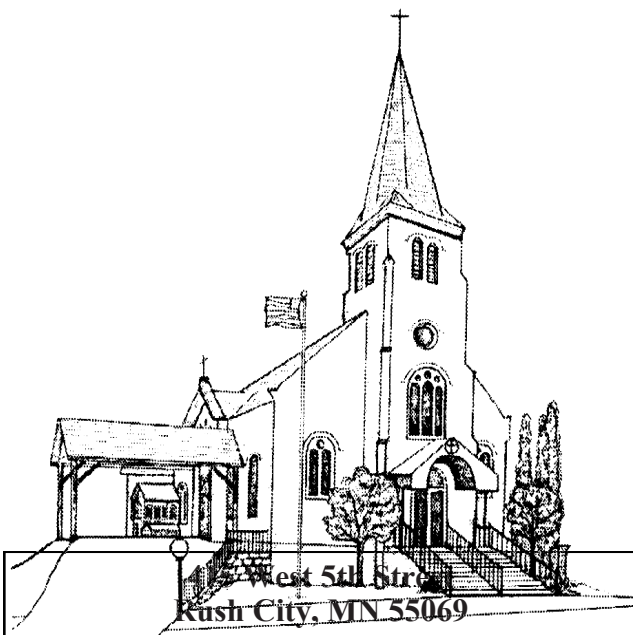


Church of the Sacred Heart



Parish Office

Mailing Address:

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Rush City, MN 55069

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Parish Staff Contacts

Pastor

Fr. Shane Stoppel-Wasinger 651.674.4056 Ext. 111

Weekend Assistants

Fr. Chuck Brambilla

Fr. Thomas Fitzgerald

Secretary/Bulletin Editor

Marsha Marcussen 320.358.4370

Bookkeeper

Steve Yurick 320.358.4370

Faith Formation Coordinator

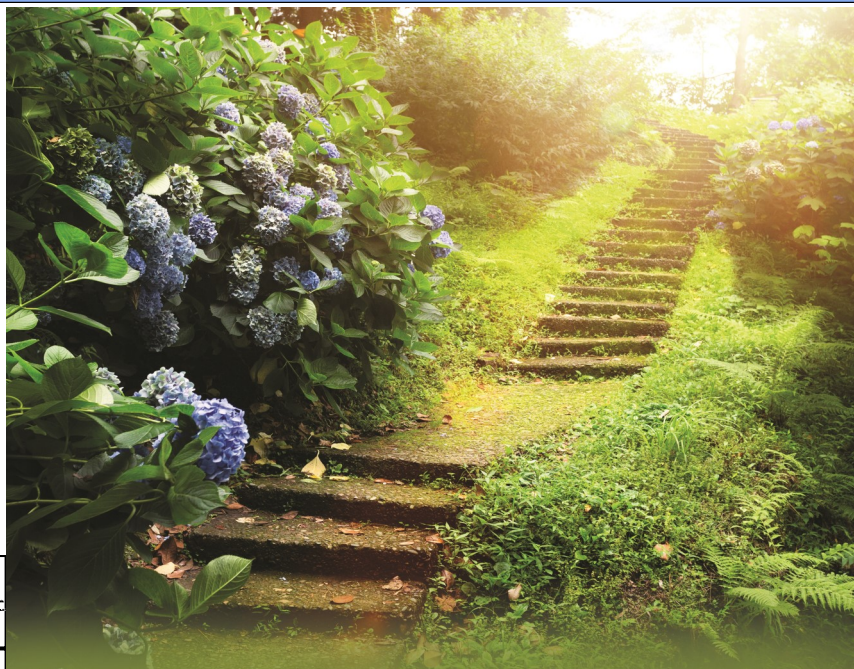
Sue Roth

651.238.1797

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Mission Statement

Sacred Heart parish is a community of Catholic Christian believers, established by the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. We strive to grow in holiness through prayer, celebration of the Eucharist and other sacraments, and reflection on the scriptures. We work hard to build the kingdom of God through evangelization, catechesis and service for all.



21st Sunday IN ORDINARY TIME

Simon Peter answered him, "Master, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life." - Jn 6:68

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Saturday 4:00 pm

Sunday 9:00 am

Weekdays

Wednesday 9:00 am

First Friday of each month 9:00 am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Every Wednesday after 9:00 am Mass

Sacrament of Reconciliation

First Friday of each month 8:30 am

First Saturday of each month 3:15 pm – 3:45 pm

Or by appointment

Office Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

August 26, 2018

ON GOD, GARDENING, WATER, AND FERTILIZER

During these Minnesota summer months, everything grows in one's gardens, as long as there is rainfall, hot humid days, care, and nurturing. As our past winter was a fairly average one, albeit way too long, the summer apparently will turn out to also be ordinary. Moreover, and hopefully, may be as well, the warmth and magnificent days will be extended as the cold and snow were this past April. In any case, I don't know about you, but I have thoroughly enjoyed these past few months, which haven't been too hot, but nearly picture-perfect throughout the majority of our summertime, particularly this month.

As I have weeded and worked in my gardens, I have both vegetable and flower ones, new insights about life and God have come to me. More or less, the weather has provided some good rainfall, therefore, not as much watering from the faucet has been needed. When needed, I have watered the potted and hanging plants, flower beds, and vegetable garden on an interval. Therefore, all the flowers and plants have, or could have, done well this year.

I say "could have" since some of my plants and flowers look rather pathetic, a sight and condition of my own making. The only vegetable plants that are dismal, but not my fault are the green and purple peppers and some of the tomatoes. Although they have produced some fruit, the tomatoes are far more plentiful than the four peppers that I have harvested thus far. Getting back to the sad looking plants, which I recently discovered after researching on the internet the reason why, is the fact I had over fertilized them with Miracle Grow, or in my case Miracle "death."

Most years that I have gardened, I typically do not use fertilizer. Maybe I have put the stuff on three or four times over the past twenty odd years. Past years, I was careful measuring how much to put around the plants. However, as it has turned out, my "estimating" on just how much to nourish some of the flowers and plants this year caused some healthy plants to turn into hurting and/or dying ones.

At first, I thought that the leaves and vines had some form of disease or were infected by a bug. When I saw a pattern of leaves dying from the first part of the plants then moving up the vines or stocks and only on some of the foliage, I began my research. It wasn't long before I was one-hundred percent positive that I had over fertilized. Too much of a good thing, even if it is designed to help plants grow healthier, can in fact be damaging and cause them to stop growing, and in my case, not produce any fruit or flowers.

This is where the new insight about life and our relationship with God comes in. We sometimes "over fertilize" our lives with activities and numerous events, placing work and sports as priorities in our life. We seldom have time to just "be" or have time building up our relationship with God. Yes, just as the amount of fertilizer put on plants and flowers nourishes them, so too can the right amount of "the fertilizer of activity, work, and sports, placing God first," give us lives that are meaningful, purposeful, and healthy. How much fertilizer are you putting in your lives?

Have a blessed week and safe Labor Day weekend, Father Shane

Daily Prayer This Week

Like physical exercises which build strength and stamina, these exercises for finding intimacy with God in our everyday lives involve practice. Nobody ever got good at soccer or baseball, running or dancing without careful practice that becomes a habit, a way of life. And, no one even attempts such a regimen without great desire. The same is true with having a better relationship with our Lord. It takes great desire to sustain a routine of reflection and affective, intimate conversation. Such prayerful focus and connectedness take discipline, but it quickly becomes natural. And, the rewards are phenomenal.

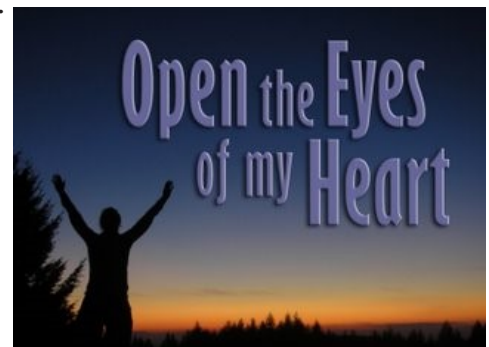
We can practice this week by asking ourselves some deep questions in the background of our life each day. Beginning each day by briefly expressing a desire to be more self-aware and transparent with our Lord, we can ask ourselves some probing questions.

In what ways am I a hypocrite? How do I use a double standard – harsher on others than I am on myself? How do I like to appear as a religious person, but actual lack mercy and deeds of charity? Am I a good steward of the gifts with which God has entrusted me?

As I grow in the ability to reflect throughout the day, I might try to recognize my inner spirit, my attitudes, the ways I respond. It is a way of staying alert and places me with my Lord in conversation, in the background as I make decisions, as I experience my reactions to events and people. Sometimes, I might just be saying "Thank you, Lord," expressing gratitude for what I've been given. At other times, that will quickly turn to a reflection on how I will be a good steward of those gifts. Hearing the readings this week, I might want to monitor how my fear or my laziness might prevent me from being bold about using the gifts the Lord has given me to build up the Kingdom in my world.

Preparing for celebrating God's love on Sunday, I can focus on the readings for and ask to be humble in my life. Who is "the poor, the crippled, the lame" person who needs to be invited more deeply into my life?

Help me Lord to hear your word to me, even when it challenges me. Open my heart and guide me to use my talents to serve you. Teach me to be generous, Lord.



Celebrants

Wednesday, August 29th

Fr. Shane Sacred Heart 9:00 am

Saturday, September 1

Fr. Fitzgerald Sacred Heart 4:00 pm

Fr. Shane St. Gregory's 5:00 pm

Sunday, September 2

Fr. Fitzgerald Sacred Heart 9:00 am

Fr. Shane St. Gregory's 9:30 am

Friday, September 7

Fr. Nygaard Sacred Heart 9:00am

Thank you to everyone at Sacred Heart for all the prayers & cards for our dad, Dick Gibson. A special thank you to Fr. Shane, Clarence, Roger, Phyllis. The honor Guard, also thank you to the CCW and Al for the wonderful meal.



*Sincerely,
Dick Gibson Family*

News

The Fall Festival is only 3 weeks away! It is time to get those donations in. We are in need of 2 liter bottles of pop and prizes for kids' games. These items can be dropped off in boxes in back of church. If you would rather just make a monetary donation, envelopes are available in pews and can be placed in the offertory. Thank you for your support of our Fall Festival!



2018-2019 FAITH FORMATION –Starting Soon!

September 12th is the first day of Faith Formation and also registration with a parent meeting at 6:30 pm.

Finance Council Member

A resignation from the finance council has created a need for a new member. We meet 4-6 times a year. Please contact the office if interested.

September & October Liturgical schedules are available in back of church.

Financial Update

Weekend of :	8/19/18
Envelopes	1927.00
Plate.....	212.00
Funeral Fund	207.00
Stipends/Stole	10.00
Candle Money	207.00
CCW Funeral Proceeds	100.00
Cemetery	100.00
Assumption.....	376.00
Fall Festival	430.00
Queen of Mary Mission	782.16
Total	\$4164.16

Mass Intentions



August 29 † Lois & Lionel Baier
September 1 † Janie Jacobson
September 2 † Open

Needing our Prayers

Sue Roth Jim Bartz Bill Peno Jim Kirchberg



"When we pray, God hears more than we say, answers more than we ask, gives more than we imagine...in HIS own time and HIS own way."



You are invited to join Sacred Heart Youth Choir

If you're a student aged 8 -18, like to sing or play an instrument, and would like to share your gifts to praise God during the Youth Mass each month, then come join us!

We will begin our new choir season Wednesday, September 5, 2018 with our first rehearsal in church from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. After that, rehearsals will follow last year's format: Faith Formation Wednesdays 6:00– 6:30p.m. and Youth Mass Sundays 8:00– 8:45 A.M.

We sing at the 9:00 A.M. Youth Mass which is scheduled for the second Sunday of each month.

We would love to have you join us "make a joyful noise to the Lord"! (Psalm 98:4)

For more information and to sign up, please contact:
Cindy Dworshak (director) – 815-790-8146
Cynthia.dworshak@gmail.com