

# Sacred Heart Parish

March 10, 2024  
Fourth Sunday of Lent

*Served by*  
CLARETIAN MISSIONARIES  
MISIONEROS CLARETIANOS  
Sons of the  
Immaculate Heart of Mary

Fr. Irudayaraj John Britto, CMF  
Pastor

Fr. Ralph Berg, CMF  
Associate

Fr. Gaspar Masilamani, CMF  
Associate

Fr. Gerald Caffrey, CMF  
in Residence

**DEACONS/DIACONO**

Deacon Pete Balland

Deacon Ernie Gonzales

Deacon Mark Weber

Deacon Tom Gregory (Retired)

Deacon Tony Humphrey (Retired)

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS**

Weekdays: 8:00am to 5:00pm

**HORAS DE OFICINA**

Dias de la Semana: 8:00am to 5:00pm



FOR  
*God*  
SO  
*Loved*

the world, that he gave  
his one and only Son, that  
whoever believes in him  
should not perish, but  
have eternal life.

JOHN 3:16

## Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Parish

*"Being the living example of God's love to others"*

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150 Fleury Street † Prescott, AZ 86301 † Phone: (928) 445-3141 † Fax: (928) 717-1074  
Website: [www.sacredheartprescott.com](http://www.sacredheartprescott.com) † Email: [parish@sacredheartprescott.com](mailto:parish@sacredheartprescott.com)

# SACRED HEART CATHOLIC SCHOOL - PRESCHOOL TO 8th GRADE

**Principal: Shelly Cooper**  
131 N. Summit Ave. (928) 445-2621  
E-mail: scooper@shcpsprescott.com  
www.sacredhearteducation.com

**Preschool: Jill Wagner**  
(928) 445-2621  
E-mail: jwagner@shcpsprescott.com

**Parish Manager: Jim Wren**  
(928) 445-3141 Ext. 302  
E-mail: jwren@sacredheartprescott.com

## THIS WEEK AT SACRED HEART PARISH

| MONDAY<br>March 11   | TUESDAY<br>March 12  | WEDNESDAY<br>March 13   | THURSDAY<br>March 14   | FRIDAY<br>March 15   | SATURDAY<br>March 16   | SUNDAY<br>March 17   |
|--|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| <b>7:00am</b><br>Mass<br><i>Church</i><br><br><b>9:30am</b><br>Centering Prayer<br><i>St. Anthony Claret Room</i><br><br><b>10:00-11:00am</b><br>Confessions<br><i>Church</i><br><br><b>1:00pm</b><br>Lectio Divina<br><i>Sacred Heart Room</i><br><br><b>5:30pm</b><br>Lenten Mass<br><i>Church</i><br><br><b>6:30pm</b><br>Spanish<br>Lenten Mission<br><i>Church</i><br><br><b>5:30-7:30pm</b><br>Middle School<br>Youth Group<br><i>Youth Center</i> | <b>7:00am</b><br>Mass<br><i>Church</i><br><br><b>8:00-9:30am</b><br>Walking with Mom's<br><i>Sacred Heart Room</i><br><br><b>5:30pm</b><br>Lenten Mass<br><i>Church</i><br><br><b>6:30pm</b><br>Spanish<br>Lenten Mission<br><i>Church</i> | <b>7:00am</b><br>Masses<br><i>Church</i><br><br><b>9:30am</b><br>St. Vincent de Paul<br><i>St. Anthony Claret Room</i><br><br><b>9:30am</b><br>Study of Mystics<br><i>Sacred Heart Room</i><br><br><b>5:30pm</b><br>Lenten Mass<br><i>Church</i><br><br><b>6:00-7:00pm</b><br>Confessions<br><i>Church</i><br><br><b>6:00pm</b><br>Encounter Night<br><i>Church</i> | <b>7:00am</b><br>Mass<br><i>Church</i><br><br><b>11:00am</b><br>Spanish<br>Legion of Mary<br><i>St. Anthony Claret Room</i><br><br><b>1:00pm</b><br>English<br>Legion of Mary<br><i>Sacred Heart Room</i><br><br><b>5:30pm</b><br>Lenten Mass<br><i>Church</i> | <b>7:00am</b><br>Mass<br><i>Church</i><br><br><b>3:00pm</b><br>Divine Mercy Chaplet<br><i>Church</i><br><br><b>6:00pm</b><br>Spanish Stations of the Cross<br><i>Church</i><br><br><b>6:30-9:00pm</b><br>Hispanic Catholics in Action<br><i>St. Anthony Claret Room</i><br><br><b>7:00pm</b><br>English Stations of the Cross<br><i>Church</i><br><br><b>7:00-8:30pm</b><br>Spanish AA Meeting<br><i>Sacred Heart Room</i> | <b>7:00am</b><br>Mass<br><i>Church</i><br><br><b>11:00am</b><br>Healing and Anointing Mass<br><i>Church</i><br><br><b>7:30-9:00am</b><br>That Man is You<br><i>Forum</i><br><br><b>3:00-4:30pm</b><br>Confessions<br><i>Church</i><br><br><b>5:00pm</b><br>Vigil Mass<br><i>Church</i> | <b>MASSES</b><br><b>7:00am</b><br><b>9:00am</b><br><b>11:00am</b><br><b>1:00pm</b><br><b>5:00pm</b><br><i>Church</i><br><br><b>Rosary</b><br>30 minutes before each Mass<br><i>Church</i><br><br><b>10:00am</b><br>Anointing of the Sick<br>After 9:00am Mass<br><i>Church</i> |

## MASS INTENTIONS INTENCIONES DE LA MISA March 11 to March 17, 2024

|                       |         |                             |
|-----------------------|---------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Mon. March 11</b>  | 7:00am  | Tony & Dixie Humphrey       |
|                       | 5:30pm  | James P. Ghiglieri, Jr.†    |
| <b>Tues. March 12</b> | 7:00am  | Legion of Mary Team         |
|                       | 5:30pm  | Lorna M. Encarnacion†       |
| <b>Wed. March 13</b>  | 7:00am  | Donna Lindberg              |
|                       | 8:30am  | NO MASS                     |
|                       | 5:30pm  | Donna Maneely               |
| <b>Thur. March 14</b> | 7:00am  | Shane Flann†                |
|                       | 5:30pm  | Mr. & Mrs. Anselmo Enriquez |
| <b>Fri. March 15</b>  | 7:00am  | Patty Kersey                |
| <b>Sat. March 16</b>  | 7:00am  | Stephen Leo Connolly†       |
|                       | 5:00pm  | Deacon Joe & Nancy Bueti    |
| <b>Sun. March 17</b>  | 7:00am  | Rose Anderson†              |
|                       | 9:00am  | Msgr. Thomas Doyle†         |
|                       | 11:00am | Msgr. Michael Slattery†     |
|                       | 1:00pm  | Arturo Aviles Gonzalez†     |
|                       | 5:00pm  | William Joseph Nickel†      |

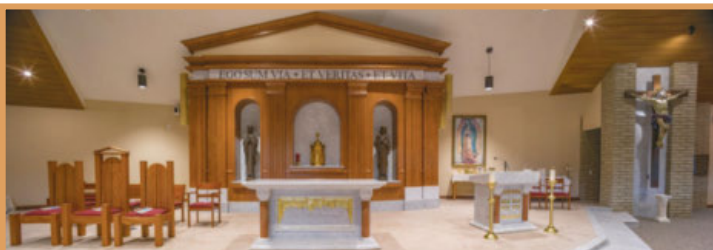
†Denotes deceased

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF March 10, 2024

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| <b>Sunday:</b>      | 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 (6ab)/Eph 2:4-10/Jn 3:14-21 |
| <b>Monday:</b>      | Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b/Jn 4:43-54               |
| <b>Tuesday:</b>     | Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16                             |
| <b>Wednesday:</b>   | Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18/Jn 5:17-30                        |
| <b>Thursday:</b>    | Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23/Jn 5:31-47                           |
| <b>Friday:</b>      | Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30       |
| <b>Saturday:</b>    | Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12/Jn 7:40-53                         |
| <b>Next Sunday:</b> | Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15 (12a)/Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33        |

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## MASS SCHEDULE HORARIO DE MISAS

### CHURCH HOURS:

Saturday and Sunday | 6:00am to 6:00pm  
Monday through Friday | 6:00am to 9:00pm



### SUNDAY MASSES IN ENGLISH

Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm  
Sunday: 7:00, 9:00, 11:00am and 5:00pm (Youth)



### MISA DOMINICAL EN ESPANOL

Domingo 1:00pm



### DAILY MASS IN ENGLISH

Monday through Saturday: 7:00am  
Monday through Thursday 5:30pm



### SCHOOL MASS

Wednesday 8:30am  
(when school in in session)



### CONFESSION

- ♦ Monday morning | 10:00 to 11:00am;
- ♦ Wednesday evening | 6:00 to 7:00pm;
- ♦ Saturday afternoon | 3:00 to 4:30pm.

*All in the Church Confessionals*

## SACRED HEART CHURCH Lord's Bounty Supper

I WAS THIRSTY AND YOU GAVE ME A DRINK

**Sunday March 10th | 2:00pm | Forum**

All are welcome to enjoy a nourishing meal prepared  
and served by Sacred Heart Parishioners

Drop off ready to serve food to the kitchen near the  
Forum Room by 1:30pm

Alyce Newton: [alycenewt22@icloud.com](mailto:alycenewt22@icloud.com)

Jeanine Canedo: [jeanedo64@gmail.com](mailto:jeanedo64@gmail.com)

## The Messenger of God Are with You



Jesus was “the bread that came down from heaven.” The people expected the Messiah to, literally, come down from heaven. They were waiting for spectacular events and supernatural manifestations in the sky when they would literally see the Anointed of God coming down in the clouds. So when Jesus came forward and claimed that “I am He,” (John 8:24,28) they could not reconcile the reality before them with the expectations in their minds.

Jesus they knew all too well, or at least so they thought. They knew when and where and how He came, from Mary and Joseph. We can see, therefore, that the problem the Jews of Jesus’ time had with the idea of flesh becoming bread was basically an extension of the problem they had with the idea of the Word becoming flesh. But if we insist that God must meet our expectations and our reasoning before we can believe, then we are in for a big surprise.

God comes to us in the ordinary people we meet in our everyday lives. The question is not whether God comes to us or not but whether we are able to recognize God at work in our lives. Today let us take a second look at those persons we only know too well — or at least we think we do — those people we often take for granted. These men, women and children may indeed be the messengers that God in His providence has sent to us to educate and prepare us for eternal life.

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PANCAKE BREAKFAST

PROCEEDS TO SUPPORT SACRED HEART PRESCHOOL

**Sunday, March 10, 2024**

**7:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.**

*Forum Lower Level of the Church*



### Menu

PANCAKES, SAUSAGE AND SCRAMBLED EGGS

*or*

BISCUITS AND SAUSAGE GRAVY

*or*

FRENCH TOAST AND BACON

ORANGE JUICE AND COFFEE

*INCLUDED WITH ALL THREE*

**ADULTS: \$8.00 | CHILD: \$5.00 | FAMILY: \$22.00**

WE GREATLY APPRECIATE THE PARISHIONERS  
WHO HAVE SUPPORTED US IN THE PAST  
AND WARMLY WELCOME NEW GUESTS.

# MINISTRIES

## CATECHESIS

### OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD:

Lisa Baynes ..... 828-445-3141

## HISPANIC MINISTRY:

Jimena Aragon ..... 928-445-3141

## OFFICE OF CATECHETICAL MINISTRY R.C.I.A., C.I.C., ADULT EDUCATION:

Muriel Rabideau ..... 928-445-3141

## FUNERALS:

Deacon Pete Balland ..... 928-925-1879

## YOUTH MINISTRY:

Amanda Cardenas ..... 928-445-3141

## BAPTISM MINISTRY:

Deacon Ernie Gonzales .... 928-246-2926

## LECTORS:

Deacon Ernie Gonzales .... 928-246-2926

## EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Shirley King ..... 928-445-8912

## ALTAR SERVERS:

Deacon Mark Weber..... 928-445-3141

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:

Dan Raiss, Grand Knight ..... 928-830-8925

Joe lungerman, Membership ..... 928-778-5727

## ST. VINCENT de PAUL:

Office 928-778-4585 Store 928-771-9696

## LEGION OF MARY:

Bonnie Wolff ..... 314-606-1702

## SPANISH LEGION OF MARY:

Catalina Snowden ..... 928-710-6633

## USHERS/GREETERS:

Ken Godbold ..... 928-771-8350

## MUSIC MINISTRY:

Doug McMurrin ..... 928-445-3141

## BEREAVEMENT

### GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP:

Bud & Carol Bevenour ..... 928-777-9040

## LIGHT OF THE WORLD:

Mike Daniel ..... 928-910-1506

## FUNERAL LUNCHEON MINISTRY:

Diane Anderson ..... 928-350-8062

## WALKING WITH MOMS:

Linda Wood ..... 520-403-1179

## LIFE CONNECTIONS

### PREGNANCY HELP CENTER:

Diane Duncan, Director ..... 928-227-3130

## SAFETY MINISTRY:

Anthony Weber ..... 928-301-0801

## THAT MAN IS YOU/CURSILLO:

Mike King ..... 928-925-3645

# Prayer Requests

*Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.*

Mark 11:24

May Willimann  
Gene Murphy  
DeeDee Quintero  
Cia Renzi  
Arthur Tabbot  
Gloria Tabbot  
Douglas Tabbot  
Angie Noble  
Daniel Shaughnessy  
Barbara Hillman  
Jean Brennan  
Dave Scheid  
Frank Diamond  
Regina Dougherty  
Francis X. Dougherty  
John Wilhelmsen  
Dorene Durlay  
Julie Walker  
Laura Walker  
Melanie Monteno  
Jesse Martinez  
Audrey Smith  
Leticia Valdez  
Ralph Valdez  
Delia Valdez  
Kristi Feeling  
Tim Kilbourne  
Patrick Kilbourne  
Kurt Anderson  
Midrelle Lanting  
Rowald Jahn  
Nanette McGrath  
Sunny Leong  
Misaki Cho Leong  
Earl Wilkening  
Cathy Wilkening  
Dan Hyra  
Kelley Ward  
Bill Muehl  
Mary White  
Delia Parker  
Dan Wegleitner  
Carolyn Hasty  
Richard Granillo

Tom Trask  
Frank Pew  
Keggan Kenny  
Camden Liu  
Steven Pedene  
Fr. Fred LeClaire,cmf  
Tim Wickers  
Erik Hoyer  
Cindy Kanelos  
Al Crook  
Jose Jaquez  
Susan Thomas  
Richard Thomas  
Sherry Valdez  
Barbara Frech  
M.A. Nesmith  
Marlina Perez  
B. Clair Denslow  
Frances Apolinar  
Avanna Ribtzki  
Les Henderson  
Shirley Henderson  
Jim Granecki  
Marlene Burnham  
Mary Polite  
Patricia Givan  
Barbara Davis  
Steve Sailor  
Seth Permenter  
Jaime Corona  
Joe Goff  
Bob Maresh  
Donna Bradshaw  
Tammy Rowland  
Anthony Andrade  
Linda Catalano  
Carl Minnick  
Beverly Thomas  
Ed Willimann  
Ewa Jones  
Gary Frank  
Esther Lee  
Adena Opitz  
Sarah Fernandez

Pete Fernandez III  
Rita Meurrens  
Sheila Solomon  
Malina Lambert  
Tony Charley  
Tara Todd  
The People of Haiti  
Edris Minnick  
Liam McLoughlin  
Bob Lee  
Patricia Reardon  
Gary Lightfoot  
Juan & Stella Mendez  
MJ Carey  
Dawn Gillet  
Angelica Baeza  
Joanna Booher  
Scott Booher  
Richard Karp  
Theresa C. Humphrey  
Joe Yuzzi  
Jan Mendoza  
Anissa Charley  
Michael Gatson  
Edith Ellington  
Becki Conrad  
Art Pope  
Griffin Keighron  
Tim Keighron  
Timothy Reynolds  
Tom Steckhahn  
Jeffrey Crummy  
Christina Helffrich  
Alastair MacDonald  
James Vaca  
John Eckert  
Rudy Núñez  
Candice Núñez  
Laura Brophy  
Madona Mawhinney  
Steve Han  
LaVonne Cooper  
Matt Brown  
Brian Walker

Elaine DeAugusta  
Joseph DeAugusta  
Michelle Zumbahlen  
Molina Lambert  
Ian Lambert  
Audri Marehand  
Annette Reddick  
David Reddick  
Scott Booher  
Christina Young Rehs  
Doug Hamm  
Joann Hamm  
Paula Mathias  
Sr. Anne Fitzsimons  
Anthony Ehnann  
Elizabeth Jacobs  
The Boyd Family  
Linda Laguatan  
Tony Palumbo  
Lori French  
Karin Marsala  
Gerard Huppe  
Cole Slaiding  
Jacob Smith  
Donna Groff  
Lisa West  
Joyce Zembek  
Gloria Gilliam  
Patricia Givan  
Coralyn Mena  
Sharon Bergeron  
Grace Cook  
Colleen Cristea  
Gabriel Perry  
Patricia Ayers  
Cynthia Aurzada  
Denise Jackson  
Tiffany Cambell Garcia  
Clemencia Bernardino  
Evangeline Laguatan  
Urbano Laguatan  
Yolanda Van Haren  
Paula Tanzini  
Francine Sandoval

Rose Anne Ditzig  
Brenda Saves  
Angel Baker  
William R. Salazar Jr.  
Remington Claudt  
Michelle Frank  
Joe & Carole Childs  
Janice Bartholomew  
Richard Petzoldt  
Willa Johnson  
Carolyn Brindeiro  
Bill Newman  
Steve Stelter  
Adam & Taylor Hansen  
Kathy Kirkpatrick  
Yolanda Kersting  
Ann Fountain  
Julie Newman  
Heidi Tate  
Cecilia Thornton  
Rebecca Hamilton  
Michael Liversidge, Sr.  
Colleen Mellies  
Steven Holcomb  
Kellene Monahan  
Jerry Welna  
Narancic Family  
Barbara  
Mary Ann Wagner  
Nancee Kilbourne  
Chris Huppe  
Blaine Rieger  
Leanne DeFere  
Rosanne Wartella  
David Cicon  
Dan MacIndoe  
Carolyn  
Kenneth Roger  
Morgan Sailor  
Deborah Portzer  
Rose Forte  
Austin & Grace Klise

## Eucharist Miracles Exhibition

The Vatican International Exhibition of Eucharistic Miracles  
is coming to St Catherine Laboure Church in Chino Valley

The event will be held:

**Friday, April 26 from 9am to 5pm | Saturday, April 27 from 9am to 7pm**

**Sunday, April 28 from 8am to 3pm.**

The Exhibition is an extensive collection of photographs and historical records,  
presenting a sampling of Ancient and Modern Eucharistic Miracles  
that have taken place in various parts of the world.

All the miracles in the exhibition are Church approved.

The exhibition has been to more than 500 parishes in Italy,  
and is currently traveling around the world.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Roxanne Speer at 619-820-9679



## Easter Flower Dedications



Honor and remember loved ones with Easter Flowers and help us beautify our church.

Orders taken now through Thursday March 21.

Your loved one's name will appear in our *Honor and Remember Easter List* in the bulletin, Flocknotes and information table. To place your order, complete the form below and return it to the Parish Office. Or place in the offertory basket (in an envelope).

Suggested Donation is \$10 per plant.

## WOMEN'S CIRCLE DAY OF *SpiritualiTEA*

SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY, APRIL 6  
FORUM  
9 AM - 3 PM

MORE INFORMATION  
TO COME

## HEALING AND ANOINTING MASS SATURDAY, MARCH 16 11:00 AM

### REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

NORTHERN ARIZONA  
EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL CONFERENCE  
AT SACRED HEART PARISH

SATURDAY, JUNE 29 FROM 8AM-4PM

Register by May 31

Go to

[www.sacredheartprescott.com/  
eucharistic-congress-registration/](http://www.sacredheartprescott.com/eucharistic-congress-registration/)

Use the QR Code  
or come to the  
Parish Office to fill out  
a registration form.



We look forward to seeing you and so does our Lord!

### SACRED HEART YOUTH MINISTRY

invites you to our annual

### Shrimp Ceviche Fundraiser Dinner

Friday, March 22 | 6-8pm

Forum downstairs level of the Church

\$12 Meal includes:

Ceviche with Tostada | Chips

Mexican Street Corn | Agua Fresca Drink

### Parish Organist/Pianist Search

St. Catherine Laboure Church in Chino Valley AZ is searching for a music minister (organist/pianist) preferably a practicing Catholic who is familiar with Church liturgical music. The ministry starts in June of this year and includes providing accompaniment for the congregation's singing at the 5:00pm Saturday evening Mass, accompaniment for choir and congregational singing at the 9:00am Sunday Mass and at Feast Day Masses, as well as directing the practice of the choir Wednesday evening and before the 9:00am Mass on Sunday. Interested applicants may contact:

Father Ralph Berg (928) 227-4598 or [bergcmf@gmail.com](mailto:bergcmf@gmail.com).



### Community Dental Clinic of St. Vincent de Paul, Prescott, AZ



Providing essential dental care for uninsured & low-income adults, who lack the means to obtain such. Our licensed dental professionals provide treatment to heal those who are most in need, restoring their overall health, hope & dignity.



Learn more about our dental services, volunteer opportunities, and how you can make a difference with your gift of any amount or make a 2023/24 AZ QCO Tax Credit Donation of up to \$421 Individual, \$841 MFJ. QCO#20540  
Donate online at [www.PrescottSVdPCommunityDentalClinic.org](http://www.PrescottSVdPCommunityDentalClinic.org)

OR

Make your check payable/mail to:  
SVdP District 10 Community Dental Clinic  
P.O. Box 26253 Prescott Valley, AZ 86312



Tax Deductible 501(c)(3) Charity Exempt  
ARS 42-5061(a)(25)(e) EIN#86-00096789



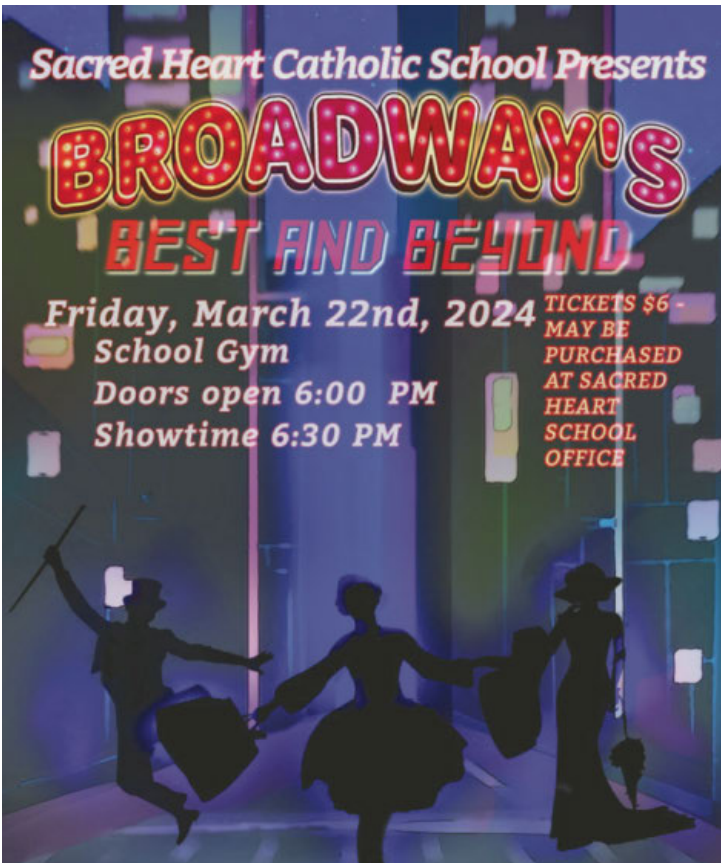


# ENCOUNTER NIGHT

## Hearing His Call

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13  
6:00 PM  
CHURCH

GUEST SPEAKER  
JIM WREN

Sacred Heart Catholic School Presents

# BROADWAY'S BEST AND BEYOND

Friday, March 22nd, 2024  
School Gym  
Doors open 6:00 PM  
Showtime 6:30 PM

TICKETS \$6 - MAY BE PURCHASED AT SACRED HEART SCHOOL OFFICE



### St. Vincent de Paul

#### Easter Food Box Distribution

The St. Vincent de Paul conference would like to thank Sacred Heart Parishioners for their generous food and monetary donations throughout the year. This year the Easter Food Box Distribution will occur on Wednesday March 27<sup>th</sup>.

To assemble the Easter Food boxes, we are asking for the following items by March 25th:

- Canned yams
- Canned pineapple slices
- Scalloped potatoes (boxed)



*Please drop off non-perishable items in food boxes located outside church entrances.*

We also are asking for:

- Boneless baked hams, 3-5 lb. (football size) by March 21<sup>st</sup>

*Please drop hams off at SVDP Thrift Shop at 935 Fair Street*

*(Tues-Fri, 9am-5pm, Sat 10am-5pm)*

*or at the SVDP office at 120 N. Summit Avenue*

*(Mon, Tues, Thurs 9am-1:30pm, Wed 12-3:30pm)*

Monetary donations are accepted using the envelopes attached to the parish food donation boxes. With your help, we hope to serve over 100 Prescott families this Easter.

God bless you and thank you for your generosity.



### Precious Blood Adoration Chapel

Call Buttons Forte, Coordinator  
(602) 574-8242

#### HOURS NEEDED

Friday 2-3pm  
Saturday 5-6am

Sunday 4-5am

### SPECIAL COLLECTION

This week we take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection to reveal Christ's love to our brothers and sisters in need. This collection makes grants to six Catholic agencies that provide relief and support for struggling communities and work for peace and reconciliation among our marginalized brothers and sisters, both here and around the world. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection. Learn more about the collection at [www.usccb.org/catholic-relief](http://www.usccb.org/catholic-relief). You can donate online or with your offertory envelope. Envelopes will also be available at both entrances to the church.





### **Walking Through the Mass – Silent, Humble, Contrite | By Fr. Luke Spannagel**

As we continue our walk through the **Offertory** of the Mass, have you ever noticed that sometimes the priest is saying something you can't hear (or can barely hear)? As we have reflected on previously, there are moments in the Mass—such as before proclaiming the Gospel—where the priest prays a prayer silently or quietly. These prayers are to prepare the priests (or deacons) for what comes next; they provide a moment of reflection for the priest and open his heart. Another one of these quiet prayers happens after the offering of bread and wine during the Offertory.

#### **We offer ourselves . . .**

After placing the bread and wine on the altar, the priest bows and says quietly, “With humble spirit and contrite heart may we be accepted by you, O Lord, and may our sacrifice in your sight this day be pleasing to you, Lord God.” As the Diocese of Peoria explains, “In this prayer, the priest silently speaks in his own name and on behalf of all the faithful, asking that God accept the sacrifice and find us in humility and contrition” (*A Study of the Mass*, p. 12). The priest acknowledges the truth about how much we need God and that we at times fall short of living up to his standards. With that mindset, the priest is asking God to accept us and the sacrifice as we are, not faulty Christians who have given up and thrown in the towel, but honest Christians who admit our shortcomings and yet strive toward that perfection to which God calls us. Reflecting on this prayer, Edward Sri invites us: “Notice how the sacrifice envisioned in this prayer is not some *thing* being offered to God, like bread and wine, but the people assembled: ‘May we be accepted by you...’ This theme, as well as the mention of a humble spirit and contrite heart, recalls the petition of the three Hebrew men thrown in the fiery furnace in Daniel [Chapter 3]” (*A Biblical Walk Through the Mass*, p. 90). If you have read this interesting story, you know that these three faithful men would not worship a false image made of gold by King Nebuchadnezzar. As punishment, they were thrown into a burning furnace, heated seven times more than normal. Instead of burning, the three men walked around unharmed and began singing a long hymn of praise to God. This hymn praises God for his goodness, recalls the many blessings he has given to his people, and then asks every part of creation to sing praise to God. Just before this last part, the three men say to God that they offer all they have (which is themselves) and ask him to accept them as if they were providing the best offering one could imagine (tens of thousands of rams, bulls, and fat lambs).

#### **. . . and receive God himself.**

Our prayer in the Mass, which echoes the prayer of the three faithful men, works in a very similar way. We have just said to God that we offer him the gifts of bread and wine, which are not much even by human standards. Along with the bread and wine, we have ourselves to offer, and we all know that sometimes we are not very worthy offerings to God either. Yet, we ask God to accept what we offer as if it were good and pleasing to him. And what is God's response? For the last 2000 years of Masses, no matter how big or small the congregation, no matter how strong or how weak their faith, no matter how worthy (or unworthy) we think our offerings are, God accepts them. As if that weren't enough, God in his love and generosity does something unbelievable with our meager offerings. He changes them into the very Body and Blood of Jesus Christ! God accepts the bread and wine from us and gives us back the gift of himself! What a generous exchange! What a great God we have!



### Upcoming Events

School Mass  
Wednesdays at  
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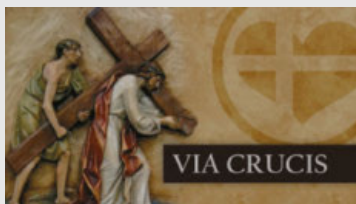
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**Les esperamos**



La oficina Hispana estará cerrada  
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lunes 18 del mismo mes.

### NUESTRA DECLARACIÓN DE LA MISIÓN

*Ser el ejemplo vivo del amor de Dios para los otros.*

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- Originario de India, termino sus estudios en Filosofía, Teología y Consejería Espiritual.
- ♦ Ha sido Director de Pastoral Juvenil y Vocacional.
- ♦ Sirviendo a Inmigrantes, asiáticos y africanos.
- ♦ Actualmente es parte del Consejo Provincial Claretiano.
- Su pasión es Servir a Dios, Inmigrantes Hispanos y a los pobres con amor y alegría.

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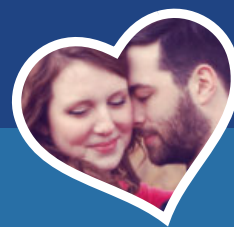
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