

**REFLECTION for the Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time Fr. Don.**

The talk is all around us and *'the proof is in the pudding.'* Religious beliefs are fading; some would say into oblivion. The once, clear picture of heaven above and hell below is now graffiti-covered. Belief in the existence of spirits- like God, Angels, Devils, and our Loved Ones after death, have all been jettisoned for new-age gods. The modern mind cannot fathom these traditional entities. If they cannot be seen, touched, or physically authenticated, then they do not exist; excepting perhaps in that nebulous non-reality called cyberspace. There, reality is VIRTUAL, supposedly.

In part, this is an understandable twist in religious development. In any society and in any time, to give any thought to religion is to find it difficult. It is otherworldly and seems to fit less and less into the world we presently live in. Ideas like vocational call, temptation avoidance, divine adoration, and holy obligation, don't mean anything these days. The egotistic I knows no Thou, except the god in the mirror.

Now let us not get too negative, all is not changing for the bad. Thankfully the days of indoctrination are gone. What is right and what is wrong have become complex issues requiring serious discussion and compassionate responses. The law of Love has supplanted the love of Law. Each person's conscience has become sacred, respected, and given the prominence of expression it deserves. Good must/will triumph.

What is the authentic loving caring Christian to do? Our readings provide a clue; they always have and they always will for they are the Word of God. Today's are all about intercessory prayer; turning to God in our time of need when there is seemingly no where else to turn. When the 'chips are down' all of us, even the boldest atheist, cannot suppress the indwelling Holy Spirit and naturally we cry 'God help me.'

That is prayer! We have to be like Aaron and Hur who support and sustain Moses as he prays for God's Chosen People. We have to like that widow. She saw injustice and cried (prayed) for justice. Time after time her prayer (cries) were apparently ignored or went unanswered. She was undaunted and she was determined. She persevered. She put the fear of God in that judge who claimed to have no fear of God.

To pray always and not to lose heart means more than merely persevering in the face of difficulties; it is not giving up but rather seeking to know the heart of Jesus. There is a 'bigger picture'- God's viewpoint. God answers prayer from the perspective of eternity. We live life for today and want answers for now, but God sees all of our cares and concerns in a much bigger context. He wants us to come to Him forever.

Yes, prayer can produce miracles, win wars, defeat unjust judges, and bring us salvation. But you say you don't know how to pray. Well, have we got Good News for you. The Eucharist (Mass) is the greatest of all prayers. Just come and join others in this communal prayer. It is all about faith expressed through action. We believe that through this prayer, the Body and Blood of Jesus is made present on the altar and as we receive Communion, we are transformed into the Body of Christ. Empowered in this way, we are commissioned to go out, sustained by prayer, to work for both peace and justice. So, have faith, and express that faith through sustained prayer and undaunted work for God's reign in our world.

Food for thought: *any concern too small to be turned into a prayer is too small to be made into a burden.*

# Sacred Heart Parish

A Stewardship Parish in Love with Christ



## Parish Information

Parish Administrator: Fr. Don Leonard

Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

465 Curling Street

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Fax: (709) 388-1141

Weekend Masses: Saturday 4:30 p.m. Sunday 11:00 a.m.

Reconciliation: Wednesday after Mass, or by request

Mass During the Week: Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday and Friday at 10:00 a.m.

Holy Hour of Adoration: Third Sunday of the Month at 2 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church

Marriages: Six months' notice is required. A year's notice is recommended.

Baptisms: Celebrated at Weekend Mass after preparation session.

**October 16, 2016**

**Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

<b><u>RECEIVED WITH THANKS</u></b>	Oct. 8, 9
Collection	\$1,850.00
Mass Stipends	40.00
Bldg. Fund	100.00
Votive Candles	29.00
Windows	2,150.00
Needs of the Can. Church	5.00

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Oct 17	Jack Neville
Oct 18	10 am- Funeral Mass for John O'Brien
Oct 19	Percy/Mary/Bern/Rod/Nicholas Joyce
Oct 20	Elizabeth Pope
Oct 21	John & Marie Leonard
Oct 22	Edward Buckle
Oct 23	Parish Community

**MINISTERS** (Oct 22,23)

<b><u>READERS</u></b>	<b><u>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS</u></b>
Art Hall	Joanne Hackett, John Carroll
Carol Reid	Joanne Connolly
<i>*Tony Griffin- Communion Minister to the Sick</i>	

Don Gallant	Eliz Carew, Brian Sparkes
Dennis Bruce	Doreen Jones

**SINCERE SYMPATHY**

We offer our condolences to the families of the late **Paul Young and Annette (Jones) Payne**. Please be assured that we will keep you in our prayers. May they rest in peace.

**MASS REQUESTS**

At present there are very few requests for our weekday Masses to be offered in memory of deceased loved ones. You can do this by including the request in the church envelope.

**HEALING MASS**

This **Wednesday, October 19 at 7 pm**, we will

offer a Mass of Healing. It will follow the same format as previous Healing Masses. Prayer Teams will be available for individual prayer after Mass. Please mark the date and come to be healed.

**MASS OF REMEMBRANCE**

All Souls Day is **Wednesday November 2**. At our 7 pm Mass, we will remember all those who have died over the past year. Family members will be invited to come light a candle in their memory. Also we will have a ceremony to honor all our deceased loved ones. Please plan to attend this beautiful commemorative tribute.

**FALL VARIETY CONCERT: Friday, October 28 at 7:30 pm in Sacred Heart Auditorium.** Cost \$5.

Entertainment will be provided by; Gerry Rowsell, The Griffins, The Hall Sisters, Jack Joyce, Joe Lynch, John & Jennifer Noseworthy, and Midnight Crescent. Come and enjoy!!

**BIBLE STUDY**

The group will meet in the parish house on Monday evening at **7:30 pm** this week. We encourage newcomers to join us in 'breaking open the Word of God' as found in the Gospels.

**HARVEST SALE Saturday, Nov.5 at 1pm**

**Bake Table** To donate baked goods/preserves please contact Mary Gallant at 785-5176.

**Harvest Table** To donate any home made crafts please contact Patsy Hall at 785-2556.

**Cabbage roll supper.** We still need a little help with some food items. If you can help, call Veronica at 639-7216. If you plan to attend the supper, please put your name on the sheets provided at the back of the church. The cost per plate is \$10.00. This includes cabbage rolls, mashed potatoes, carrots, dinner roll, dessert,

tea or coffee. Take out supper begins at 4pm. Eat in dinner will be served following evening Mass—about 5:30 pm.

**Bingo—Nov. 6 at 2pm.**

The list of donors is posted on the bulletin boards.

**For the month of October**, to honor Mary and the Tradition of the Rosary, the Ladies will be leading recitation of **the Rosary** in the church **each Saturday at 4:15 before the start of Mass.**

**FAMILY CATECHESIS-**

Registration forms are available at the back and have to be returned by the end of the month. The program will begin with a meeting of parents at that time. Spread the word.

**YOUTH INVOLVEMENT**

Our Sunday Readings for the next month focus on prayer. Please join us in prayer for our young people to come join us at Sunday worship. We are looking for youth to serve as Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers, and any other capacity. Spread this message of welcome to our young people. Tell them we need them with us to keep us young at heart.

**OUR CHURCH WINDOWS**

Installation has begun. We realize that many of you could not afford the \$1000 requested to cover the cost of one window. Some have asked for an opportunity to donate what they can afford. So, there are 3 windows in the Chapel that have no donors. We are proposing to have one large plaque placed in there with all the names of loved ones from all those who donate \$20 or more. If this meets with your approval, please make a donation.

**CANDLELIGHT ROSARY**

Will be held on the **first Friday** of each month at **the Immaculate Heart of Mary School Chapel from 7:00-8:00 PM.** [for world peace]

**LARGE PRINT BIBLES---**are still available at a cost \$30 each. Please see John or call the office. Our new **Sunday Missals** are now available. They cost \$5.00 each and begin on Nov. 27, the first Sunday in Advent.

**ST. MARGARET MARY ALACOQUE- Oct. 20**

Since our church has the name Sacred Heart, this feast is of greater importance for us. This 17<sup>th</sup> century saint, French nun, first popularized devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. She promoted this devotion as a 'symbol of that boundless love which moved the Word to take flesh, to institute the Holy Eucharist, to take our sins upon Himself, and, dying on the Cross, to offer Himself as a victim and sacrifice to the eternal Father. His Sacred Heart has all the treasures of love, mercy, holiness, grace, and salvation and Jesus wishes to abundantly enrich us with these divine treasures.' PRAY to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

**FEAST OF ST. LUKE – Oct 18**

St. Luke wrote two books in the New Testament, the *Gospel of Luke* and the *Acts of the Apostles*. The Gospel of Luke focuses on converting non-Jews (Gentiles) to Christianity. Luke worked with the apostle Paul, and traveled with him throughout Asia Minor, proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ. He was a Greek physician and thus a Gentile himself.

**Jesus, have mercy upon us; we are sinners seeking divine redemption only you can give.**