

**Prayer Invites His Presence**

The First Reading from Ezekiel speaks of the obligation to witness to the truth, especially when it involves the conduct of those around us. When we observe others who have gotten into trouble by sinning against God's law, we are obliged (it is our responsibility) to honestly, humbly share the truth with them. When we do so, we must be careful to be kind, not self-righteous; for it is a grace, a gift from God, to see the truth and witness to it. It is not something we earned. If they refuse to change their ways, then the responsibility is theirs. • Today's Responsorial is two-dimensional. On the one hand, it is a song of praise to God, our rock, our Shepherd, our guide. On the other, it is a call to conversion, reminding us to be obedient to God, our Savior and Shepherd. It reminds us not to rebel or doubt as the Jews did in Massah and Meribah. By sin we reject God's guidance. He does not stop loving us, rather we have turned our backs on His love. Sin hardens the heart and brings death. • In the Second Reading, St. Paul speaks about love as the greatest commandment, the fulfillment of all the precepts of the law. When we love our neighbor as we would like to be loved ourselves, then we fulfill the law. This means not only not doing evil to others, but also going beyond that, seeking the good for the other. We are called to avoid the sins of omission and commission. • In today's Gospel, Jesus is instructing us on how to deal with someone who has sinned against us. We are to go to them directly, to try to solve the problem. If that fails, then take a few witnesses the next time. It is important to remember that we confront them for their own good, not for revenge or to control them. Jesus also speaks of the authority given to His disciples to bind and loose, as well as the *power of prayer*. This power is not to be underestimated. When two or more gather in His name to pray to Him, He will be present to them to guide them.

**Prayer of the Week**

Lord God of power and might, nothing is good which is against your will, and all is of value which comes from your hand. Place in our hearts a desire to please you and fill our minds with insight into love, so that every thought may

**Faith First**

grow in wisdom and all our efforts may be filled with your peace. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**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.

*O Lord, you are good and forgiving,  
full of mercy to all who call to you.  
cf. Psalm 86:5*

**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](http://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.

**Summer Catholic Series**

Check out the summer series *In All Things* produced by Canadian Catholic media Salt and Light. Short videos cover fresh and interesting stories like Community, Stepping Closer to God, Singleness, and God's Will versus your Will. Salt and Light reminds us that as Catholics, part of what we learn is to find the goodness of God in all things. God to <https://saltandlighttv.org/inallthings/>.

**In Our Prayers**

**Daily Mass Intentions  
August 30 - September 6**

<b>Sun</b>	8:00am	Patricia Norris (+)
	10:00am	For the People of the Parish
	12:00pm	No Intention
<b>Mon</b>	8:00am	Heinz & Karole Lueneberg (+)
<b>Tue</b>	8:00am	Jeanne Morris (+)
<b>Wed</b>	8:00am	Stefan Jankowski (+)
<b>Thu</b>	8:00am	Int...John F. Renard
<b>Fri</b>	8:00am	Int...Ernestine Lueneberg
<b>Sat</b>	9:00am	Helen Jankowski (+)
	5:30pm	Joe Gill (+)
<b>Sun</b>	8:00am	For the People of the Parish
	10:00am	No Intention
	12:00pm	No Intention

**In Memoriam**

**Marie Schumacher • August 24, 2020**

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

**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, Josephine Haddock, G.R. Gurley, Darren Stewart, Marge Mugartegui, 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.

**Meetings & Events**

**Return to School**

The Catholic School Department of the Diocese of Sacramento has applied for school waivers. We hope to hear good news soon! While we wait for that news, we are excited to welcome students back to school through Google Classroom and Zoom. All students have had the opportunity to get to know their teacher and teaching assistant. All students have had the opportunity for assessments and during the next weeks our distance learning will roll out in full force. There will be opportunities for synchronous and asynchronous learning. Teachers will be keeping office hours to assist students with learning from home. We miss seeing our families in person and look forward to getting back to our new normal!

**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](mailto:tilamadrigal@gmail.com). • We understand that the current pandemic may have added a financial stress to some families. Please let us know if this is the case with your family. We do not want family finances to keep children from participating in the CFF program.

**Sacrament of Penance**

*Confessions are heard every Saturday  
from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm in the church*

**Diocesan Collection for Priests Retirement**

This weekend, parishioners are invited to donate to the annual Diocesan collection for priests retirement. This is an opportunity to contribute to the priest retirement fund. Special envelopes are available in the church vestibule. Donations may be dropped into the offertory basket in front of the church altar rail or in the Parish Office mailbox. You may also mail envelopes to the Parish Office. Please be generous.

**Parish Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2019-2020**

The Parish Finance Council has prepared a financial report for the period of July 1, 2019 thru June 30, 2020. Parishioners may pick up a copy of the report in the church vestibule. Questions? Please do not hesitate to contact a Finance Council member listed on the report. • Thank you for your offertory donations. • Because of the prohibition on public Masses, and therefore no collections, the weekly church offertory donations are significantly lower than before, even though our costs have dropped only a little. Please consider making an offertory donation by putting it in the rectory mailbox.

**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).

**Suspension of Indoor Public Mass**

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.

**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. This past week additional rod iron fencing was installed north end of the parish hall and between the church and medical building. The brick walls near the redwood tree facing J Street have been replaced with rod iron security fencing and gate. 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.

**Pontifical Good Friday Collection**

Due to the Coronavirus the annual collection to support the Christians and the holy sites in the Holy Land was postponed. The collection will be taken up on September 12-13. Information? [www.myfranciscan.org/good-friday](http://www.myfranciscan.org/good-friday).