

Sacred Heart Catholic Church - Bellingham, WA.

Fifth Sunday in Lent

We have passed through the midpoint of Lent. It is good for us to review how we have done in our Lenten resolutions. In what ways have I done well with the grace of God? In which part of my life do I need God's grace to thrive? If you have not already received the Sacrament of Reconciliation, I invite you to make it one of your resolutions for this Lenten season.

As I am writing this reflection in Tijuana, the students are sound asleep. Manual labor zonked them out. Manual labor and the extreme heat of Mexico also make them sweaty and smelly. Many students have commented that they have never enjoyed showering so much in their life (even though they have only 1 minute to shower). None of the students can imagine going to bed without showering; that would gross them out.

It is interesting how we can be so sensitive to our physical well-being, but completely oblivious to our spiritual well being. Imagine a soul that does not receive the cleansing power of the Sacrament of Reconciliation for a year, or many years? Remember the words of Jesus to the Pharisees: *"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, you hypocrites. You cleanse the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of plunder and self-indulgence. Blind Pharisee, cleanse the inside of the cup, so that the outside also may be clean."* (Matthew 23:25-26) The Church invites us to be completely whole by taking care of our body and our spirit. Confessions are available at Sacred Heart one our before every daily Mass and at 3:30 p.m. on Saturdays. May the Holy Spirit guide you closer to Christ this Lent. Fr. Qui-Thac Nguyen

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will begin Friday, April 3, after the 12:10 p.m. Mass, and will end with Benediction on Saturday, April 4, at 8:20 a.m. in the Winter Chapel. Mass will follow at 8:30 a.m. in the Church.

The Parish Office will be closed

Thursday, April 2nd.

There will be no Mass at Sacred Heart.

The Staff will be attending Chrism Mass in Seattle.

Sacred Heart's Potpourri of Art

Our 40th Show is coming in November!

We are the longest running Juried Art Show in Whatcom County. The Potpourri of Art is about building a parish community for service for the greater good. Artists, along with the Sacred Heart quilters, pie makers, Country Store workers, and the Café workers come together to share their gifts, benefiting their lives, the parish and an outreach non-profit group who serves the Bellingham and Whatcom County community. Our community is blessed to have this opportunity to come together in this endeavor. In the coming weeks and months, we will be inform you about the process and give you an opportunity to join us in honoring those who began the Potpourri of Art forty years ago by giving your time, talent and treasure. Stay tuned for ongoing news each month!

Operation Rice Bowl

In today's Gospel, Jesus reminds us that judgment, repentance and dying to sin are necessary before we can truly know the joy of God's mercy, forgiveness and new life in Christ. Jesus says: "if you love your life, you must let it go...if you want to serve me, you must follow me and do what I do..."As we continue our Operation Rice Bowl journey let us remember in **prayer** that human beings are not only sacred, but also social. How we participate in our family and community, from our daily actions to our policy decisions, affects each and every person. May our **fasting** keep us mindful of the families that are hungry. May our **almsgiving** help CRS' Education program in Ghana.

Bellingham Food Bank "Milk Money" Program

During March, Sacred Heart is sponsoring 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; \$1,864.91!!!

Vacation Church School June 22-26

VCS provides programming for age 4 through grade 6. Youth in grades 7 through 12 next year are encouraged to volunteer in the program in a variety of ways. Vacation Church School is a cooperative effort of Assumption, First Christian, First Congregational, St. James, Sacred Heart and Garden Street churches. It is held at First Christian Church, 495 E. Bakerview Rd. Enrollment is limited, so please register early. Registration begins April 19th and closes May 20th. Watch for registration forms next month. Please contact Jennifer Rick at 647-2374 or Jennifer.rick@comcast.net if you want to volunteer and help with this wonderful ministry.

Thank You

The Social Justice Committee would like to thank Sacred Heart for their support in this year's offering of letters to reform U.S. Foreign Aid. It is not too late if you forgot your letter. Just drop it into the collection basket next Sunday and we will get them mailed. The website <http://sacredheartbellingham.org/> (under Ministries-Social Justice Offerings for Lent) has information to help you write your letter.



If it is necessary to go against the current of what is sometimes being said or thought on all sides, then let us never grow weary of repeating it: all human life must be absolutely protected; in fact, abortion and euthanasia are murder.

March 28 & March 29

Fifth Sunday Of Lent

Jeremiah 31:31-34, Heb 5:7-9, Gospel (John 12:20-33)

Mar. 29	8:30 a.m.	Mass	Church
Sun.	9:45 a.m.	RE/F. Comm./ F. Rec.	Parish Center
	9:45 a.m.	Coffee Hour	Shaughnessy Hall
	11:00 a.m.	Mass	Church
	4:00 p.m.	Polish Confession	5 p.m. Polish Mass
	6:00 p.m.	Polish Potluck	Shaughnessy Hall
	6:00 p.m.	SALT	Upper Room/Assumption

Gospel: (John 8:1-11)

Mar. 30	No Mass		
Mon.	7:00 p.m.	EDGE	Assumption Gym

Gospel: (John 8:21-30)

Mar. 31	11:15 a.m.	Reconciliation	Church
Tues.	12:10 p.m.	Lectio Divina	Winter Chapel
	1:30 a.m.	Prayer Shawl Ministry	Church
	6:00 p.m.	Mass (Andrew Sova) (+)	Church
	6:45 p.m.	Soup Night	Shaughnessy Hall
	7:00 p.m.	Theology of the Body	Hall

Gospel: (John 8:31-42)

Apr. 1	8:00 a.m.	Finance Council Mtg.	Hall
Wed.	11:15 a.m.	Reconciliation	Church
	12:10 p.m.	Mass (Sandy Ibos) (+)	Chapel
	6:00 p.m.	Pastoral Council Mtg.	Hall
	7:00 p.m.	8:30 Choir	Shaughnessy Hall
	7:00 p.m.	Easter Vigil Rehearsal	Church

Office Closed (Chrism Mass at St. James/Seattle)

Francis of Paola, hermit, Gospel: (John 8:51-59)

Apr. 2	12:10 p.m.	No Mass	Chapel
Thurs.			

First Friday

Gospel: (John 10:31-42)

Apr. 3	11:30 a.m.	Reconciliation	Church
Fri.	12:10 p.m.	Mass (Louis Ayala) (+)	Church
	1:00 p.m.	Lenten Friday Adoration	Chapel
	1:10 p.m.	First Friday Luncheon	Hall
	7:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross	Church
	8:00 p.m.	Good Friday Rehearsal	Church

Isaiah 50:4-7, Phil 2:6-11, Gospel (Mark 14:1-15:47)

Apr. 4	8:20 a.m.	Benediction	Winter Chapel
Sat.	8:30 a.m.	Mass	Church
	8:30 a.m.	RCIA Retreat	St. Augustine
	3:30 p.m.	Reconciliation	Church
	5:00 p.m.	Mass	Church
	6:00 p.m.	NCCM Supporters Dinner	Hall

Palm Sunday

Isaiah 50:4-7, Phil 2:6-11, Gospel (Mark 14:1-15:47)

Apr. 5	8:30 a.m.	Mass	Church
Sun.	9:45 a.m.	No RE/F. Comm./ F. Rec.	Parish Center
	9:45 a.m.	No Coffee Hour	Shaughnessy Hall
	11:00 a.m.	Mass	Church
	6:00 p.m.	SALT	Upper Room/Assumption

Wine Gala April 18

Mark your calendar for the 5th 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.

Thank you to Father Dave Mulholland for joining us and speaking to us about Jesus, about finding him in the day to day moments of grace. We are also grateful to seminarian Chuck Leonard for sharing his story about how God can infuse even the most difficult moment with grace.

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!

Calling all 3rd, 4th, and 5th Grade Religious Education Students

These students will be our readers for Stations of the Cross on April 3rd, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. We invite the parish to make time for this devotion and join our young parishioners as they walk the Way of the Cross.

Liturgical Ministers for the Triduum Liturgies are posted on the website. Ministers will also be contacted by e-mail or phone. Look forward to seeing you at the rehearsals:

Holy Thursday Rehearsal: Mon., March 30, 7-9 p.m.
Good Friday Rehearsal: Fri., April 3, 8-9:30 p.m.
Easter Vigil Rehearsal: Wed., April 1, 7-8:30 p.m.

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.

For an update on Fr. Steve Sallis connect with St. Benedict's website at www.rc.net/seattle/stbenedict.

Sacred Heart's Stewardship Report March 21 & March 22, 2009

Envelopes (160)	\$ 7,276.19
Visitors	\$ 613.71
Children (1)	<u>\$ 2.00</u>
Total Sunday Income	\$ 7,891.90
Weekly Budget Need	\$ 8,097.11
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 135.00
Building & Grounds	\$ 35.00
Assumption School	\$ 15.00

Your generosity last weekend has led to a total donation to Catholic Relief Services of \$2,764.19. This amount equals the CRS envelope contributions plus 10% of the Sunday Collection.