

Forgive, and Be Forgiven

The First Reading reminds us to forgive our offenders, to hate the sin, but to love the sinner. One must forgive, if they want to be forgiven. If we do not show mercy, then we cannot be shown mercy. It helps to remember that the hateful things done are a sign of the offender's brokenness. Healing will not come by adding more hate, only by loving and forgiving. • Today's Responsorial is about forgiveness. One of the greatest sources of strength to forgive is recognizing how much God has forgiven us. By sin we bring ruin into our lives. Sin is an illusion; it appears to be an act of freedom, to bring us joy. In reality, sin is just a sign that we are slaves to our passions and not free at all. Ultimately, sin leaves us alienated and frustrated, for it is not at all what it appeared to be. Sin is the ultimate act of self-destruction. God realizes this and so uses our sin as an opportunity to heal us from this disease of sin, and love us even more. God treats our acts of rebellion as a chance to love us and heal us; it is how He transforms the world. • The Second Reading teaches the profound truth that *we are not our own*. God created us out of love and called us into His love. We are complete only when we try to live in the Lord. Thus, we ask ourselves: *how can we live our daily response to God's call?* Even death is a response to His call. • Today's Gospel is all about mercy and forgiving. Jesus helps Peter understand that forgiving our offenders must be limitless. We should forgive every time we are hurt or every time deep hurts resurface. The parable of the king who forgave the large debt of one of his debtors puts forgiveness in perspective. The debtor owed the king a huge debt, which the king forgave when his mercy was implored. This same debtor, however, was merciless with someone who owed him. When the king discovered this, the king's debtor was punished because he was unwilling to forgive. Recognizing how much our King has forgiven us should help us forgive others.

Faith First

Our King's forgiveness of us is the foundation of our ability to forgive. The mercy shown us is a *gift*, not deserved. Just so, should we in turn be generous in forgiving others, even if undeserved.

Prayer of the Week

Father in heaven, Creator of all, look down upon your people in their moments of need, for you alone are the source of our peace. Bring us to the dignity which distinguishes the poor in spirit and show us how great is the call to serve, that we may share in the peace of Christ who offered his life in the service of all. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Annual Holy Land Collection
The annual collection to support the Christians and the holy sites in the Holy Land was postponed this year from Good Friday to this weekend, September 12-13. Projects supported by this collection include maintenance of Holy Land shrines, housing for the poor in the Holy Land, and support of 29 parishes in the Holy Land. Information? Visit www.myfranciscan.org/good-Friday. Please be generous.

Daily Morning Prayer

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.

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.

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 YouTube. 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

In Our Prayers

**Daily Mass Intentions
 Sept. 13 -- Sept. 20**

Sun	8:00am	Don & Anita Cerqui (+)
	10:00am	For the People of the Parish
	12:00pm	Rose & Alfred Guerra (+) & Mary E. Baez (+)
Mon	8:00am	Betty Baumgartner (+)
Tue	8:00am	John Silveira (+)
Wed	8:00am	Eliyamma Chirackal (+)
Thu	8:00am	Patricia Iliff Gliebe (+)
Fri	8:00am	Gene Vittori (+)
Sat	9:00am	Joanne Winchell (+)
	5:30pm	No Intention
Sun	8:00am	No Intention
	10:00am	Int...James Madrigal
	12:00pm	For the People of the Parish

In Memoriam

Let us pray for all those who have died, especially the victims of the coronavirus and the current fires. May they enjoy peace, happiness, and light.

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 Annon, Mary Terese Henricksen, Pamela Saenz, Stan Boyd, David Hunn, Addison Parker, Brett Stover, Norma Clark, Robert Clark, Jr.

Distance Learning at Sacred Heart Parish School

This past week saw the full implementation of distance learning for Sacred Heart students. Until the Diocese is given a waiver by the state and county to hold in-person instruction, students attend class by Zoom. While it is unfamiliar to students at first, they adjust well to seeing their teachers on screen and can engage in the back-and-forth dialogue that normally occurs in the classroom. We are blessed to have experienced and enthusiastic teachers who have made this possible.

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. 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.

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 or mailing it to the Parish Office. Thank you.

Safety/Security Projects Update

Last month the Parish completed several projects to enhance parish safety and security. These include a new concrete walkway between the rectory and parish hall for ADA access; a second handicapped parking space by the hall; a protective iron grill around the hall's exterior water main; new iron gate/fencing at the parish hall main entrance and additional rod iron fencing at the north end of the parish hall and between the church and medical building. The final projects of re-opening the exterior church doors in the Pieta Chapel as an emergency exit only and installing new exterior church/rectory lighting along 39th Street will follow in the

Meetings & Events

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.

next few months. • Funding has come from the Parish Building Fund at a total cost of approximately \$365,000.

Parish Building Fund

Donations to the fund are donor-restricted and can only be used for church/parish hall/rectory projects. • Please consider donating to the Building Fund. Our goal is to begin rebuilding the Fund.

The Healing Power of Love in Action: Creation Care in a Time of Pandemic & Partisanship

As part of the Season of Creation celebration, please plan to join us for an inter-parish Feast of St. Francis celebration on Monday, October 5 from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm via Zoom. If interested please send an email to Rita Spillane at ritaspillane@gmail.com or call the Ministry Office at 916-452-4830. • Catholic Climate Covenant, an organization formed in part by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, has prepared their annual Feast of St. Francis program. Four Sacramento area parishes--Sacred Heart, St. Anthony, St. Francis, and St. Joseph (Elk Grove)--are collaborating to participate in the celebration via Zoom. The 90 minute program enables Catholics to grow in their understanding and call to care for creation as integral to the Catholic faith through prayer, education, and action. • Mark your calendars! We hope you will be able to join us.

Adult Faith Formation Evenings

We welcome back Fr. Robin Ryan, CP who gave a three-evening parish mission at Sacred Heart last year on God and the Mystery of Suffering. • Fr. Ryan's topic is "Rejoice and Be Glad. The Call of Holiness in Today's World." Fr. Ryan invites us to read Pope Francis' Apostolate Exhortation "Rejoice and Be Glad" ahead of time if possible. This document is available for free on the web and can also be found in booklet form for purchase. Pope Francis writes, "I would like to insist primarily on the call to holiness that the Lord addresses to each of us, the call that he also addresses, personally, to you: "Be holy, for I am holy" (Lev. 11:44; cf. 1 Peter 1:16). Join us for two consecutive Monday evenings via Zoom on October 12 and 19, from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. • If you are interested in participating, please email Rita Spillane at ritaspillane@gmail.com or call the Ministry Office at 916-452-4830 and leave a message. • Father Ryan is a Passionist priest who teaches at the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago. We look forward to his insightful presentations.

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/>