

Sacred Heart Catholic Church - Bellingham, WA.

Third Sunday of Easter

There's plenty of mudslinging into the face of the Church these days. Many people are jumping on the bandwagon to defame the Church that gave us life, nourished us, and kept us close to Jesus. I received a letter recently from a person that I was having the privilege of walking back to the Sacramental life of the Church. The letter communicated that there was no point in continuing the journey to seek membership because of the sex scandal and the imperfections of the Church's leaders. Reading this letter reminded me of Archbishop Dolan's response to a similar letter he received while bishop of Milwaukee. The bishop read the letter, which communicated essentially these sentiments: the Church is too corrupt, just too scandalous; the couple had had it and they were in search of a more acceptable and more perfect church. The bishop's response: *Well, good luck. And if you find one, don't join it, because it won't be perfect anymore.*

When everyone left Jesus because His talk was too scandalous, Jesus turned to Peter and the disciples and asked: *Are you going to leave me too? Remember Peter's response? To whom shall we go? You have the words of everlasting life.* You can hear the desperation Peter felt. Peter didn't exactly understand all of Jesus' teaching. He certainly could understand how difficult it was for others to embrace these challenging principles. However, Peter went back to the logic: Lord, look at my alternative! Why would I ever leave you for these? To whom shall we go? For Peter, even though everything is stripped away, I am certain of one thing about you Jesus: You have the words of everlasting life. For me, being a Catholic priest in these times is not exactly a real plum vocation. I'm confused when I reflect on the scandalous lives of my brother priests and tempted not only to condemn the sin, but the sinners themselves. I don't understand the lukewarmness of certain Catholics and am repelled by the arrogance of others, but one thing I am certain about the Catholic Church: She is my mother who gave me life, nourished me and brought me to Jesus. I've made my choice. Everyone has to make theirs. Fr. Qui-Thac Nguyen

Fr. Qui-Thac and Deacon Larry will both be gone April 19-30. No weekday Masses are scheduled during that time. Weekday Masses at Church of the Assumption are, Monday, Thurs. and Fri. at 10:30 a.m. and Wed. at 6:00 p.m.

Carmelite Institute of Spirituality Day of Recollection April 24, 2010

Topic: Saint Therese of Lisieux. Presenter: Fr. Ramiro Casale OCD. Location: 27008 78th Ave. NW Stanwood. Time: 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Suggested donation is \$15-20. Bring a sack lunch. Coffee and tea provided. If you have questions, please call 360-629-4032.

Dine Out for Maple Alley Inn, May 4th, 2010

"Dine Out" is a one-day event when people are encouraged to go out for breakfast, lunch or dinner, at participating restaurants that donate a portion of sales to Maple Alley Inn, a program that provides hot, nutritious meals for people in need. A list of participating restaurants is on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall.

Annual Catholic Appeal. This year's Annual Catholic Appeal has us reflect upon a Future Full of Hope and that YOU are Part of our Faith, YOU are the Promise for our Future, and YOU are PART of our Community. You will be receiving a letter at home this week from Archbishop Brunett, which our pastor supports. Please prayerfully consider giving to the needs of our Archdiocese through this year's appeal. In a couple of weeks we will have a witness speaker and that will be your first opportunity to return your pledge envelope at Mass. Please prayerfully reflect on the gift you will make this year.



Thank You from Urszula Kubik! On behalf of the Polish community, thank you to Fr. Qui-Thac, the Sacred Heart staff, the 11:00 choir, the Mariachi band, and Sacred Heart parishioners who provided food, entertainment and support to the Mass and Divine Mercy tribute reception on April 11. *"The example of people who live holy lives teaches us not only to practice mutual respect and understanding, but to be ourselves models of goodness, reconciliation and collaboration, across ethnic and religious boundaries, for the good of the whole country and for the greater glory of God."*

WISH Meeting on April 21st. The group will gather to celebrate fellowship and friendship, beginning at 10:15 a.m. This will be a potluck brunch, so bring your favorite hot or cold breakfast or lunch dish. For questions, please call Hope Bloomfield at 778-3059.

High School Esperanza Service Trip to Mexico July 2011. There will be a general interest meeting on May 16, at 6:00 p.m. at Assumption Parish (in the church) for high school students who want to be a part of this amazing experience. Our group is reserved for July 17-23, 2011, through Esperanza International which just celebrated its 25 years of service! You can read more about this organization at: <http://esperanza.org/us/>. Contact Angus McDonell, our Youth Minister, for more information at 733-1380.



Commenting on Washington State voters' approval of physician-assisted suicide, the State Medical Association voiced its opposition "because our training and experience in the practice of medicine directs us to heal and comfort, not to cause death. NRL News, Nov-Dec., 2008

April 17 and April 18

Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast and Catholic Daughters' Bake Sale after both Masses today

Sunday April 18th

8:30 a.m. **Mass** Church
 9:45 a.m. RE & Fir Rec./Fir Comm. Parish Center
 9:45 a.m. Pancake Breakfast and Bake Sale Hall
 11:00 a.m. **Mass** Church
 12:15 p.m. Pancake Breakfast and Bake Sale Hall
 1:00 p.m. **Vietnamese Mass** Church
 6:00 p.m. SALT Upper Rm. Assumption P.C.

Monday April 19th

10:30 a.m. **Mass** Assumption Church
 7:00 p.m. EDGE Assumption Gym

Tuesday April 20th

1:30 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry St. Nicholas
 6:00 p.m. **No Mass**
 7:00 p.m. SHALOM Mom's Group St. Nicholas
 7:00 p.m. Young Catholics Parish Center
 7:00 p.m. Mystagogia Winter Chapel

Wednesday April 21st

10:15 a.m. WISH
 6:00 p.m. **Mass** Assumption Church
 7:00 p.m. 8:30 Choir Practice Church
 7:00 p.m. Confirmation Preparation Hall

Thursday April 22nd

10:00 a.m. Parish Nurse St. Clare
 10:30 a.m. **Mass** Assumption Church
 1:30 p.m. Staff Meeting St. Francis

Friday April 23rd

10:30 a.m. **Mass** Assumption Church

Saturday April 24th

8:30 a.m. **No Mass**
 3:30 p.m. Reconciliation Church
 5:00 p.m. **Mass** Church

Sunday April 25th

8:30 a.m. **Mass** Church
 9:45 a.m. RE & Fir Rec./Fir Comm. Parish Center
 9:45 a.m. Coffee Hour Hall
 9:45 a.m. NCCM Slide Show Hall
 11:00 a.m. **Mass** Church
 6:00 p.m. SALT Upper Rm. Assumption P.C.

Weekly Readings

Third Sunday of Easter

April 18 Acts 5:27b-32, 40b-41; Revelation 5:11-14;
 Jn 21:1-19

April 19 Acts 6:8-15; Jn 6:22-29
 April 20 Acts 7:51-8:1a; Jn 6:30-35
 April 21 Acts 8:1b-8; Jn 6:35-40
 April 22 Acts 8:26-40; Jn 6:44-51
 April 23 Acts 9:1-20; Jn 6:52-59
 April 24 Acts 9:31-42; Ps 116:12-17; Jn 6:60-69

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 25 Acts 13:14, 43-52; Revelation 7:9, 14b-17;
 Jn 10:27-30

Faith Formation and Liturgy

Religious Education students will be celebrating the Sacrament of First Eucharist on Saturday, May 8th at 10:00 a.m. The rehearsal for First Communion occurs on Friday, May 7th at 6 p.m. This rehearsal occurs on First Friday, so we will be rehearsing in the Church, while Jesus is Exposed for Adoration in the Chapel. Following rehearsal, families are invited to spend a few minutes with Jesus in adoration.

Religious Education Classes resume this Sunday from 9:45-10:45 a.m. For the rest of the year, classes will be held on April 18, 25th, May 1, 8, 15, 22. Our FINAL Celebration is on Sunday, May 30th!

Please keep our Confirmandi in your prayers as they begin final preparations for reception of the Sacrament.

Assumption School News 733-6133

School Commission. Assumption Catholic School is seeking nominations from the parish for two parishioners to serve on the School Commission. This is a three-year term of office. Nominees will be invited to attend a Discernment Dinner on Wednesday, April 21, at 6:30 following the 6:00 p.m. Mass. Send name and phone number of nominee and nominator to the school office by April 1. Contact the School Commission Chair, Michelle King (398—2472) or Principal, Rose Goeres (733-6133) for more information.

School Commission. Michelle King, John Purdie, Elizabeth Rybka, Paul Schaefer, Pat Skaggs, Justin Iverson, Carol Fraze, Elsa Finkbonner, Todd Russell, Anne McGreevy, Mark Bagley, Kelly Jeffrey, Kerry Thomas.

"Growing Great Kids" Auction is on-line! Check it out.. (link: <http://acs-bidz4kidz.cmarket.com>).

The Whatcom County Chess Championships were held on April 10th in Lynden. Assumption had six dedicated players participating and all did very well! Now on to the Washington State Middle School Chess Championships!

Sacred Heart's Stewardship Report April 10 & April 11



Ordinary Income

Envelopes (153)	\$	8,831.00
Visitors	\$	576.90
	\$	9,407.90

Weekly budget needed: \$8,232.00

Easter \$ 250.00

St. Vincent de Paul \$ 465.00
 Building & Grounds \$ 57.00