

Sacred Heart Catholic Church - Bellingham, WA.

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"When it was evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were ill or possessed by demons. The whole town was gathered at the door." Evening is when people start to wind down, but for Jesus, his call to heal the sick has just increased. In the face of great suffering and illness, what is our response?

While at a night fair in California in my shorts and T-shirt, I sat down to have four tacos. I met Joyce who sat next to me in a wheelchair. Although timid and quiet at first, when I asked about her, she graciously revealed herself. Joyce grew up on a farm and later ran a farm in Iowa with her husband Henry of 46 years. They have three children, and six grandchildren, Joyce was in a motorcycle accident 27 years ago and has been confined to a wheelchair ever since. Paul, Joyce's 42 year-old son, and Carol, the second daughter, are both fighting colon cancer and undergoing chemotherapy. I was dumb-struck by her story as she continued to talk about her faith in God (Joyce is an Assembly of God member), and the graces that God has bestowed upon her. In the midst of the conversation, she found out that I am a Catholic priest. Seeing how stunned I was by her story, Joyce asked, "If you were in my shoes, what would be your response?" My response? I know this is going to shock some of you: I was silent. I had no response.

In the face of such great suffering and illness, what is our response? Silence seems like the only appropriate response...for a human. Jesus, on the other hand, heals. Why? Because he can. But more than healing, he also enters into our suffering willingly. Jesus' greatest healing act of love is shown in his extraordinary suffering and death. Death, whether in body or soul, seems to have the ability to reduce everyone to silence. In the face of Jesus, death does not have the last say. Christ has a response and it is quick and definitive: healing! Resurrection!

Fr. Qui-Thac Nguyen

Altar Server Trainings

New Altar server training will take place **Sunday, Feb. 15th immediately following the 11:00 a.m. Mass in the Parish Hall.**

Those wishing to begin serving should have already received First Holy Communion. Parents, please print Sacred Heart's altar server manual and read it together with your child(ren) at home prior to training. Each child should bring a copy of the document to training. You will find the document at <http://sacredheartbellingham.org/ministries/altarservermanual>. Contact Zac or Bridget Adams with questions: 360-647-9579.

Veteran Altar Servers AND Altar Servers wishing to serve at Stations of the Cross: **Attend a special training session between the Masses on Feb. 15th in the Winter Chapel (NO RE).** All current altar servers must attend this short training for updates on serving Masses at Sacred Heart. A sign-up sheet will be available for Stations of the Cross dates during Lent. This training is required before signing up. Contact Zac or Bridget Adams with questions: 360-647-9579.

Lectio Divina In Lent

Lectio Divina means "holy or sacred reading." It is an ancient Christian prayer-form being rediscovered and reclaimed in our time. *Lectio* is a slow, contemplative praying of the scriptures, which leads to union with God. It is an invitation to listen deeply for God's voice in scripture and then to allow what we hear to shape our way of being in the world. (Lucy Wynkoop, OSB) We will be using the Sunday gospel readings during Lent.

Starts: Tuesday, February 24th

Where: Winter Chapel

Time: 12:10 –12:50 p.m.

Call Martha for more information, 734-2850.



Widows and Widowers Luncheon

On Saturday, February 14, The Knights of Columbus invites widows and widowers to Sacred Heart Church for Mass at Noon, followed by a luncheon at 1:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Please call 647-0601 to RSVP or if you need a ride. Music will be offered by Bellingham Alumni Band.

New Parish Directory

Sacred Heart has scheduled time this June with Lifetouch Photography to provide a new Parish Directory and give you an opportunity to update your family photograph. The photography sessions are scheduled for June 2-13. Watch the bulletin for more information during the next couple of months. Ruth Miller in the Parish Office is looking for volunteers to assist with scheduling. Please call 734-2850, Ext. 5, if you can offer your time.

CAST

On March 23, while the NCCM students are on their mission trip, CAST is asking for help from Sacred Heart parishioners to prepare and serve sandwiches for the people living on the street. Please sign up at the entry of the Church or call Ginnie Parine 647-5703.



Come and pray with us on the 3rd Sunday of each month for one hour from 2-3 p.m. at Whatcom County's abortion clinic: Mt. Baker Planned Parenthood (1530 Ellis St.). Our monthly vigil will be Sunday, February 15, rain or shine. Let us pray for an end to all abortions and healing for all women suffering from Post-Abortion Syndrome. For more information call Kathy St. Hilaire at 671-4836.

February 7 & February 8

5th Sunday In Ordinary Time

Job 7:1-4, 6-7, 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23, Gospel: (Mark 1:29-39)

Feb. 8	8:30 a.m.	Mass	Church
Sun.	9:45 a.m.	Coffee Hour	Parish Hall
	9:45 a.m.	RE/First Rec./First Comm.	Parish Center
	9:45 a.m.	R/F. Comm. Parents Mtg.	Aquinas
	11:00 a.m.	Mass	Church
	6:00 p.m.	SALT	Upper Room/Assumption

Gospel: (Mark 6:53-56)

Feb. 9 No Mass

Mon.	7:00 p.m.	Social Justice Book Discussion	Augustine
	7:00 p.m.	St. Vincent de Paul	St. Nicholas
	7:00 p.m.	EDGE	Assumption Gym

Scholastica, virgin, Gospel: (Mark 7:1-13)

Feb. 10	1:30 p.m.	Prayer Shawl Min.	St. Nicholas Rm.
Tues.	5:15 p.m.	Reconciliation	Church
	6:00 p.m.	Mass (John De Peano (+))	Church
	7:00 p.m.	Fr. Qui-Thac's talk on the Eucharist	Hall

Our Lady of Lourdes

Gospel: (Mark 7:14-23)

Feb. 11	11:15 a.m.	Reconciliation	Church
Wed.	12:10 p.m.	Mass (Michael Toennessen) (+)	Chapel
	7:30 p.m.	Catholic Men's Group	St. Augustine
	7:00 p.m.	8:30-Choir Practice	Church

Gospel: (Mark 7:24-30)

Feb. 12	10:00 a.m.	Parish Nurse	St. Clare Room
Thurs	11:15 a.m.	Reconciliation	Church
	12:10 p.m.	Mass (Bef Therrien) (+)	Chapel
	1:00 p.m.	Staff Meeting	St. Francis

Gospel: (Mark 7:31-37)

Feb. 13	11:15 a.m.	Reconciliation	Church
Fri.	12:10 p.m.	Mass (Kathie Banning) Healing	Chapel

Lev 13:1-2, 44-46, 1 Cor 10:31-11:1, Gospel: (Mark 1:40-4)

Feb. 14	8:30 a.m.	Mass	Winter Chapel
Sat	12:00 p.m.	Mass	Church
	1:00 p.m.	Widow & Widowers Luncheon	Hall
	3:30 p.m.	Reconciliation	Church
	5:00 p.m.	Mass	Church

6th Sunday In Ordinary Time

Lev 13:1-2, 44-46, 1 Cor 10:31-11:1, Gospel: (Mark 1:40-45)

Feb. 15	8:30 a.m.	Mass	Church
Sun.	9:45 a.m.	Veteran Altar Servers and Altar Servers wishing to serve at Stations of the Cross, meet in Chapel No Religious Education / Midwinter Break	
	11:00 a.m.	Mass	Church
	12:00 p.m.	New Altar Server Training	Parish Hall
	12:15 p.m.	Bible Study	St. Augustine
	1:00 p.m.	Vietnamese Mass	Church
	6:00 p.m.	SALT	Upper Room/Assumption

Assumption School News 733-6133

Did you know that Assumption Catholic School offers the only Catholic pre-school experience in Whatcom County? By choosing Assumption's pre-school, you are preparing your little ones for a Christian life, beginning with age-appropriate Catechism and Catholic fellowship. Assumption offers morning and afternoon programs for both 3-year olds and 4-year olds. Contact the school to learn more. Save the Date - March 26 is our Pre-School Open House!
School News continued in next column...

II Tuesday - This Week! February 10, 2009

The Adult Faith Formation program will present Fr. Qui-Thac Nguyen in the second of a two-part series on Eucharist, The Source and Summit of our Life as Catholics. Begin with Mass at 6:00 p.m. in the Church and the talk at 7:00 p.m. in the Hall.

Burning of Palms for Ash Wednesday

The 4th-5th grade RE Class and Boy Scouts will be burning palms for Ash Wednesday, during RE on Sunday, Feb.22. If you would like to include your old palms, please bring them to Mass next week and place them in the receptacle located in the back of the Church. The ashes from the burned palms will be used during our Ash Wednesday Liturgies.

Schedule Change for March Baptismal Prep. Class: the March class will be on Sunday, March 8 from 12:30-4:30 p.m.

Adoration During Lent

During Lent, Mass on Friday at 12:10 p.m. will conclude with Adoration until the Stations of the Cross at 7:00 p.m. This practice is a wonderful way to enrich your Lenten Journey.

Lenten Journey for Life

Sacred Heart is doing a Tues./Thurs. Lenten Journey for Life consisting of peaceful, prayer vigils outside Planned Parenthood. We stand in solidarity with the 40 Days for Life Program, which expresses itself in 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion, 40 days of constant, peaceful vigil outside abortion centers and Planned Parenthood offices and 40 days of active pro-life community outreach. If you are interested in participating in our parish effort, please contact: Rebecca Gonnella at 360-738-6976, or e-mail nmg9@msn.com.

Sacred Heart's Stewardship Report January 31 & February 1, 2009

Envelopes (194)	\$ 9,453.05
Visitors	\$ 376.84
Children (1)	<u>\$ 2.00</u>
Total Sunday Income	\$ 9,831.89
Weekly Budget Need	\$ 8,097.11

Initial Offering	\$ 15.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 449.00
Building & Grounds	\$ 195.00
Assumption School	\$ 95.00

Assumption School News continued.

Registration for 2008-2009: Are you looking for a Catholic school with a strong Catholic identity, proven academic success, a quality certified faculty, and an atmosphere that promotes achievement, moral behavior, and a host of co-curricular activities? Call Assumption Catholic School (733-6133) for a tour and a meeting with the principal.

"Growing Great Kids" Auction: On-line auction (new this year!) began February 5 and continues through February 19. Participate by going to <http://acs-bidz4kidz.cmarket.com>. Enter the raffle to win a night in the Hotel Bellwether **and** two tickets to the auction! The gala event this year is at the Hotel Bellwether on February 21 beginning at 6:00 p.m. Join us for dinner, live auction, and dancing! Please call the school (733-6133) for tickets for the raffle or gala!