

**How We Treat Others:**

**Our Witness to Faith**

The First Reading is a condemnation of hypocrisy. We find the Prophet Amos ruthlessly denouncing those who pretend to be religious, while in their daily lives they are dishonest, cheating and exploiting the poor, and resenting the Sabbath because they cannot make money on that day. The thrust of this reading and the Gospel is that *true believers give witness to the Faith in the way they do business with others.* • Even the Responsorial Psalm reminds us that we cannot hide our activities from God. We cannot pretend. We must live in a manner consistent with the Christian ethic we profess. This means we must have a radical trust in God, knowing that we cannot totally depend on our own efforts. By keeping our priorities in perspective, being prudent in providing for ourselves and our family, we are truly Christian. • In the Second Reading, St. Paul reminds us to pray for everyone, for God wants all to be saved. We should pray to Jesus, the Mediator and Ransom for all. He reminds us to pray in particular, for those in our society who exercise authority, our leaders, that they will lead us in right paths, so that our lives will be quiet and tranquil. • In today's Gospel, Jesus cautions us in our practice of our Christianity. We cannot serve God and money. If God is at the center of our lives, then we will use whatever He has given us in an appropriate manner. Earthly possessions are not so important when we consider the heavenly glory that awaits us. If we are totally committed to the Lord, then we will be willing to use our resources appropriately to serve the Gospel. Everything we have has been given to us in trust, so that it may be used for the good of all.

**Prayer of the Week**

Let us pray to the Lord who is a God of love to all people. • Father in heaven, the perfection of justice is found in your love and all humankind is in need of your law. Help us to find this love in each other that justice may be attained through obedience to your law. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Faith First**

**Education in Virtue**

During the first month of school students have been learning the virtues that fall under the category of Fortitude. These virtues are: Industriousness, Magnanimity, Magnificence, Patience and Perseverance. Sacred Heart Parish School students learn the meaning of these virtues and practice cultivating them. We are looking forward to learning the virtues that are related to Temperance in the coming weeks.

**Diocesan Ministry Days**

All school teachers and administrators will be meeting at St. Francis High School for the diocesan wide Ministry Days. There will be classes that will help faculty and staff members to deepen their faith so that they are better able to minister to the needs of the students in their care. Please pray for all school personnel on Friday, September 27, that their day will be a fruitful one.

*You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept; may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.---cf. Psalm 119*

**Mercy and Forgiveness**

Mercy and forgiveness are the message of the parable of the steward that Jesus tells in today's Gospel. The steward is quite creative in dealing with the loss of his job. The steward was not forgiven his debt, but he *does* forgive the debt of one who owes him a large sum of wheat. Jesus compliments the man for his ability to look beyond earthly wealth to store up for himself treasure in heaven. This appears to be Jesus' way of getting our minds out of our pocketbook and into his holy book. The Lord desires that we all show such industry in our pursuit of eternal life. • Experience tells us that wealth may leave us or be taken away, but God is a firm anchor. The dollar in our pocket is here today and gone tomorrow, but the Lord is always there for us, and all around us. The late Evangelist Billy Graham said that Lord gave us two hands--one to give, one to receive. We need both. Fold those two hands together and we can pray to God who is the source of every blessing.

**In Our Prayers**

**In Memoriam**

Let us pray for all those who have died and are in need of prayer. May they enjoy light, happiness and peace.

**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, Ava Grace Arnold, Karen Amnon, Mary Terese Henriksen, Pamela Saenz, Stan Boyd, David Hunn, Addison Parker, Brett Stover, Norma Clark, Robert Clark, Jr.

**Daily Mass Intentions  
September 22 - September 29**

<b>Sun</b>	8:00am	Terry Foley (+)
	9:30am	For the People of the Parish
	11:00am	Ilga Hinsey (+)
<b>Mon</b>	8:00am	Nita York (+)
<b>Tue</b>	8:00am	Tom Tierney (+)
<b>Wed</b>	8:00am	Kang Simon Lee (+)
<b>Thu</b>	8:00am	John Vanacore (+)
<b>Fri</b>	8:00am	Jose, Anna & Lucy Oliveira (+)
<b>Sat</b>	9:00am	Holy Souls (+)
	5:30pm	Robert Zine (+)
<b>Sun</b>	8:00am	For the People of the Parish
	9:30am	Terry Andrews (+)
	11:00am	Andrew Cochrane (+)

**Food Donation: Next Weekend**

Next weekend, September 28-29, you are invited to bring non-perishable food donations. Many local families rely on assistance from our Society of St. Vincent de Paul food pantry. The pantry needs canned fruit, marinara sauce, jelly/jam, peanut butter, crackers, and cereal. The Newman Center is also in need of small individual/single serving size items of 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, microwave popcorn and hot coco packets. Please check expiration dates on all items as we are not able to distribute out-of-date items. A bag filled with non-perishable, unexpired food may be left inside the altar rail. • Thank you for your generosity!

**Fall Festival Coming Soon!**

The Fall Festival is an annual event that takes place on the first Saturday of October. We will continue many of the traditions of the past including slides, rock climbing, and game booths for the children, as well as Cherry Bells, Bingo, and the Wine Wheel. The steak booth will grill up the traditional recipe steak sandwiches, pizza, and more. The School will be selling raffle tickets this week and next after all Sunday Masses. Come join for a day filled with fun and community. Gates open at 11:00 am and close at 7:00 pm.

**Parish Study Group**

We are discussing *Catholicism: A Journey to the Heart of the Faith* by Bishop Robert Barron. The assignment for Tuesday, September 24<sup>th</sup> is Chapter 2, Pages 36-60. We meet from 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm in the Parish Hall. Newcomers are always welcome. • For more information, please call Mary Anne Smith at 530-676-7874.

**Children's Church: Needs Volunteers!**

Children's Church needs volunteers to continue! The program begins today, September 29 during the 9:30 am Mass. Children's Church provides nursery care for infants six to 36th months and a Sunday School Program for pre-school thru first grade children. • If you are interested in helping periodically with the sessions, please contact Christie Montelongo at 916-455-5949. • You do not need to have a child in the program to volunteer. However, all volunteers must be fingerprinted and have completed the Diocese Online Safe Haven program. (Parents fingerprinted at the Parish School *must* be re-fingerprinted for the Parish.)

**Youth Group Update**

Another great year of Sacred Heart Youth Group is now underway! Are you a student in grades 8-12? Are you looking for an opportunity to share your faith in a fun and supportive environment? Do you like service projects, activities, games and great food? If so, Sacred Heart Youth Group is for you. The group meets twice in a month. At our first meeting on September 11<sup>th</sup>, we played a number of fun games to help members get to know each other a bit better. Our second meeting on September 25<sup>th</sup> will be a planning meeting where we will brainstorm activities for the year. • Youth Group meets on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm in St. Anthony Hall located on the school campus. • If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Sunderman at psunderman@sacredheartschool.net

**Meetings & Events**

**Parish Safety Committee**

We have established a Safety Committee to identify security issues in and around the Church, Parish Hall, and Rectory. The committee has two workgroups: Medical Response and Disruptive Person. Over the summer each group has been meeting to identify risks and propose some response strategies. The Parish has undergone a vulnerability assessment of all the buildings, conducted by an independent consultant. We are awaiting the final report. • Watch the bulletin for periodic reports.

**Altar Society News**

Our Bake Sale at the Fall Festival still needs many sweet treats. If you can donate an item or two (homemade or store bought) please call Linda at 916-446-2079. In consideration of others, please keep your donation NUT FREE. If you are a crafter, it is not too late to join us. Contact Tila at 916-947-2683.

**Rose Window Update**

Last week, the parish selected ARG-Conservation Services of San Francisco as the preservation/contractor to restore the stained-glass window over the church's main entrance. The terra cotta frame, dating from the opening of the church in 1931, is especially in need of repair. The church entrance will remain usable during the project. The project is paid for through the Church Building Fund, which has this year alone also paid for the church's new boiler (cost: \$161,000) and the repair of the rectory tile roof (cost: \$73,000). The Church Building Fund was initially funded by the Parish share from the Diocesan ONE campaign, and by the sale of a duplex generously donated by a parishioner. These projects have depleted much of the Fund, and we as a Parish will need to replenish it for future projects. You are encouraged to consider making a special donation to the Fund.

**2019-2020 Faith Formation Registration**

Children in non-Catholic schools, grades Kindergarten through 8th grades have been signed up for the Parish's Faith Formation Program. Registration forms are still available in the church vestibule. • Classes started Tuesday, September 3 and will continue every Tuesday from 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm at Sacred Heart Parish School, 856 39th Street. • The fees for classes are: \$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.

**Independent Compensation Program**

Last Monday afternoon, September 16, the Independent Compensation Program (ICP) began accepting registrations. The Diocese of Sacramento is joining those in Los Angeles, Fresno, Orange, San Bernardino and San Diego in a program that brings compensation and justice to those who were sexually abused as minors by diocesan priests. All claims, regardless of how long ago they may have occurred, will be considered by the program. The ICP is independent, outside the control of any diocese. • For more information, including how to submit a claim, please visit www.CaliforniaDiocesesICP.com. Let us always remember to pray for the victims of priest sexual abuse. • As their pain is ongoing, so must our prayers for them be.