

Sacred Heart Catholic Church - Bellingham, WA.

Third Sunday in Lent

In the next three weeks, we will be celebrating the "scrutinies" of our Elect (those to receive the Easter Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist). What it entails is the examination of the Elect in their faith and purification. It is the final preparation before the celebration of Easter. As part of the celebration, there will take place minor exorcisms (purification) and reception of the Creed and the Our Father (enlightenment). This span of time is called a period of purification and enlightenment. Why all this ritual? Because these Elect are coming to the greatest mystery of our faith: the Eucharist. Even those who are called "Candidates" (those already one with us by virtue of their valid baptism, but will enter fully into the Catholic Church through Confirmation and Eucharist) are made aware of these rituals so that they will appreciate what the Sacraments and Eucharist mean to them and to us as Catholics.

A Methodist once received the Eucharist from a homebound minister. As the extraordinary minister of Holy Communion found this "small fact" after his reception of the Eucharist, she said: would you like to find out how to become Catholic? He replied, "No. But we all believe in the same God through whom we have eternal life." The Methodist is free to believe what he wishes. By the same token, the Catholic Church reserves the right to give Holy Communion *only* to those who are Catholics.

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) and its rituals ought to make it sufficiently clear that to receive the Eucharist, one has to have faith in the intention to live out a life that is consistent with Catholic teaching. Out of respect for our Elect and Candidates as well as out of respect for the teachings of Holy Mother Church, anyone who is not Catholic should not receive Holy Communion at Mass. I invite you to continue to pray for our Elect and Candidates as they move towards full communion at Easter. Fr. Qui-Thac Nguyen

Mass Schedule Change

There will be no Mass Tuesday, March 17.

**Fr. Qui-Thac will be attending a New Priest Program
March 17-19.**

Fr. Tom McMichael will celebrate Mass March 18,19.

Rice Bowl and Offering of Letters

During Lent you have enriched your spiritual journey by participating in the Operation Rice Bowl program, which provides worldwide relief as we are called to care for God's creation. In addition to the ORB, we have asked that you consider writing letters to your representatives in Congress, drawing their attention to the outdated US foreign aid bill, written in 1961, and asking that the process be simplified and the money more effectively allocated. After all Masses this weekend and next, the Social Justice Committee will be at a table outside church with more information. During the weekend of March 28th and 29th, the Rice Bowls will be collected at each Mass. The Rice Bowls and letters collected by the Social Justice Committee will be blessed at the altar.

Catholic Relief Services

10% of the collection on March 21st and 22nd will go to Catholic Relief Services. "Through the eyes of faith, the striving child, the believer in jail, the woman without clean water or health care are not issues, but *Jesus in disguise*. "(USCCB) Because of your generosity, the Catholic Relief Services donation will be able to support disaster and emergency relief, refugee resettlement, advocacy, development, and legal services for people in need all around the world. Together, we will restore hope to *Jesus in disguise*, who remind us that Christ is present in those who suffer—and in those who respond compassionately to their needs.

Prayer Vigil for Peace in the Middle East

Wednesday, March 18th at 5:30 p.m. St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 2117 Walnut St. 360-733-2890.

Chairperson Needed for Quilt Committee

It's time to get started on the quilt for this year's Pot-pourri of Art! If you are interested in leading (or co-chairing) the quilt committee this year, please call Ruth Miller in the Parish Office, 734-2850.

Bellingham Food Bank "Milk Money" Program

During March, Sacred Heart will sponsor the Food Bank "Milk Money" program. With your donations the Food Bank will purchase milk for families, most of whom have children. You may place your donation in the lovely milk can located in the foyer of the church, or mail or give your donation to the Parish Office. Checks should be made out to the Bellingham Food Bank. Donation total to date; \$842.47!

Lenten Fish Fry

The Knights of Columbus and Catholic Daughters are offering a Lenten Fish dinner on Friday, March 27, at 5:30 p.m. at Shaughnessy Hall. Donations will be accepted at the door. Call Dick Banning 671-1672 with questions.

Knights of Columbus Wine Gala

Mark your calendar for the fifth annual Knights of Columbus Wine Gala, to be held on Saturday, April 18, at Assumption Gym. This year's event will introduce some new wines from around the world, in addition to some standard favorites. Hors d'oeuvres, musical entertainment, babysitting. Tickets available at church for \$25. All for a good cause: the Newman Center.



Abortion has caused the killing of millions of unborn babies with methods considered too inhumane for animals! We hear of concern for endangered animals, our most endangered species may be unborn babies who should be our most prized possession.

March 14 & March 15

Third Sunday Of Lent

Exodus 20:1-17, 1 Cor 1:22-25, Gospel (John 2:13-25)

March 15	8:30 a.m.	Mass	Church
Sun.	9:45 a.m.	RE/ F. Comm./ F. Rec.	Parish Center
	9:45 a.m.	Second Grade R.E.	Winter Chapel
	9:00 a.m.	Vietnamese Retreat	St. Augustine
	11:00 a.m.	Mass	Church
	1:00 p.m.	Vietnamese Mass	Church
	1:30 p.m.	Vietnamese Retreat	St. Nicholas
	4:00 p.m.	Suds & Spuds	Shaughnessy Hall
	6:00 p.m.	Salt	Upper Room/Assumption

Gospel: (Luke 4:24-30)

March 16	No Mass		
Mon.	7:00 p.m.	No EDGE (Jr. High Rally)	

Patrick, bishop, Gospel: (Matthew 18:21-35)

March 17	12:10 p.m.	Lectio Divina	Winter Chapel
Tues.	1:30 p.m.	Prayer Shawl Min.	St. Nicholas Room
	5:15 p.m.	No Reconciliation	Church
	6:00 p.m.	No Mass	Church
	6:45 p.m.	Soup Night	Parish Hall
	7:00 p.m.	Theology of the Body	Parish Hall

Cyril of Jerusalem, bishop, Gospel: (Matthew 20:17-28)

March 18	11:15 a.m.	Reconciliation	Church
Wed.	12:10 p.m.	Mass (Daniel Rucker)	Winter Chapel
		Healing	
	1:00 p.m.	WISH	Shaughnessy Hall
	7:00 p.m.	8:30 Choir	Parish Hall
	7:00 p.m.	Confirmation Preparation	Parish Hall

Joseph, husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Gospel: (Luke 16:19-31)

March 19	10:00 a.m.	Parish Nurse	St. Clare Room
Thurs.	11:15 a.m.	Reconciliation	Church
	12:10 p.m.	Mass (Frederick Walsh) (+)	Chapel
	6:00 p.m.	Social Justice Committee	Calcutta Rm.
	7:00 p.m.	Knights of Columbus Mtg.	Hall

Gospel: (Mark 12:28-34)

March 20	11:15 a.m.	Reconciliation	Church
Fri.	12:10 p.m.	Mass (Miles Walsh (+))	Church
	1:00 p.m.	Lenten Friday Adoration	Church
	7:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross	Church
		Benediction after Stations of the Cross	Church
	8:30 p.m.	Mass/Graduating Students	Church

Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a, Eph 5:8-14, Gospel (John 9:1-41)

March 21	8:30 a.m.	Mass	Winter Chapel
Sat.	3:30 p.m.	Reconciliation	Church
	5:00 p.m.	Mass	Church

Fourth Sunday Of Lent

Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a, Eph 5:8-14, Gospel (John 9:1-41)

March 22	8:30 a.m.	Mass	Church
Sun.	9:45 a.m.	RE/F. Comm./ F. Rec.	Parish Center
	11:00 a.m.	Mass	Church
	12:15 p.m.	Bible Study	St. Augustine
	6:00 p.m.	SALT	Upper Room/Assumption

Check out our website:

www.sacredheartbellingham.org

For events during Lent: Lectio Divina, Praying the Rosary each night, Mass, Tuesday Soup Suppers and Adult Faith Formation, Friday Mass followed by Adoration Stations and Benediction.

Tuesday Soup Supper provided by the Mom's Group.

The Scrutinies of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults celebrated on the third, fourth, and fifth Sundays of Lent.

These very special rites are celebrated on the last three Sundays of Lent, at liturgies where the Elect are present. The Elect are those in our midst who are preparing for Baptism. Part of their journey to the font is that they have been received among us, the Rite of Acceptance, and they have been enrolled in the Book of the Elect in the Rite of Election. In our parish, we are welcoming Sheena Vessel, Erin Adrian, and Andy Bishop.

Even if these rites are not celebrated at the liturgy we attend, it can be wonderful to reflect upon the journey these Elect are making during Lent, as an inspiration and source of renewal for us in our journey.

Thank you to Lauren and John White, Christine and Phil Gubbins, and Kay and Mike Gougeon for presenting their insights and information at the Theology of the Body series. Also, thank you to the St. Vincent de Paul group for making such wonderful, tasty soups!

Please welcome and encourage some new musicians who are offering their gifts at the service of the Liturgy. Nicole Wakabayashi is a High School student who is an award winning artist in piano and will also be participating in RCIA next year. Catherine Paul is also in High School, plays violin and is joining the cantor ministry. Her brother Christopher is also joining the Cantor ministry. We also welcome Marilyn Junkersfeld to this ministry. If you are interested in supporting the liturgy through music, please contact Twi McDonell or Emily Dayton at 734-2850. We are especially looking for tenors and basses!

Assumption Pre-School: Assumption offers morning and afternoon programs for both three-year-olds and four-year-olds. Contact the school to learn more. Save the date - - **March 25** is our Pre-School Open House!

Registration for 2008-09: 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. If you would like to donate toward our tuition assistance fund call Jennifer Rick, Director of Development, at 733-6133.

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

Sacred Heart's Stewardship Report March 7 & March 8, 2009

Envelopes (163)	\$ 9,119.00
Visitors	\$ 375.00
Children (1)	<u>\$ 1.00</u>
Total Sunday Income	\$ 9,495.00
Weekly Budget Need	\$ 8,097.11

Ash Wednesday	\$ 22.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 570.00
Building & Grounds	\$ 60.00
Assumption School	\$ 95.00