

Sacred Heart Catholic Church - Bellingham, WA.

I have noticed a number of parishioners wearing Obama pins or placing McCain bumper stickers on their cars. Everyone is excited about the prediction of record turnouts for this year's election. The Church and our society encourage us to be responsible citizens and exercise our responsibility of shaping our culture with our values and convictions. Knowing how sensitive these issues can be for us, I offer a brief reflection upon how we should approach the election: Keep our eyes fixed on Christ.

I have mentioned many times how my parents shaped my faith. They especially gave me the gift of a devotion to Mary and the saints. To say that my family has a great devotion to Mary is an understatement. Coming home from seminary one summer, I noticed that my parents had placed a 3-foot statue of Mary on our home altar. The whole room was overwhelmed by Mary. Mary stood where the crucifix used to be. Jesus was now over to the side of the altar. Being an "established" theologian after two years of seminary, I told my parents, "You are heretics because you have elevated Mary above Jesus! Mary is NOT our savior. It's granted that I could have been more subtle in my reaction, but I was nevertheless correct. Jesus crucified must always be at the center of our altars and our lives. In our zeal for being responsible citizens, we may run the risk of "mixing" our candidates with Jesus. Nothing wrong with wearing pins or using bumper stickers per se, but the question must be posed: are we as bold and overt about Jesus as we are about these politicians? They are not our savior. There is only one Lord and Savior: Jesus Christ! Fr. Qui-Thac Nguyen

Fr. Qui-Thac attending New Priest Program

Fr. Qui-Thac will be attending a New Priest Program September 23, 24, and 25th.

Mass Schedule Changes

There will be no Masses at Sacred Heart Church on the following dates:

Tuesday, September 23
Wednesday, September 24th
Thursday, September 25th

Mass Schedule for Church of the Assumption:

Wednesday/ 6:00 p.m.
Thursday/10:30 a.m.
No Mass on Tuesday

Annual Meeting for Homebound Ministers

The annual meeting for Homebound Ministers is October 4, 2008. We will begin at 8:00 a.m. with the Rosary, Benediction and Mass, followed by a light breakfast, with the meeting from 10-12 Noon in the parish hall.

Anyone interested in becoming a Homebound Minister please feel free to join us. Please notify Sheila Siebert: 734-5029 or Marilyn Cunningham: 733-6160 if unable to attend.

Thank You!!!

I sincerely wish to thank everyone for their prayers and help during my illness. Ministries such as St. Vincent de Paul, Loaves and Fishes, Parish Nurses, and WOSH, along with angels like Sheila, Betty, Candice and Penny have made it possible for me to receive the medical care I need while holding the other pieces of my life together as a single working-mom. The immediacy with which people reached out in prayer was astounding, truly representing the Body of Christ. I cannot begin to express the impact of your kindness upon our family. From 9/21 to 10/24 I will be in Seattle receiving treatments but will hold my Sacred Heart family in continuous prayer. Thank you, Debra Black.



Abortion doesn't keep a woman from being a mom - it just means she's the mother of a dead baby. Adoption is a choice the mother and the baby can live with.

Justice for Immigrants

Whatcom Pax Christi will offer a program on immigration and Catholic teaching. Come and learn from Fr. Scott what the Church teaches about this high-profile issue, followed by a group discussion.

October 8th, 7:00 p.m. in
The Assumption School Library

Catholic Marriage Enrichment

Seven weekly sessions, Monday nights 6:30-9:00 p.m.

Oct. 13-Nov. 24.

We will be using DVD's and materials from John Gottman, Christopher West on Pope John Paul II's "theology of the body", Gary Smalley and Jimmy Evans. Open to married people of all ages, if one person in the couple is a registered parishioner at Sacred Heart or Church of the Assumption. Room for 20 people only. Fee of \$60.00 per couple to cover the cost of materials. CALL Phil and Christine Gubbins PhD if you wish to attend 360-671-7646. Anyone with issues of substance abuse, physical or sexual abuse, or mental illness should seek professional help, as this course will not be helpful to them until those problems are solved.

Winter Coat Drive

Please save the coats and jackets that you no longer need for the Interfaith Coat Drive coming up in October.

September 20 & September 21

25th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Isaiah 55:6-9, Philippians 1:20c-24,27a, Gospel: (Matthew 20:1-16a)

Sept. 21 8:30 a.m. **Mass** Church
Sun. 9:45 a.m. RE Parents' Meeting Hall
 9:45 a.m. RE/First Reconciliation/First Communion
 9:45 a.m. No Coffee Hour Hall
 11:00 a.m. **Mass** Church
 1:00 p.m. **Vietnamese Mass** Church

Gospel: (Luke 8:16-18)

Sept 22 **No Mass**
Mon. 7:00 p.m. Edge Assumption Gym

Pio of Pietrelcina, priest, Gospel: (Luke 8:19-21)

Sept. 23 1:30 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry St. Nicholas Room
Tues. 6:00 p.m. **No Mass** Church
 7:00 p.m. Inquiry Calcutta Room

Gospel:(Luke 9:1-6)

Sept. 24 12:10 p.m. **No Mass** Church
Wed.

Gospel: (Luke: 9:7-9)

Sept. 25 10:00 a.m. Parish Nurse St. Claire Rm.
 12:10 p.m. **No Mass** Church

Cosmas and Damien, martyrs, Gospel: (Luke 9:18-22)

Sept. 26 11:15 a.m. Reconciliation Church
Fri. 12:10 p.m. **Mass (Helen Mosher) (+)** Church

Ezekiel 18:25-28, Philippians 2:1-11, Gospel: (Matthew 21:28-32)

Sept. 27 8:30 a.m. **Mass** Winter Chapel
Sat. 3:30 p.m. Reconciliation Church
 5:00 p.m. **Mass** Church

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ezekiel 18:25-28, Philippians 2:1-11, Gospel: (Matthew 21:28-32)

Sept. 28 8:30 a.m. **Mass** Church
Sun. 9:45 a.m. First Reconciliation Parents' Mtg. Aquinas Rm.
 9:45 a.m. RE/First Reconciliation/First Communion Parish Ctr.
 9:45 p.m. Coffee Hour (Finance Council) Hall
 11:00 a.m. **Mass** Church
 6:00 p.m. SALT Upper Room/Assumption Parish Ctr.

Assumption School News 733-6133

Early Release: Friday, September 26 for an Teacher In-Service Day.

Immediate Opening: Assumption Catholic School, is seeking a teacher for 8th grade Science, Algebra, and Language Arts. Applicant must be a team player and willing to collaborate with other staff members. Guaranteed consideration: September 16, 2008. Open until filled. Send resume and cover letter to: Rose Goeres, Principal, Assumption Catholic School, 2116 Cornwall Ave. Bellingham, WA 98225. For more information call 733-6133.

WANTED: Eucharistic Ministers for the school Masses on Fridays. If you regularly attend the Friday school Mass and would be willing to commit to being a Eucharistic Minister, please contact the principal, Rose Goeres, at 733-6133. Thank you.

Interested in Exploring the Catholic Faith?

Have questions or aren't sure? Or are you ready to start the process to become Catholic? Then call Twi McDonell at 734-2850, Ext. 6, to set up a meeting. The process is the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). We will begin our next inquiry sessions on Tuesday nights from 7-8:30 p.m. beginning September 9th in the Calcutta Room (Twi's Office).

Religious Education (R.E.) for K-5th Graders

RE for K-5TH GRADERS WILL START SEPTEMBER 21ST FROM 9:45-10:45 A.M. For this first meeting, we will all begin in the Parish Hall. Students will be dismissed to their classrooms after our gathering prayer and Father will meet with parents in the hall.

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY KICKOFF FOR SACRED HEART AND ASSUMPTION (THE EDGE) BEGINS ON MONDAY, September 15th at ASSUMPTION GYM, 7:00-8:30 P.M.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY

SALT – SACRED HEART ASSUMPTION LIFE TEEN begins on Sunday, September 14th and meets in the Assumption Parish Center "Upper Room" from 6-8:00.

Attention Catholic Voters

In their statement "Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship", the U.S. Bishops remind us, "In the Catholic tradition, responsible citizenship is a virtue, and participation in political life is a moral obligation." Find out more about what the Church teaches about citizenship and how to apply it in this election year on **Tuesday, Sept. 30th** at 7:00 p.m. in the parish hall at Sacred Heart. We will have a guest speaker and opportunity for discussion.

CAST Needs: Sandwich makers (2) 4:30-5:30 pm needed - Sept. 29th. **Servers (1)** 6:00-7:00 p.m. needed for Sept. 29th. Call Ginnie Parine at 647-5703 or Lee Langdon at 738-4010.

Sacred Heart's Stewardship Gift Corner Giving to Others! September 13 & 14, 2008

Envelopes (178)	\$ 11,312.00
Visitors	\$ 597.31
Children (0)	\$ 00.00
Total Sunday Income	\$ 11,909.31
Weekly Budget Need	\$ 8,097.11
Assumption	\$ 2.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 224.00
Building & Grounds	\$ 21.00
Assumption School	\$ 59.00

Thank You for all the gifts of Time, Treasure and Talent you give to Sacred Heart!