

SACRED HEART CHURCH

PRAY † TEACH † SERVE

March, 14th 2021 3rd Sunday in Lent

Mission Statement

We are a *Eucharistic Community* which recognizes and values the dignity of each person by responding to the Gospel.

We are called to
Pray, Teach and Serve.



Weekend Mass

Saturday Vigil 5:30 pm
Sunday 8:30 am
10:00 am

Daily Mass

Monday 7:00 am
Tuesday 7:00 am
Wednesday 7:00 am
Friday 7:00 am
Saturday 8:30 am

Communion Service

Thursday 7:00 am

Confession

Monday 7:30 am
Tuesday 7:30 am
Friday 7:30 am
Saturday 9:00-9:30 am &
4:30-5:00 pm

Adoration

Friday 7:30am Exposition
8:30am Benediction

Baptism

Please call the parish office to make arrangements for baptism at least 2 month in advance.

Matrimony

Please call the parish office to make arrangements for marriage at least 6 months in advance.

Pastor

Reverend Bruce Ludeke

Permanent Deacon

Deacon Ken Funk

4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

LIGHT

For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, so that his works might not be exposed. - Jn 3:20

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Pray

Mass Intentions

Mon.	03/15	7:00 am	Living intentions of Davis Harrington
Tues	03/16	7:00 am	† Mary Sitter
Wed.	03/17	7:00 am	† Aldona Miloch
		5:30 pm	† J. Mark Beaty
Thurs.	03/18	7:00 am	Communion Service
Fri	03/19	7:00 am	Living Intention for Dolores Schramuk
Sat.	03/20	8:30 am	Patricia Tiff Lambert
		5:30 pm	† Sue Henkel
Sun.	03/21	8:30 am	Sacred Heart Parishioners
		10:00 am	Living & Deceased Family Herman & Mary Pluester

Sanctuary Lamp

In Loving Memory of Donna Hutten



Prayer before Communion

Dear Lord, may I receive you in this Communion With open arms, And a loving, contrite heart, So that I may be filled with your grace, For my good and Your glory! Amen.

Thanksgiving After Holy Communion

I thank You, Eternal Father, for giving me as the food of my soul, the Body and Blood of Your Only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. May this Divine Food preserve and increase the union of my soul with You. May it purify me by repressing every evil inclination. Grant that it may be to me a pledge of a glorious resurrection on the last day. O Sacred Heart of Jesus, I love You with all my heart. I am sorry for ever having offended You, and I desire never to offend You again.

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.



March... St Joseph The Just
Author **LINDA O'BRIEN** originally posted at Catholicexchange.com

Prayer to St. Joseph

To thee, O Blessed Joseph, we have recourse in our afflictions, and having implored the help of thy thrice-holy Spouse, we now, with hearts filled with confidence, earnestly beg thee also to take us under thy protection. By that charity wherewith thou wert united to the Immaculate Virgin, Mother of God, and by that fatherly love by which thou didst cherish the Child Jesus from the depths of thy heart, we beseech thee and we humbly pray that thou wouldst look down with gracious eye upon that inheritance which Jesus Christ purchased by His Blood and will succor us in our need by thy power and strength. Defend, O most watchful guardian of the Holy Family, the chosen offspring of Jesus Christ. Keep from us all blight of error and corruption. Aid us from on high, most valiant defender, in this our battle with the powers of darkness, and even as of old thou didst rescue the Child Jesus from the perils of His life, so now defend God's Holy Church from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity. Shield us ever under thy patronage, that, following thy example and strengthened by thy help, we may live a holy life, die a happy death, and attain to everlasting bliss in Heaven. Amen. ~
St. Joseph, Friend of the Sacred Heart, pray for us.
St. Joseph, Foster Father of the Son of God, pray for us.
St. Joseph, Defender of the Family, pray for us.
St. Joseph, Protector of Holy Mother Church, pray for us.

St. Mary's School, Sterling Preschool & Kindergarten Virtual Open House for the 2021-22 school year. View online @ smsterling.org

Meet the teachers, Learn about the curriculum
Review textbooks and teaching resources
Virtual tour of the classroom



For more information and to register contact the school
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Thank you for your generosity!

SVdP assisted 127 families with food. A total of 412 consisting of 301 adults and 111 children. Financial aid was given to 41 families in the area of rent, utilities, gas, motel and prescriptions. SVdP would like to thank Whiteside communities for their support and generosity.



Be Reconciled
Come to confession March 24
Visit a Catholic Church near you.
For dates and locations, visit <https://www.reconciledonline.org/be-reconciled/>

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St. Joseph A Just Man – A Husband

from **Oblates of St. Joseph website**-<https://osjusa.org/st-joseph/magisterium/redemptoris-custos/iii-a-just-man-a-husband/>

In the course of that pilgrimage of faith which was his life, Joseph, like Mary, remained faithful to God's call until the end. While Mary's life was the bringing to fullness of that fiat first spoken at the Annunciation, at the moment of Joseph's own "annunciation" he said nothing; instead he simply "did as the angel of the Lord commanded him" (Mt 1:24). And this first "doing" became the beginning of "Joseph's way." The Gospels do not record any word ever spoken by Joseph along that way. But the silence of Joseph has its own special eloquence, for thanks to that silence we can understand the truth of the Gospel's judgement that he was "a just man" (Mt 1:19). One must come to understand this truth, for it contains one of the most important testimonies concerning man and his vocation. Through many generations the Church has read this testimony with ever greater attention and with deeper understanding, drawing, as it were, "what is new and what is old" (Mt 13:52) from the storehouse of the noble figure of Joseph.



St. Joseph A Just Man

Above all, the "just" man of Nazareth possesses the clear characteristics of a husband. Luke refers to Mary as "a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph" (Lk 1:27). Even before the "mystery hidden for ages" (Eph 3:9) began to be fulfilled, the Gospels set before us the image of husband and wife. According to Jewish custom, marriage took place in two stages: first, the legal, or true marriage was celebrated, and then, only after a certain period of time, the husband brought the wife into his own house. Thus, before he lived with Mary, Joseph was already her "husband." Mary, however, preserved her deep desire to give herself exclusively to God. One may well ask how this desire of Mary's could be reconciled with a "wedding." The answer can only come from the saving events as they unfold, from the special action of God himself. From the moment of the Annunciation, Mary knew that she was to fulfil her virginal desire to give herself exclusively to God by becoming the Mother of God's Son. Becoming a Mother by the power of the Holy Spirit was the form taken by her gift of self: a form which God himself expected of the Virgin Mary, who was "betrothed" to Joseph. Mary uttered her fiat.

The fact that Mary was "betrothed" to Joseph was part of the very plan of God. This is pointed out by Luke and especially by Matthew. The words spoken to Joseph are very significant: "Do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which has been conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit" (Mt 1:20). These words explain the mystery of Joseph's wife: In her motherhood Mary is a virgin. In her, "the Son of the Most High" assumed a human body and became "the Son of Man." Addressing Joseph through the words of the Angel, God speaks to him as the husband of the Virgin of Nazareth. What took place in her through the power of the Holy Spirit also confirmed in a special way the marriage bond which already existed between Joseph and Mary. God's messenger was clear in what he said to Joseph: "Do not fear to take Mary your wife into your home." Hence, what had taken place earlier, namely, Joseph's marriage to Mary, happened in accord with God's will and was meant to endure. In her divine motherhood Mary had to continue to live as "a virgin, the wife of her husband" (cf. Lk 1:27).

St. Joseph A Just Man

In the words of the "annunciation" by night, Joseph not only heard the divine truth concerning his wife's indescribable vocation; he also heard once again the truth about his own vocation. This "just" man, who, in the spirit of the noblest traditions of the Chosen People, loved the Virgin of Nazareth and was bound to her by a husband's love, was once again called by God to this love. "Joseph did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took his wife" into his home (Mt 1:24); what was conceived in Mary was "of the Holy Spirit." From expressions such as these are we not to suppose that his love as a man was also given new birth by the Holy Spirit? Are we not to think that the love of God which has been poured forth into the human heart through the Holy Spirit (cf. Rom 5:5), molds every human love into perfection? This love of God also molds—in a completely unique way—the love of husband and wife, deepening within it everything that bespeaks an exclusive gift of self, a covenant between persons, and an authentic communion according to the model of the Blessed Trinity.

"Joseph... took his wife; but he knew her not, until she had borne a son" (Mt 1:24-25). These words indicate another kind of closeness in marriage. The deep spiritual closeness arising from marital union and the interpersonal contact between man and woman have their definitive origin in the Spirit, the Giver of Life (cf. Jn 6:63). Joseph, in obedience to the Spirit, found in the Spirit the source of love, the conjugal love which he experienced as a man. And this love proved to be greater than this "just man" could ever have expected within the limits of his human heart.

St. Joseph A Just Man

In the Liturgy, Mary is celebrated as "united to Joseph, the just man, by a bond of marital and virginal love." There are really two kinds of love here, both of which together represent the mystery of the Church—virgin and spouse—as symbolized in the marriage of Mary and Joseph. "Virginity or celibacy for the sake of the Kingdom of God not only does not contradict the dignity of marriage but presupposes and confirms it. Marriage and virginity are two ways of expressing and living the one mystery of the Covenant of God with his people," the Covenant which is a communion of love between God and human beings. Through his complete self-sacrifice, Joseph expressed his generous love for the Mother of God, and gave her a husband's "gift of self." Even though he decided to draw back so as not to interfere in the plan of God which was coming to pass in Mary, Joseph obeyed the explicit command of the angel and took Mary into his home, while respecting the fact that she belonged exclusively to God. On the other hand, it was from his marriage to Mary that Joseph derived his singular dignity and his rights in regard to Jesus. "It is certain that the dignity of the Mother of God is so exalted that nothing could be more sublime; yet because Mary was united to Joseph by the bond of marriage, there can be no doubt but that Joseph approached as no other person ever could that eminent dignity whereby the Mother of God towers above all creatures. Since marriage is the highest degree of association and friendship, involving by its very nature a communion of goods, it follows that God, by giving Joseph to the Virgin, did not give him to her only as a companion for life, a witness of her virginity and protector of her honor: he also gave Joseph to Mary in order that he might share, through the marriage pact, in her own sublime greatness."

Parish Office

Hours.....Monday - Friday: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
 (June-Aug: Friday - 8:00-12:00pm)
 Phone 815-625-1134
 Fax.....815-625-1138
 Rectory, *Emergency Only*815-625-0631

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Prayer Chain for Special Intentions

Call.....815-625-1134
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Weekly Collection

Your Gift to God last weekend was:

Amount Required Weekly	\$4,442.31
Envelope mailed in/dropped off	\$3,744.00
Online Giving	\$2,473.00
Weekly Total 03/7/2021	\$6,217.00
YTD Required	\$155,480.85
YTD Collected (Week 35)	\$198,619.00
Total Envelope Holders	523
Envelopes Used	90
% Contributed	17%
Parish Raffle Winner	Lois Oberle

Tithing 4%.....Diocesan Stewardship Appeal(\$240)

Schedule of Ministers

Saturday, March 20th & Sunday, March 21st

Lectors:

5:30 pm Ainsley Reed
 8:30 am Connie Chaney
 10:00 am Jessie Mason

Usher/Cleaners:

5:30 pm Gary & Denise Mosher
 Jan Hammes
 8:30 am Beth Hollaway
3 Volunteers Needed
 10:00 am **4 Volunteers Needed**



Please contact Karen Nestor at 815-625-1134 or sheartmusicliturgy@gmail.com if you can help out in these roles!

Join us Mass live streamed on Saturdays at 5:30pm.



here are the links (you can also find these links on our web-site, sacredheartparish.net)

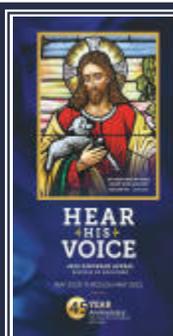
YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2dJmj_PKT6CPPqzZHUcGxA

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Sacred-Heart-Catholic-Church-115654265130918>



Happy Birthday from Fr. Bruce and the Sacred Heart Staff!

03/15 Julie Bland	03/18 Debra Hogge
03/15 Sonia Davis	03/18 Maizy Olson
03/15 Crete Exner	03/18 Vincent Padilla
03/15 Jacob Gebhardt	03/19 Zackary Alston
03/15 Elizabeth Papoccia	03/19 Brian Garland
03/15 Joshua Pendgraft	03/19 Lillian LeMay
03/15 Evelyn Pottoff	03/19 Richard Nailor
03/15 Stephen Snitchler	03/19 James Sanders
03/15 Pat Whitehead	03/19 Chris Schrader
03/16 David Troye	03/19 Cathy Sheets
03/17 Diane Mekeel	03/19 Barb Stotzer
03/17 Jacob Szakatits	03/20 Bobbie Hannan
03/18 Jackie Foster	03/20 Tom Jensen
03/18 Jim Hegner	03/21 Kerry Mullen



Diocesan Stewardship

Appeal - 2020-21

Goal: \$34,725

Donated to date: \$27,750

Compared to last year to date: \$28,575

Thank you to the following donors who have recently given to the 2020-21 Diocesan Appeal:

Penitential Act

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, (*striking breast 3 times*) through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Gloria

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.

Fourth Sunday of Lent

1st Reading

2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23

In those days, all the princes of Judah, the priests, and the people added infidelity to infidelity, practicing all the abominations of the nations and polluting the LORD's temple which he had consecrated in Jerusalem.

Early and often did the LORD, the God of their fathers, send his messengers to them, for he had compassion on his people and his dwelling place. But they mocked the messengers of God, despised his warnings, and scoffed at his prophets, until the anger of the LORD against his people was so inflamed that there was no remedy.

Their enemies burnt the house of God, tore down the walls of Jerusalem, set all its palaces afire, and destroyed all its precious objects. Those who escaped the sword were carried captive to Babylon, where they became servants of the king of the Chaldeans and his sons until the kingdom of the Persians came to power. All this was to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah: "Until the land has retrieved its lost sabbaths, during all the time it lies waste it shall have rest while seventy years are fulfilled."

In the first year of Cyrus, king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah, the LORD inspired King Cyrus of Persia to issue this proclamation throughout his kingdom, both by word of mouth and in writing:

"Thus says Cyrus, king of Persia: All the kingdoms of the earth the LORD, the God of heaven, has given to me, and he has also charged me to build him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Whoever, therefore, among you belongs to any part of his people, let him go up, and may his God be with him!"

Responsorial Psalm

137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6

R. Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

By the streams of Babylon we sat and wept when we remembered Zion. On the aspens of that land we hung up our harps.

R. Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

For there our captors asked of us the lyrics of our songs, And our despoilers urged us to be joyous: "Sing for us the songs of Zion!"

R. Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

How could we sing a song of the LORD in a foreign land? If I forget you, Jerusalem, may my right hand be forgotten!

R. Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

May my tongue cleave to my palate if I remember you not, If I place not Jerusalem ahead of my joy.

R. Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

2nd Reading

Eph 2:4-10

Brothers and sisters: God, who is rich in mercy, because of the great love he had for us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, brought us to life with Christ — by grace you have been saved —, raised us up with him, and seated us with him in the heavens in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not from you; it is the gift of God; it is not from works, so no one may boast. For we are his handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for the good works that God has prepared in advance, that we should live in them.

Gospel

Jn 3:14-21

Jesus said to Nicodemus: "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life." For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him will not be condemned, but whoever does not believe has already been condemned, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the verdict, that the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light, because their works were evil.

For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, so that his works might not be exposed. But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God.

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, (*bow*) and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man (*stand*). For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Holy, Holy, Holy (Sanctus) Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Communion Antiphon: **Jerusalem is built as a city bonded as one together. It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, to praise the name of the Lord.**

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