

Sacred Heart Catholic Church - Bellingham, WA.

An engineer, a lawyer and two priests were on the golf course...Now, you think that it's the beginning of a joke. No joke here. Fr. Vu and I were joined by a lawyer from Seattle, and a civil engineer from Boston with his sister tagging along. In the course of our very pleasant conversation, I found out that George "was" a Catholic. Immediately, I was afraid it was because of some traumatic experience, so I asked why that was the case. George rapidly replied, "The Church expects a moral code that is too difficult for the people to attain; they are not grounded in reality." This is a man who "loves" to play the game that consists of a small blade at the end of a long stick in which the object of the game is to swing that blade in such a way that it hits a small little white ball the size of a Mexican lime into a puny cup the size of a beer coaster...500 yards away! He kept exclaiming all day how beautiful and great this game is. Interesting

There is no doubt. George is an intelligent man and very quick-witted. How fast George replied to me means that he has repeated this response many times in the past and has convinced others and himself that it is a perfectly good reason. I know that he knows that this response is not up to par.

Jesus' conversation with the chief priests and elders is direct, "Amen, I say to you, tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you" because your reason for not repenting is not good enough. This blunt conversation with Jesus takes place in every heart, especially the one who has strayed from Him. As the Psalmist says, "Sin speaks to the sinner, in the depths of his heart." (Psalm 36)

As for George, I wanted to ask which particular "moral code" was so impossible, but I sensed instantaneously that he wanted to get back to his game. He never asked anything personal about me. At the end, when George was in the club house, I spoke with George's sister outside and invited them to dinner. Carrie said "no thank you" but asked why I had asked. I told her that I found out that they were Catholics and revealed to her that we were Catholic priests. With that we left. I'll bet you the conversation in the car between Carrie and George was interesting, but I hope the conversation in George's heart continues.

Fr. Qui-Thac Nguyen

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Friday, October 3rd at 12:50 p.m. through Saturday, October 4th at 8:25 a.m.

Adoration will end with Benediction at 8:25 a.m. in the Winter Chapel, followed by Mass at 8:30 a.m.

Sign up sheet for adoration in the vestibule of the Church.

Faithful Citizenship: As the election campaigns heat up, politics seem to become a contest of powerful interests, partisan attacks and sound bites. The Church calls for a different kind of political engagement, focused on the dignity of every human, the pursuit of the common good, and the protection of the weak and vulnerable. Come and learn more about how to apply these principles with Sr. Linda Haydock, from the Inter-community Peace and Justice Center, at Sacred Heart's parish hall at 7:00 p.m. on September 30.

Calling All Choir Members

All past, present, and prospective members are invited to sing with the 8:30 a.m. choir starting in October. Our very first rehearsal is this Wednesday, October 1st at 7:00 p.m. in the Church. New members are welcomed to join at any time throughout the year. We can never have too many voices! If you are interested in joining the 8:30 a.m. choir please contact Emily Dayton at Emily.shmusic@gmail.com for more information. Let's start this year off strong!

Annual Meeting for Homebound Ministers

Meeting, Sat., Oct. 4, at 8:00 a.m. in the Church. Please Notify Sheila 434-5029 or Marilyn 733-6160 if unable to attend. Anyone interested in becoming a Homebound Minister is welcome to join us.



Regarding abortion and euthanasia: Unless liberty is devoted to the defense of life, neither life nor liberty can survive.

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.

Childcare

Starting Oct. 5th, childcare will be provided by Newman Center students during the 11o'clock Mass in the Nursery. Childcare is open to 1st graders and below. If you have any questions concerning childcare, please contact Emily Dayton at Emily.shmusic@gmail.com for more information.

September 27 & September 28

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

No SALT Meeting due to Harvest Festival at Assumption

Michael, Gabriel, Raphael, Archangels
Gospel: (John 1:47-51)

Sept 29 **No Mass** Church
Mon. **No EDGE Meeting due to Harvest Festival**

Jerome, priest, doctor, Gospel: (Luke 9:51-56)

Sept. 30 1:30 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry St. Nicholas Room
Tues. 5:15 p.m. Reconciliation Church
 6:00 p.m. **Mass** (Maria Puk) (+) Church
 7:00 p.m. Inquiry Winter Chapel
 7:00 p.m. Faithful Citizenship Meeting Hall

Therese of the Child Jesus, virgin, doctor
Gospel: (Luke 9:57-62)

Oct. 1 11:15 p.m. Reconciliation Church
Wed. 12:10 p.m. **Mass** (Virginia Howell) (+) Church
 7:00 p.m. 8:30 Choir practice Church

Guardian Angels, Gospel: (Matthew 18:1-5, 10)

Oct. 2 10:00 a.m. Parish Nurse St. Claire Rm.
Thurs. 11:15 a.m. Reconciliation Church
 12:10 p.m. **Mass** (Anthony Matteo Suter) (+) Church

First Friday
Gospel: (Luke 9:18-22)

Oct. 3 11:15 a.m. Reconciliation Church
Fri. 12:10 p.m. **First Friday Mass** Church
 (Lorraine Smith) (+)
 1:00 p.m. Adoration Winter Chapel
 1:10 p.m. Luncheon Shaughnessy Hall

Is 5:1-7, Philippians 4:6-9, Gospel: (Matthew 21:33-43)

Oct. 4 8:00 a.m. Eucharistic Homebound Ministers' Mtg. Church
Sat. 8:25 a.m. Benediction Winter Chapel
 8:30 a.m. **First Saturday Mass** Church
 3:30 p.m. Reconciliation Church
 5:00 p.m. **Mass** Church

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 5:1-7, Philippians 4:6-9, Gospel: (Matthew 21:33-43)

Oct. 5 8:30 a.m. **Mass** Church
Sun. 9:45 a.m. RE/First Rec./First Communion Parish Ctr.
 9:45 p.m. Coffee Hour Shaughnessy Hall
 11:00 a.m. **Mass** Church
 6:00 p.m. SALT/Movie Night Assumption

Assumption School News:

Thank you for the response to our Eucharistic Minister ad. Thank you for the volunteers who came forward.

St. Francis Blessing: Friday, October 2, 8.00a.m. on the plaza.

Registration for 2008-09: Call Assumption Catholic School (733-6133) for a tour and a meeting with the principal.

Office Hours: Assumption School 7:30-3:30 every Mon.-Fri.

Thank You to all RE families who attended the big kickoff. It was great meeting families! It was great seeing the children. And it was wonderful to introduce and bless our catechists - Sarah and Joseph Reyes, Janell Salomon, Corina Jones, Rene Baranek, Jim Karcher, Candice Rosenberg, Melba Tso, and Rurik Patsctick. As we move into this year we ask the parish to pray for all parents, children, and catechists who seek to know and meet Jesus in a deeper way through the Religious Education program, through the sacraments and within our faith community.

Inquiry for September 30th will participate in the Faithful Citizenship Meeting held in the hall from 7-9 p.m.

Liturgical Ministers Sign up Sunday is coming October 18th & 19th. If you have been interested in considering signing up for a Liturgical Ministry or think perhaps God is calling you to serve the community in that way, this is a great time to find out more information and sign up! Trainings will be at a later date. All New and Veteran Ministers are invited to attend the Liturgical Ministers Retreat on Saturday Morning, November 8th. We begin with Mass at 8:30 a.m. and conclude with lunch. More information will be forthcoming in the bulletin and on the website!

Just Faith Ministries

Just Faith Ministries offers a 21 session process for Small groups to broaden their personal lives grounded in Christian Spirituality and Gospel Justice. Participants focus on the challenges of combining a contemplative life in our tumultuous world. Different forms of praying, spiritual reading, sacred listening, prayerful dialogue, immersion experiences, spiritual practices and 2 retreats will form the sessions. Interested members are invited to the introductory meeting on Oct. 2nd at 7:00 p.m. in the Pastoral Center of Assumption Church.

For information: Richard Pope at 671-9214, Popes2@msn.com or Joseph Correa at 647-1232, Maxwellcorrea@comcast.net.

Sacred Heart's Stewardship Gift Corner Giving to Others!

September 20 & 21, 2008

Envelopes (149)	\$ 6,425.00
Visitors	\$ 1086.20
Children (1)	\$ 6.00
Total Sunday Income	\$ 7,517.20
Weekly Budget Need	\$ 8,097.11
Build Hope	\$ 15.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 269.00
Building & Grounds	\$ 25.00
Assumption School	\$ 16.00

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