

Welcome to The Church of the Sacred Heart

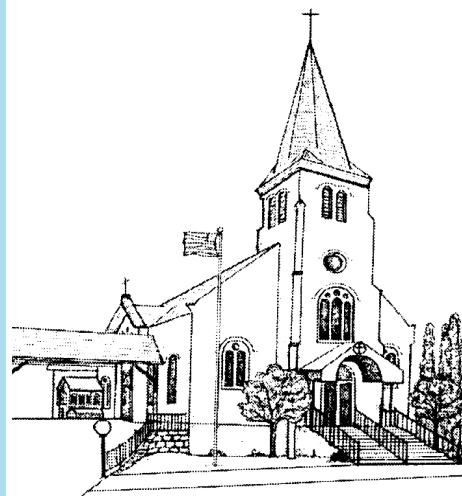
The Mother Church of East Central Minnesota

Parish Office / Mailing Address:
415 West 5th Street

PO Box 45 Rush City, MN 55069

Phone: 320.358.4370 Fax: 866.779.1580 Wey Hall: 320.358.3145

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Weekend & Weekday Masses

Saturday-Temporarily Suspended
Sunday 9:00 am
Wednesday 9:00 am

Private Prayers:

Wednesdays, Thursdays and Sundays-
8:30-Noon

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

Every Wednesday after 9:00 am Mass
until Noon

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Confessions will be heard by request
after mass on Wednesdays or
by appointment.

Clergy

Pastor:

Fr. Shane Stoppel-Wasinger

Assisting Priest:

Fr. Chuck Brambilla
Fr. Thomas Fitzgerald

Office Hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday
8:00 am. - 12:00 pm.

Parish Staff Contacts

Admin Asst: Marsha Marcussen
Bookkeeper/ Music: Steve Yurick
Faith Formation: Claire Kind
Minister Scheduling: Amy Prickett
612-716-9147



21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven.
Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in
heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall
be loosed in heaven." - Mt 16:19

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass: 1989, 1988, 1970-CCB.

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Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time August 23, 2020

WORSHIP & MEDITATION



FIRST READING

"I will place the key of the House of David
on Eliakim's shoulder;
when he opens, no one shall shut
when he shuts, no one shall open." (Is 22:22)



PSALM

Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake
the work of your hands. (Ps 138)



SECOND READING

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom
and knowledge of God!
How inscrutable are his judgments and how
unsearchable his ways! (Rom 11:33)



GOSPEL

"And so I say to you, you are Peter,
and upon this rock I will build my church,
and the gates of the netherworld shall not
prevail against it." (Mt 16:18)

*Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001,
1998, 1970 CCD. The English translation of Psalm
Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981,
1997, International Commission on English in the
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GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

The only way to know God is to love God. Our minds will never fully grasp the mystery of God, but our hearts and souls can learn to love the mystery. Years ago, when life had a more innocent quality to it, we believed what we were told or witnessed, unless there was direct evidence otherwise. This was especially true if the information came from someone in authority. In a sense, we were a bit more gullible on one hand but also more trusting on the other. The latter is an admirable quality that sadly can be eroded when we realize we have been duped. With education and technological advances, we find ourselves more skeptical and less likely to too quickly accept and believe what we see and hear.

For all of the good that social media can do, it can also easily distort reality and truth. Photoshop and a myriad other technological truths can add to, fabricate, and make even the non-existent seem real. It is amazing. How far do we allow this obviously justifiable skepticism to take us? Questioning and doubting are healthy elements of any good relationship as long as we don't allow them to turn us away from a deeper experience of love and encounter. If we cannot get our minds around something or empirically justify or prove it, we tend to declare it a hoax, untrue, or unauthentic and walk away. The very same trust that can quickly be eroded is exactly what is essential for all of our relationships, especially our relationship with God. With all things and people that make a profound claim on us, we have to trust in the absence of knowledge. Full self-investment involves plunging completely into the unknown!

Simon Peter said to Jesus, "You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God." Peter came to this knowledge, which is not "head knowledge" because of the relationship he shared with Jesus and what God was able to reveal in and through that relationship. Peter simply "knew" because of love that this is who Jesus really is. The silent exchange of love between friends, and not an intellectual exercise of the mind, brought Peter to this place. When we stop and think about it, there are many things in life that we simply know but do not completely understand. When someone sacrifices their own well-being for another, it may not make intellectual sense when examined. But it makes a world of sense when it is carried out. The vastness of reality and an encounter with incomprehensible mystery all lead us to profound silence where we simply know something to be true. Have you trusted enough to allow your relationship with God to bring you to this place or are you still too skeptical?

REFLECT

First Reading

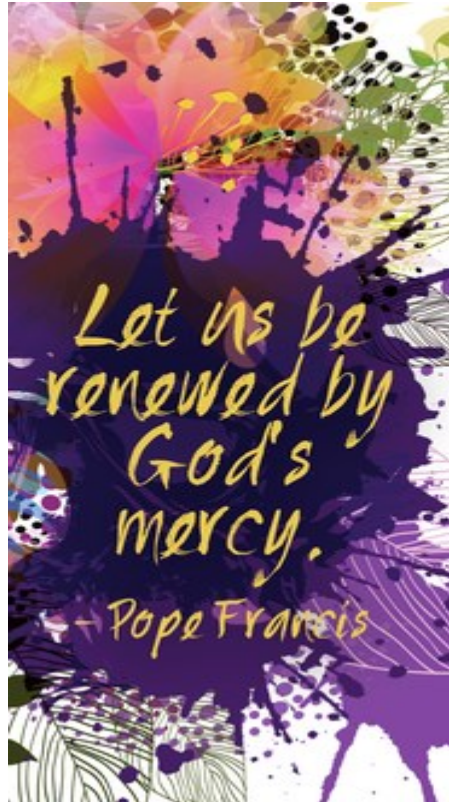
The Lord condemns Shebna (ascribe under King Hezekiah) for ignoring Isaiah's prophetic warning and elevates Eliakim with "a seat of honor." How well do you listen to prophetic voices?

Second Reading

Today we hear Paul's concluding remarks from Romans 9:11 (reflections of God's plan of salvation for Jews and Gentiles); Paul contends that God's ways are beyond our understanding. Do you find this comforting or unsettling?

Gospel Reading

Jesus informs Peter that his confession of him as "the Messiah, the Son of the living God" is divinely inspired. How do you imagine Peter personally reacted to the news of the revelation?



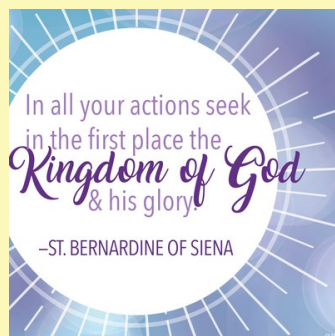
The Choice of Stewardship

What does it mean to be a good steward? Does it mean to be an active parishioner, or something more? Are we better stewards because we give more in terms of our money and time to our parish, or are we called to do even more than that?

The truth is that stewardship is a way of life. We are not simply called to be active parishioners, but instead be active disciples all the time. In fact, what we learn to do in our parish should serve as preparation for the mission field of the world. What have we really done if we only act like disciples of Jesus Christ while we are assembled with others who claim to be the same?

The choice before us is to give ourselves in all aspects of our day and life. The call of Jesus will come in our everyday lives with our co-workers, family, and friends more often than it will within our parish community. First, if we can't become good stewards when we are among those who are non-believers? Second, when our muscles of gratitude, generosity, and graciousness are strengthened within our parish community, we are more able to meet the challenges of this world. However, we do not become good stewards by accident. We must always choose to live this way. What will you choose?

- Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



Father God, Your Word says the prayer of faith shall heal the sick. We come to You today in Faith asking that you heal us from every sickness, disease, and illness. We receive our healing by faith. In Jesus name AMEN.

Continued prayers for:

Sue Roth, Janet Yurick, Gerald Mollberg,
Margarette Brooker, Jim Thorn,
Judy Strandmark, Jim Kirchberg, Shirley Kirchberg
Traci Bartz, Joseph Schwaab, Grace Schwaab

BOOYA SAVE THE DATE!!

Sunday, September 27, 2020!

Raffle and mainly "Take Out Booya"

Limited seating in the parish hall.

More details coming soon!

FOOD SHELF DONATIONS

Get more value for your donations by giving cash! Please note "Food Shelf" on your envelope. If you do donate food, please no produce that can spoil. Thank you.

August 29 & 30 Celebrants

Fr. Shane	St. Gregory	5:00 p.m.
Fr. Shane	Sacred Heart	9:00 a.m.

September 5 & 6 Celebrants

Fr. Chuck	St. Gregory	5:00 p.m.
Fr. Chuck	Sacred Heart	9:00 a.m.

Mark your calendars: In lieu of no mass on Wednesday's, September 9th & 16th, we will be having mass on Friday, September 4th at 9:00 am.

Fall Chicken Dinner & Raffle Save the date!

Sunday, September 20, 2020!

If you can volunteer to serve and run food out as they orders come please contact the church office. Also, if you can donate an Apple crisp please contact Sue Roth at 651-238-1797, the recipe is on our website for downloading. Thank you!

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.