

All are Called to Worship the Lord

The First Reading sets the stage for today's readings. God, the one, true God of Israel is the one and only God, and therefore the God not only of the Jews, but of all people, including the pagans (who were about to find this out). If God was the only God and the God of all, then the pagans should be welcomed into Israel to worship God on His holy mountain. • Today's Responsorial Psalm speaks of the Lord as the God of *all* nations. Yahweh is no longer just a national God of the Jewish people, with the pagans having their own gods. The Jews came to understand that since their God was the only God in all the earth, then He was also the God of all people on earth, including non-Jews. • In the Second Reading, St. Paul explains to the Romans, the new Christians (the former pagans) how God allowed the Jews to disobey, be rejected, and later through repentance, be re-accepted by His mercy. Their disobedience left room for the pagans to convert and become part of God's people. This would make the Jewish people jealous and want to convert back to obedience to God. God wants us to know that His mercy is much greater than our guilt. The Jews' disobedience paved the way for the entrance of the pagans into Christianity. God allowed disobedience so that He could exercise His mercy and bring them all more fully into His love. • In today's Gospel, we see how God came (in the person of Jesus) to save the lost sheep of Israel and beyond, to include the whole world, even the pagans. The Magi were the first pagans to worship the one true God and today's Gospel tells of the pagan woman from Phoenicia, who beseeches Jesus to heal her daughter tormented by a demon. At first, He seems to brush her off, but she perseveres, knowing He possesses God's healing power. Jesus praises her for her unshakable faith in Him and grants her request, for her faith indicated that His message had now reached beyond the people of Israel and was beginning to spread throughout the world.

Prayer of the Week

Almighty God, ever-loving Father, your care extends beyond the boundaries of race and nation to the hearts of all who live. May the walls, which prejudice raises between us, crumble beneath the shadow of your

Faith First

outstretched arm. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Jesus Came To Save Us All

God's chosen people in Israel and Judah believed that anyone who was not Jewish was a lesser human being and could not be saved. Associating with Gentiles was forbidden. You are not to do business with them or even pass through their towns. Jesus' frequent association with the Gentiles was one of many strikes against him by the time he was led out to the cross, but it was also a fulfillment of prophecy. • Nearly eight centuries before Jesus was born, Isaiah prophesied that the coming of the Messiah would bring about hope of salvation for all, even for *foreigners who join themselves to the Lord*. Whereas the Temple at Jerusalem was a house of worship only for the Jewish people, the Church to be founded on Peter would be a *house of prayer for all peoples*, especially and including the Gentiles and all those who previously did not know the one God or his Son, Jesus Christ. • Saul of Tarsus was an unlikely choice to become an Apostle, let alone one who would pursue the conversion primarily of Gentiles. As a Pharisee, Saul would have considered Gentiles to be unclean, and would have condemned them. Now as an Apostle, Paul seeks their conversion, Israel's rejection of Jesus opened the door for the Gospel to the Gentiles, and Paul is anxious for their inclusion in the newly formed Church. • In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus rewards the Canaanite woman for her great faith by healing her daughter. For a moment, it seems as if Jesus is agreeing with the Pharisees with whom he had been debating earlier in this same chapter of the Gospel. He refers to the Gentiles as "dogs," a common reference used for them by the Pharisees. Jesus does this only to test her faith, and she shows that she believes that even she—a non-Jew, a Canaanite, a Gentile—is intended to share in the *scraps that fall from the table of their masters*, meaning she believes she, too, can be saved by the King of the Jews. • The people in Jesus' day spent too much time highlighting differences among people and emphasizing the things that divide them. We do the same today. Looking through the new eyes of faith, we are called to see that all are called to faith—to be children of God.

Even though we may all be sinners, we can all be saved.

In Our Prayers

**Daily Mass Intentions
August 16 - August 23**

Sun	8:00am	Don & Anita Cerqui (+)
	10:00am	For the People of the Parish
	12:00pm	No intention requested
Mon	8:00am	Frank A. Werry (+)
Tue	8:00am	Altar Society - deceased members (+)
Wed	8:00am	Nita York (+)
Thu	8:00am	Phillip Fougere (+)
Fri	8:00am	Marie R. & Wm. J. Renard, Sr. (+)
Sat	9:00am	Charles Dewolf (+)
	5:30pm	No intention requested
Sun	8:00am	No intention requested
	10:00am	No intention requested
	12:00pm	For the People of the Parish

In Memoriam

Louie Ramos • July 31, 2020

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

Please Pray for the Sick

Gene Sirois, Delia Chavez, Dick Grutzmacher, Rick Barbaria, Gene Yeager, Margarita Enriquez, Marjorie Green, Robert McAleese, Helena Enright, John Vostrez, Robin Aurelius, Diana Zuniga, Suzy Riehl, Isabel Harper, Richard Honey, Dale Wooldridge, Nancy McGarry, Patrick Valenzuela, Michael Fletcher, Gary Pepe, William Daniel Reed, Stephanie Merenda, Victoria Generoso, Jim Collins, Robert Arkebauer, Libby Basurto, Dena Foster-Cook, Marie Schumacher, Josephine Haddock, G.R. Gurley, Darren Stewart, Marge Mugartegui, Angel Curiel, Phillip Worth, Sonia Damiano, Ava Grace Arnold, Karen Ammon, Mary Terese Henriksen, Pamela Saenz, Stan Boyd, David Hunn, Addison Parker, Brett Stover, Norma Clark, Robert Clark, Jr.

Meetings & Events

Morning Prayer Opportunity

Would you like to begin your day by praying together with other parishioners? At 8:00 am, Monday through Friday, a group of parishioners gathers via Zoom to pray. Our time together involves praying aloud the Psalms, listening to a hymn, and sharing intentions for which we wish to pray. Morning Prayer lasts for about 25 minutes. Please send an email to Rita Spillane at ritaspillane@gmail.com or call the Parish Office and speak to Amy if you would like to join this group.

Safety/Security Projects Update

Last month the Parish initiated a number of projects to enhance parish safety and security. A new concrete walkway between the rectory and parish hall was poured for ADA access. A second handicapped parking space was added, requiring the re-grading of a small portion of the parking lot. A bollard was installed in the parking area near the medical building's dumpster and a protective iron grill was placed around the hall's exterior water main. A new iron gate/fencing was installed at the parish hall main entrance. In the coming weeks iron fencing will be added to the existing brick wall at the north end of the hall and additional iron fencing will be added to existing fencing between the church/parish hall and the medical building next door. Replacing the parish hall exterior doors with more secure doors and frames comes next. The final projects, of (1) re-opening the exterior church doors in the Pieta Chapel as an emergency exit only and (2) installing new exterior church/rectory lighting along 39th Street will follow. • Funding has come from the Parish Building Fund at a total cost of approximately \$365,000.

Parish Building Fund

The safety/security projects are funded by the Parish Building Fund. That fund was established initially by a bequest from a very generous parishioner who gave the Parish in his estate planning a duplex with the understanding that it would be sold. The proceeds would go to establish the Parish Building Fund. Subsequently, another parishioner, who asked to remain anonymous, has contributed very generously to the Fund. We are extremely grateful to these individuals and many others who have donated to the Fund. Donations are donor-restricted and can only be used for church/parish hall/rectory projects. • Please consider making a donation to the Building Fund. Our goal is to begin rebuilding the Fund.

Parish Pen Pal Project

Recently, the Parish Pastoral Council met using the online resource Zoom. At the meeting the Pastoral Council discussed the possibility of creating Parish Pen Pal for parishioners who have sheltered in place during this coronavirus pandemic. We have identified approximately 80 households who have had minimal contact with others. To help alleviate

their lack of contacts the Council thought the Parish should invite other parishioners to correspond with this group. Many of these parishioners are elderly, but not all. We are looking for

parishioners who are willing to consider being a Pen Pal with one of these parishioners. If you are interested, please contact Amy at the Parish Office (916-452-4136 ext. 2).

Plans for Sacred Heart School 2020-2021

Sacred Heart School faculty and staff are excited to begin the new school year. We will be starting a bit differently than we have in the past, but we are hopeful to be back in our classrooms on campus in September. From August 17-September 8 teachers will be meeting their students with their parents at school and through Zoom. Our hope is to rebuild our community and rekindle our faith life. Students will have the opportunity to brush up on some academic skills and pick up supplies that may be needed if at home learning needs to be continued. We have many protocols in place when we get the green light to return and we

Church Closures Episode 2

On Monday July 13, Governor Newsom again ordered the closure of indoor church services in Sacramento County, as the rate of corona virus infections has increased dramatically in the past four weeks. Therefore, there will be no public Masses offered at Sacred Heart church until the closure order is lifted (again). The Church is open for private prayer Monday--Friday from 8:00 am to 9:30 am; Saturday from 9:00 am to 10:00 am and 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm; and Sunday from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. • Please refer to the list below in this bulletin or on the parish website for Masses that can be watched on television or streamed online. • Continue to pray for the victims of the virus, their families, and the health workers charged with treating the sick.

look forward to a healthy school year.

Catholic Faith Formation Program

Faith formation for children in grades first through seventh attending a non-Catholic school will begin on Tuesday, September 22. Classes will be held from 4:00 to 5:00 pm every Tuesday, alternating in the Parish Hall (1040 39th Street) and via Zoom. The program will also see another change/improvement, which will involve the parents more in the faith formation of their children. More information to come. • Registration information and forms are available either on the parish website at <https://sacredheart.church> or by contacting Tila Madrigal at tilamadrigal@gmail.com. • We understand that the current pandemic may have added a financial stress to some families. We do not want family finances to keep children from participating in the CFF program.

Parish Website Resources

We have posted on the Parish Website at <https://sacredheart.church/> some spiritual resources to nourish our faith and prayer life. There are a number of websites that celebrate Mass daily. • [EWTN](#) Eternal Word Television Network • [Catholic TV](#) • Salt and Light Media [Canadian Daily TV](#) on You Tube. Here are some helpful spiritual resources and some daily meditations on the Scripture readings of Mass: • St. Louis University has a fine website exploring the depths of Sunday readings. Explore historical, cultural context, thoughts from the early Church, Scripture in depth, and other areas of significant import. Find it at liturgy.slu.edu • [Word on Fire](#) is Bishop Barron's website which is extremely popular. Bishop Barron explains the Sunday readings each week. The site has numerous videos, homilies, and other Catholic resources.