Council chair), Jim Granucci, Kathleen Kinney, Dick Maly, Maura Twomey, or Father Walton. ● We thank those who contribute on a regular basis to the support of the Parish and encourage those who are not to consider doing so.

**St. Vincent de Paul Soc./Sac State Newman Center
Food Donation this Weekend**

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 this *weekend* to stock the pantry at the Newman Center and the Sacred Heart/St Mary food pantry ● 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. ● 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.

Baptism Class for Parents and Godparents

A baptism preparation class is offered the second Monday of every month at 6:30 pm in the Parish Hall. To attend you must sign up by calling the church office at 916-452-4236 ext. 2. Baptisms take place on the first and third Sundays of the month after the 11:00 am Mass (around 12:15 pm). Parents and godparents must attend a preparation class. ● For more details, please call the Parish Office.

Farmers Market at Mercy General Hospital

There is a new Farmers Market in the neighborhood. Every Friday, from 9:30 am to 1:00 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.