

Sacred Heart Catholic Church - Bellingham, WA.

"You wicked, lazy servant!" Those were the Master's words to the servant who did not use the talent given to him. They are rather harsh words. Sure, he did not increase the talent as he should have and so deserves the title "lazy", but is he really wicked? The Latin word that was used is "*male*" that is, evil. In fact, the laziness was so evil that the servant was "*thrown into the darkness outside, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.*" We usually interpret this place as hell. Hell is reserved only for those who commit mortal sins. Did the servant commit a mortal sin? Evidently he has done something sinful: refusing to act as he ought.

If the logic of the above holds true, then the parable has far-reaching implications for us. Apparently, laziness or doing nothing is a sin. It is not only a sin, but it can be a sin grave enough to merit hell. This is a truth that is troubling for us. How many of us are not guilty of laziness? Secondly, how many of us view laziness as a serious sin? We usually joke about laziness and give it a euphemism: procrastination. Procrastination is a euphemism for the sin of omission. A disciple of Christ is called not only to avoid evil, but also to do good. What good have I not done in my life?

Fr. Qui-Thac Nguyen

Please Note: Changes to Mass Schedule

Due to a Deanery Meeting on Nov. 19th and a Fall priests' meeting Nov. 20th.

There will be no Mass on Wednesday, Nov. 19th.

Thursday, Nov. 20th, Mass will be at 6:30 a.m. instead of 12:10 p.m.

Whatcom Hospice Seeks Volunteers

We are seeking special people to provide assistance—such as respite sitting, light chores, transportation, comfort, & friendship—to those facing a life-threatening illness. Hospice Volunteers are:

- Excellent communicators,
- Not afraid to be in the presence of ill, or dying, or grieving people,
- Available four hours per week for at least one year,
- Flexible, caring, and compassionate.

If you are interested in volunteering, please attend the Informational Meeting Thursday, January 15, 2:30-5:00 p.m.

Lower Level Meeting Room—800 E. Chestnut St., Bellingham. For more information, contact Diane Gillespie, 756-6892 or dgillespie@peacehealth.org.

Homebound Ministers

The Homebound Ministers at Sacred Heart currently take the Eucharist to over 60 homebound Catholics in nursing homes, assisted living facilities, retirement homes and in private homes. We are in need of more volunteers to help with this ministry. If you are interested in this ministry, please contact Marilyn Cunningham at 733-6160 or Sheila Siebert 734-5029.

Information Meetings For Those Interested In Lay Ecclesial

Ministry Certification: Are you a pastoral lay leader who feels called to formally serve the Church in collaboration with the Archbishop, priests and deacons? The Archdiocese of Seattle sponsors a program entitled Christifideles, which includes acceptance and participation by the Archdiocese as a Lay Ecclesial Minister. If you are interested or would like more information, you are invited to an information meeting taking place at: Vancouver (11/22) or Seattle University (12/6). To register, please contact the Office of Catholic Faith Formation, 206-382-4096.



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

Book Drive

Danny Gibson, Assumption parishioner and current Life Scout in Troop 4020, is organizing a book drive to complete his Eagle Scout project. He is working with the local nonprofit Books to Prisoners. This organization believes that books are tools for learning, and hopes to promote social justice and prisoner literacy. Studies have shown that literate people are less likely to return to prison. **The Books to Prisoners coordinators have asked him to exclusively collect books that are written in Spanish or that teach the Spanish language.** Your contribution of new or used, hardcover or paperback Spanish language books, is greatly appreciated. A bin for collecting the books will be located in the vestibule of the church from November 23 to December 14. If you have any questions about this project, Danny can be contacted at (360) 733-0291.

CD of Cynthia Bentley's 7/10/05 Concert FINALLY....the CD of Cynthia Bentley's July 10, 2005 concert is ready for sale! Cynthia will be at the **Firehouse Performing Arts Center** (1314 Harris Ave.), to accept purchases, on the following dates and times: **Saturday, Nov. 15th and Sunday, Nov. 16th, from 2:00-5:30 p.m. and Tuesday, Nov. 18th from Noon-3:00 p.m.** If you pre-ordered CDs at the concert or at Sacred Heart on March 30, 2008, now is the time to save \$5.00 postage and handling, which will be added to the price of CDs sent by mail...great idea for Christmas gifts too!...**Come and Celebrate a Dream come true!**

Reminder: If you were issued keys to the hall or church during the Potpourri of Art, don't forget to return them to Ruth at the Parish Office. Thank you.

November 15 & November 16

Prov 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31, 1 Thess 5:1-6, Gospel: (Matt 25:14-30)
Nov. 16 8:30 a.m. **Mass** Church
Sun. 9:45 a.m. RE/F. Recon./F. Comm. Parish Center
 9:45 a.m. Coffee Hour Shaughnessy Hall
 11:00 a.m. **Mass** Church
 12:15 p.m. Bible Study St. Augustine
 1:00 p.m. Vietnamese Mass Church
 6:00 p.m. No SALT

Elizabeth of Hungary, Gospel: (Luke 6:27-38)

Nov. 17 **No Mass**
Mon. 6:30 p.m. Marriage Enrichment Class St. Augustine
 7:00 p.m. EDGE Assumption Gym

Gospel: (Luke 19:1-10)

Nov. 18 1:30 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry St. Nicholas
Tues. 5:15 p.m. Reconciliation Church
 6:00 p.m. **Mass** (Miles Walsh Jr.) (+) Church
 7:00 p.m. St. Vincent de Paul St. Augustine
 7:00 p.m. SHALOM Mom's Group St. Nicholas
 7:00 p.m. RCIA Winter Chapel

Gospel: (Luke 19:11-28)

Nov. 19 11:00 a.m. Deanery Meeting St. Charles
Wed. 12:10 p.m. **No Mass**
 1:00 p.m. WISH Shaughnessy Hall
 7:00 p.m. 8:30 Choir Practice Church

Gospel: (Luke 19:41-44)

Nov. 20 6:30 a.m. **Mass** Church
Thurs. 10:00 p.m. Parish Nurse St. Claire
 6:00 p.m. Soc. Justice Committee Mtg. St. Augustine

The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Gospel: (Luke 19:45-48)

Nov. 21 11:15 p.m. Reconciliation Church
Fri. 12:10 p.m. **Mass** (Jim Dougherty) (+) Church

Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17, 1 Cor 15:20-26, 28, Gospel: (Matt 25:31-46)

Nov. 22 8:30 a.m. **Mass** Winter Chapel
Sat. 3:30 p.m. Reconciliation Church
 5:00 p.m. **Mass** Church

Our Lord Jesus Christ The King

Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17, 1 Cor 15:20-26, 28, Gospel: (Matt 25:31-46)

Nov. 23 8:30 a.m. **Mass** Church
Sun. 9:45 a.m. RE/F. Recon./F. Comm. Parish Center
 9:45 a.m. RE Parents Meeting St. Aquinas
 11:00 a.m. **Mass** Church
 12:15 p.m. Bible Study St. Augustine
 6:00 p.m. SALT Upper Room/Assumption

Assumption School News

Grandparents Day: November 21, Reception and Open House at 9:00 a.m., followed by Mass at 10:30 a.m..

School Conferences: November 25-26.

School Book Fair: Mark your calendars! The Scholastic Book Fair is coming to Assumption Catholic School again Nov. 19-25th.

Office Hours: Assumption School office hours are 7:30-3:30 every Monday-Friday.

The Bishop is coming!!! II Tuesday's Adult Formation Program presents Bishop Tyson on Tuesday, November 25th and Tuesday, December 2nd, from 7-9:00 p.m. in the Sacred Heart Parish Hall. Bishop Tyson will be speaking about Theology of the Body! Two additional Theology of the Body presentations will follow the Bishop's presentations on Thursday, December 4th and Thursday, December 11th. Please come and please bring a friend.

Thank you to all Liturgical Ministers and to Fr. Scott Connolly for the wonderful retreat on Saturday morning. Also, thank you to Fr. Ed White who so beautifully led us to a deeper understanding of prayer this past Tuesday.

Please keep our Catechumens and Candidates in your prayers.

Congratulations to our 2nd Graders who celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation this weekend.

Please feel welcome to bring your In Remembrance sheets to Mass and place them in the Remembrance Book of Prayer. The book will be in the church throughout the month of November.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Looking for a special gift? Give a gift that lasts a lifetime! A Marriage Encounter Weekend is for any couple who wants to strengthen and enrich their marriage. The rewards continue to grow through the years! Upcoming weekend dates are March 27-29 and June 19-21, 2009. For more information and registration, please call Mike and Kay Gougeon, 671-6955.

Sacred Heart's Stewardship Gift Corner

November 8 & 9, 2008

Envelopes (173)	\$ 7,995.00
Visitors	\$ 917.23
Children (1)	\$ 2.00
Total Sunday Income	\$ 8,914.23
Weekly Budget Need	\$ 8,097.11
Holy Day	\$ 375.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 310.00
Building & Grounds	\$ 46.00
Assumption School	\$ 110.00

2009 Stewardship Update

Thank you to all who have responded to God's call by returning your Stewardship time, talent and treasure commitment cards. We are able to plan next year's programs based on your commitment pledge. For all those who are prayerfully considering their commitment, cards may be returned with the Sunday collection or mailed to the Parish Office.