October 24, 2021
30th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sacred Heart

A Welcoming Catholic Community

Sacred Heart Church
"The Pink Church"
191 Elm Street, Pittsfield, MA 01201

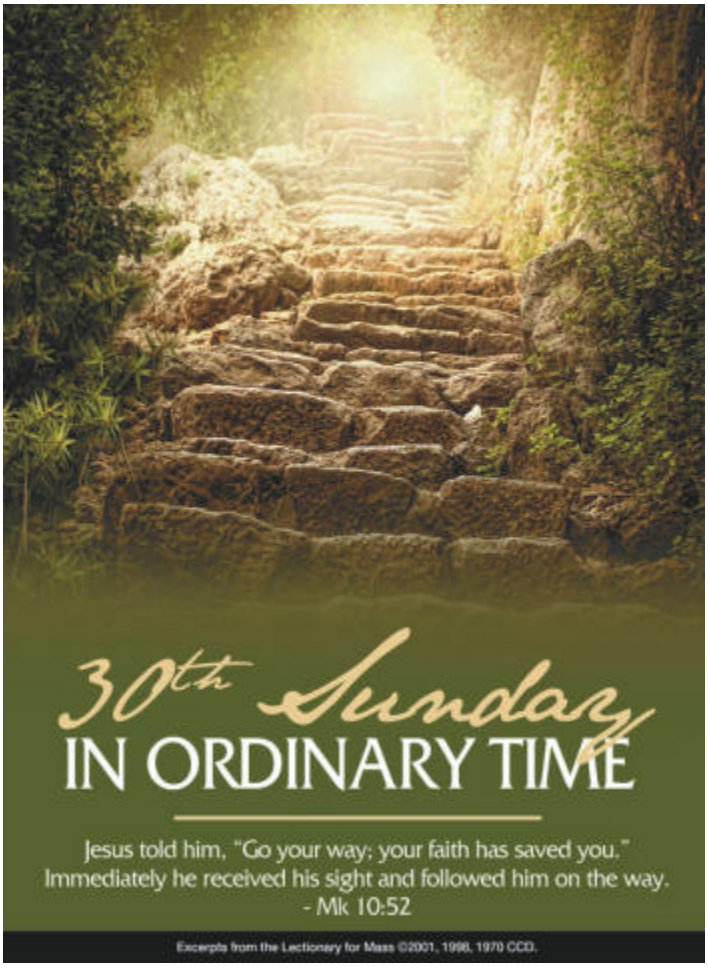
Welcome!

OUR PASTORAL STAFF IS HERE TO SERVE YOU

Parish Office — 56 Newell Street, Pittsfield, MA 01201
Father Steven Montesanti, Pastor
Laura Scholz, Parish Secretary (413)443-6960
Mary Verdi, Director of Music - email: mary@maryverdi.com
John Richardson, Bulletin Editor (413)443-6960 ext 112
Rectory Hours: Monday thru Thursday 9 AM - 1 PM
Website: www.thepinkchurch.com
Email: pinkchurch@aol.com
Telephone: (413)443-6960 Fax: (413)442-9649

Our Mission:

"Sacred Heart Parish is dedicated to responding faithfully to God's call as a Catholic Community and to serve Him and others through worship, fellowship, education and social justice."



PARISH INFORMATION:
Parish Office Hours — Monday thru Thursday 9-1
Enter the Parish Center building via the Newell Street entrance.
New parishioners should register at: www.thepinkchurch.com

LORD'S DAY MASSES
Saturday 4:00 PM Sunday 8:30 A.M. and 10:30 AM

DAILY MASS
Monday through Thursday 9:00 AM Mass.
Communion Service — Friday 9:00 AM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
Saturday at 3:00 PM — 3:30 PM

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION
Friday — After Mass (9:30 AM to 12 Noon) in the church

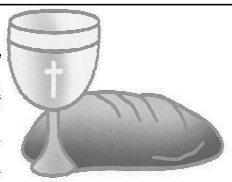
BAPTISMS
Contact the Rectory 443-6960 to assist in the planning for the Sacrament of Baptism in accordance with the Catholic Faith

RCIA
Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults
Contact St. Joseph Rectory at 445-5789

MARRIAGE PREPARATION
Please notify the parish office one year in advance

PRAYER REQUEST LINE
Please call the Rectory at 443-6960

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK



Saturday, October 23rd
4:00 PM+ **Maura O'Brien Fissel & Bridget O'Brien**
requested by: Their Family

Sunday, October 24th
8:30 AM+ **George (Buddy) Pellerin**
requested by: Family

10:30 AM+ **Marion Reid**
requested by: The Robillard Family

Monday, October 25th
9:00 AM+ **Eileen Hudon**
(1st Anniversary)
Kathy & Larry

Tuesday, October 26th
9:00 AM+ **Helena L. Jennings**
requested by: Kathy & Larry Cassela

Wednesday, October 27th
9:00 AM+ **Kathy Broderick**
requested by: Gay Johnson

Thursday, October 28th
9:00 AM+ **Elinor DeMartino**
(Birthday Remembrance)
requested by: Joanie & Jack DeMartino

Friday, October 29th
9:00 AM+ **Communion Service**

Saturday, October 30th
4:00 PM+ **Al Hubbard**
requested by: Rita & Family

Sunday, October 31st
8:30 AM+ **Billy Flynn**
requested by: Pellerin Family

10:30 AM+ **Stella Santoro McParland**
requested by: Chabot Family

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE

will burn this week for:

Al Hubbard

requested by: Rita & Family

FRIDAY MASS ANNOUNCEMENT

Father Peter Gregory will be celebrating Mass on the First Friday of the month at 9 A.M.

All SOULS DAY MASS

There will be a Mass on Tuesday, November 2nd for All Souls Day at 11AM at the St Joseph Cemetery Chapel. This Mass will be for all of those who have died in the past year.

LIVE, LAUGH, BAKE CUPCAKES!

All you need is love……and cupcakes!

Life is so much better with sprinkles on top! Bakers are needed for our Bazaar Bake Sale, so double your favorite recipe and 'bake the world a butter place!' Cookie assortments are needed for our cookie platters—this is our most popular item! Also, holiday breads and a variety of baked goods; Tassies, Italian Cookies, Muffins, Pies, Coffee Cakes, Biscotti, and Cupcakes. Remember the secret ingredient is always LOVE!

Mark your calendar for Saturday, December 4th and make the edible, incredible! Let's make this year a record success!

THANKSGIVING ANGELS

Planning has been ongoing in preparation for the city-wide effort to provide Thanksgiving dinners for 1,600 families — 5,700 people! This ecumenical effort with 20 other community partners has included involvement of our parishioners for several years.

This year's assigned item is **CRANBERRY SAUCE** of which our parish will need to collect 1,200 cans. Sacred Heart is teaming up with another church to collect a combined total of 2,000.

Your donation of cranberry sauce may be placed in the boxes under the tables set-up at the church entrances.

HOLIDAY BAZAAR PREPARATIONS!

Collections for the Holiday Thrift Shop will run through Sunday, November 14th. Please place items on the Parish Center porch in the Rubbermaid containers that have been provided.

Also: Tables will be set up at the entrances to the church before and after masses for Bazaar volunteer sign up, collection of $5 scratch tickets for raffle trees, wreaths and stockings and 50/50 ticket sales.

Should you have any questions, call Chris Parker (413)212-6878

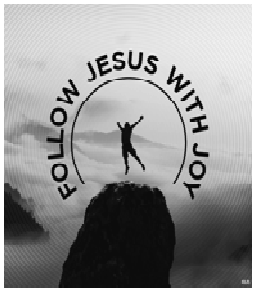
SACRED HEART PARISH—PRAYER LINE

The prayer is still active at Sacred Heart Church. Call the Parish Office at (413)443-6960 to leave your prayer request by Wednesday. First name of the person to be prayed for as well as the mass intention prayer.

CAN YOU PROVIDE ASSISTANCE—WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Are you able to help out our community for just an hour or two each week? South Congregational Church Food Pantry serves about 550 families a week. We are in need of additional volunteers to help pick-up donations from local grocery stores, and to deliver food to Pittsfield households that cannot get to the pantry.

In addition to the Food Pantry, Thanksgiving Angels is in need of volunteers for the 2nd and 3rd weeks in November. If you are able to help out, or want more information on the Food Pantry or Thanksgiving Angels— call Joan Morgan at (413)464-1789.



BLINDNESS OF SPIRIT

It's easy to understand the discomfort that Jesus' followers seemed to have felt in this Sunday's passage from the Gospel of Mark. After all, the blind man, Bartimaeus, was causing a spectacle, shouting at Jesus. But even after the people in the crowd told him to be quiet, he kept calling out "all the more, 'Son of David, have pity on me.'"

To really get a sense of the importance of this story — which is much more than just another account of one of Jesus' miracles — we have to think about where it falls in the Gospel of Mark. The healing of the blind Bartimaeus is, in fact, linked to the healing of another blind man, recounted only a few chapters earlier (8:22-26). These two stories form "bookends" for one of the most important sections of Mark's Gospel in which Jesus tries to help his followers understand who he is and what his mission really is. But, as we've discovered over the past several Sundays, the Apostles and the other disciples don't seem to be able to comprehend Jesus' message or to understand the true cost and meaning of discipleship. After all, these are the same men who openly opposed him when Jesus tried to teach them about his coming suffering and death.

But then, this Sunday we are given the story of this blind beggar who seems to be able to see what the Apostles cannot. In fact, the physical healing of Bartimaeus is a powerful eminder that, when we open ourselves to God's grace, we can be healed of that blindness of spirit that sometimes prevents us from following Jesus with freedom and joy, which is an important part of discipleship.

Saint Mark beautifully describes Bartimaeus' excitement when Jesus finally calls for him, "He threw aside his cloak, sprang up, and came to Jesus." There is an energy in his response that wonderfully exemplifies the enthusiasm that should be a hallmark of our discipleship. When the Lord calls, we must be ready to respond. And because of his faith and willingness to act, Jesus rewards the blind man by not only restoring his physical sight but by empowering him to live out his faith in the community of disciples.

"Bartimaeus regains the light he had lost, and with it the fullness of his dignity: he gets back onto his feet and resumes the journey, which from that moment has a guide, Jesus, and a path, the same that Jesus is travelling. The evangelist tells us nothing more about Bartimaeus, but in him he shows us what discipleship is: following Jesus "along the way," in the light of faith."

The invitation for us this Sunday is to humbly reflect on the ways we might be spiritually blind by asking ourselves what habits, attitudes, and ideologies hold us back from becoming the disciples that Jesus is calling us to be. –Ipi

SACRED HEART PARISH—WEEKLY GIVING

Weekly Collection —$6,603.25
On-line —$1,207.00
Utilities—$330.00 Catholic Mirror—$70.00
Total Giving — $8,210.25
Thank you for your generous support
to Sacred Heart Church!

WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?

I think we've all been guilty of looking at a situation and wondering what's in it for us. It doesn't matter if it's a particular work assignment, someone at the parish asking for help with our Holiday Bazaar, the Thanksgiving Angels, or your spouse asking if you'll take over the grocery shopping this week. Often, our first reaction to one of these requests is a heavy sigh and the thought: "If I do this, what will I get?"

Sometimes it surprises us to realize that the Apostles were no different. We tend to idolize these contemporaries of Christ as giants who walked with the Savior. But in reality, these individuals were merely human beings struggling to commit to the task of everyday stewardship.

In the Gospels, we see glimpses of them longing for praise and affirmation. We see them jockeying for positions of power within the group of twelve. We see them expect earthly rewards like honor and admiration. We see them acting a lot like us.

But in the end, we see them transformed by the grace of God. Like all the saints, their holiness stems from their commitment to their call. They stumble through, and as they stumble, they keep trusting God. They keep turning to Him. They keep asking for help. They don't give up just because they keep failing at it.

We are defined by what we give when we have no hope of being reimbursed, rewarded, or recognized. The Apostles understood this, eventually, and they gave accordingly. Most of them gave their very lives.

Remember, they're just like us. If they can do it, we can too.

ROSARY SODALITY MEETING

Our monthly meeting will be held this Monday, October 25th in the Parish Center at 4 p.m. (NOTE CHANGE IN TIME) Ornaments will be made from recycled Christmas cards for both our parish's Giving and Remembrance Trees. We will also sign Christmas cards for our parish shut-ins. PLEASE BRING A PAIR OF SCISSORS AND A PEN. Additional items will be supplied. Women of all ages are welcome! Please wear a face mask!

Sunday — Fr. Peter Gregory
Monday — Vocations for Priests & Deaconate
Tuesday — Fr. William Murphy
Wed — Fr. Michael Lillpopp
Thursday— Our Deacons
Friday — Fr. Peter Naranjo
Saturday — Msgr. John Bonzagni

SACRED HEART — ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK!

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