

Sacred Heart Catholic Church - Bellingham, WA.

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ephphatha! This is Jesus' word to the deaf man with a speech impediment. He commands, *be opened!* If you have witnessed a baptism at Sacred Heart, you may have noticed a prayer that is said at the end of the baptism: "*The Lord Jesus made the deaf to hear and the dumb speak. May he soon touch your ears to receive his word and your mouth to proclaim his faith, to the praise and glory of God the Father.*" As part of the prayer, I place my fingers in the child's ears and touch his/her mouth (a very dangerous move especially if the baby is hungry!). Jesus wants to open our ears to listen to Him. This ritual expresses a deep human desire: the need to be heard and understood. Because this human need is not met, our families and relationships suffer.

Loneliness plagues our society. Archbishop Fulton Sheen once said, "*Excessive attention to the externals is evidence of a deep void from within.*" Our society promotes attention to the externals: the need is to look a certain way, drive certain cars, have certain letters after our names, and belong to certain groups or ideology. In our care for ourselves and those around us, where have we placed our attention?

Lord Jesus, to whom shall we go? You have the word of eternal life. *Ephphatha!* Let our ears be opened to it!
Fr. Qui-Thac Nguyen

The Parish Office will be closed for Labor Day, Monday, September 7th

*****Parish Wide Event***** All parents, RCIA and Religious Ed catechists, Faith Formation leaders in Just Faith and Sacramental Preparation are invited to a day of formation on **Catholic thought—truths—prayer — practices** with Sr. Miriam James Heidland. Sister Miriam James, a Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity (SOLT) sister and former Nevada-Reno volleyball star is an inspiring witness to God's grace. **8:30-Noon, September 12, 2009** in the church.

Parish Nurse Ministry: The health ministers will be in the Parish Office every Thursday from 10-11 a.m. starting Sept. 10th. Please feel free to drop in or call with any health concerns.

JustFaith 2009: The JustFaith program is an intensive thirty-week program centered around Catholic social teaching. For more information about this life-changing program, contact Caroline Correa at 647-1232.

Whatcom Hospice Seeks Volunteers: You are welcome to attend an informational meeting Saturday, September 19, 10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in the lower level meeting room, 800 E. Chestnut St. Bellingham. The 32-hour training program will be held Wednesday evenings 5:00-8:00 p.m. and Saturday mornings 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. starting October 14th and ending November 14th. Contact Dianne Gillespie, Hospice Volunteer Coordinator 765-6892 or Dgillespie@peacehealth.org for more information.

Marriage Encounter: Mothers in Love + Fathers in Love = Families in Love! Your whole family deserves the love Mom and Dad will bring home from a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend! The next weekend will be on November 6-8 in Everett. Contact Kay and Mike Gougeon, 671-6955. **Already attended a WWME Weekend?** Join the WWME community October 24-25 for enrichment for couples called Building Community Through Relationship. For more information/registration, call the Blackburn's at 253-779-0210.

SHALOM Mom's Group: Attention Catholic Mothers: Please join us for prayer and reflection on the First and Third Tuesday of each month from 7-8:30 p.m. in St. Nicholas Room in the Parish Center. Nursing infants welcome—please reserve childcare for older children. If you have questions, call Rebecca Gonnella at 738-6976.

When you walk in your front door, give thanks for having a place to live.

Catholic Community Services Adoption Unit

Catholic Community Services is looking for prospective adoptive parents who are interested in learning more about infants who are available for adoption from South Korea. For more information about our South Korean and other adoption programs, please call Adoption Unit at 260-328-5921 or check our website www.ccsww.org.



The inviolability of the person which is a reflection of the absolute inviolability of God, finds its primary and fundamental expression in the inviolability of human life. Above all, the common outcry, which is justly made on behalf of human rights—for example, the right to health, to home, to family, to culture—is false and illusory if the right to life, the most basic and fundamental right and the condition for all the other personal rights, is not defended with maximum determination. Pope John Paul II.

September 5 & September 6

Sunday September 6th

8:30 a.m. Mass	Church
No Coffee Hour	Parish Hall
11:00 a.m. Mass	Church
1:00 p.m. Vietnamese Mass	Church

Labor Day/Office Closed

Monday September 7th

No Mass

Tuesday September 8th

12:10-5:50 p.m. Adoration	Winter Chapel
1:30 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry	St. Nicholas
5:00 p.m. Reconciliation	Church
6:00 p.m. Mass	Church
7:00 p.m. Inquiry	Winter Chapel

Wednesday September 9th

11:00 a.m. Deanery Meeting	St. Charles
12:10 p.m. No Mass	Church
7:30 p.m. Catholic Men's Group	St. Augustine

Thursday September 10th

10:00 a.m. Parish Nurse	St. Clare
11:15 a.m. Reconciliation	Church
12:10 p.m. Mass	Church

Friday September 11th

9 a.m.-5 p.m. Prayer for 9/11	Winter Chapel
11:15 p.m. Reconciliation	Church
12:10 p.m. Mass	Church

Saturday September 12th

8:30 a.m. Mass	Church
8:30 a.m. Catechist In-Service	Church/Library
3:30 p.m. Reconciliation	Church
5:00 p.m. Mass	Church
7:00 p.m. Wedding	Church

Sunday September 13th

8:30 a.m. Mass	Church
9:45 a.m. Coffee Hour	Parish Hall
11:00 a.m. Mass	Church
12:15 p.m. Bible Study	St. Nicholas
12:30 p.m. Baptismal Preparation	St. Augustine

Mass Intentions This Week

September 8 Patrick McDermott (+)
 September 10 Grace Sylvestre (+)
 September 11 Rosa Cardinale (Healing)

Weekly Readings

23rd Sunday In Ordinary Time September 6th

Isaiah 35:4-7a James 2:1-5 Mark 7:31-37

Sept. 7 Colossians 1:24-2:3 Luke 6:6-11
 Sept. 8 Micah 5:1-4a Matthew 1:1-16,18-23
 Sept. 9 Colossians 3:1-11 Luke 6:20-26
 Sept. 10 Colossians 3:12-17 Luke 6:27-38
 Sept. 11 1 Timothy 1:1-2, 12-14 Luke 6:39-42
 Sept. 12 1 Timothy 1:15-17 Psalm 113:1-7
 Luke 6:43-49

23rd Sunday In Ordinary Time September 13th

Isaiah 50:4c-9a James 2:14-18 Mark 8:27-35

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION KICKOFF on Sunday, September 27th from 9:45-10:45 in the Parish Hall with Father Qui-Thac. Following the introductory remarks, the children and their catechists leave for their classrooms. Looking forward to seeing everyone there!

RE Registration materials are on-line and in the back of the church. Please complete these forms and return them either to the office or place them in the collection basket.

Baptismal Preparation for parents wishing to have their children baptized is on Sunday, September 13, from 12:30-4:30 p.m. Please contact Twi McDonnell 360-734-2850 x 6 for more information.

TUESDAY ADORATION BEGINS

The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed from 12:10 p.m. through Mass time at 6 pm beginning this coming Tuesday, Sept. 12. We especially invite families to stop by after school or before Mass for a visit with our Lord.

Assumption School News

Thank you for all of your prayers for the beginning of the school year for the students, teachers, staff, and parents. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

Sponsor a Student: Our biggest challenge continues to be tuition assistance for families who seek a Catholic education. If you are called to sponsor a student with a tuition grant, please call Jennifer Rick or mail your pledge directly to the school. Our goal is to have 25—\$1,000 grants for the 2009-2010 school year. Pledge installments are welcome. Will you help? We have had five parishioners come forward so far. Thank you!

Registration for 2009-2010: 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.

Sacred Heart's Stewardship Report August 29 & 30, 2009



Ordinary Income

Envelopes (128)	\$5,574.00
Visitors	\$ 506.50
Children (2)	<u>\$ 20.00</u>
	\$6,100.50
Holyday	\$ 10.00
Weekly Budget Need	\$8,232.00
2009/2010 Fiscal year	
Budget to date:	\$ 74,088.00
Actual to date:	\$ 62,807.09
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 30.00
Building & Grounds	\$ 30.00
Assumption School	\$ 20.00