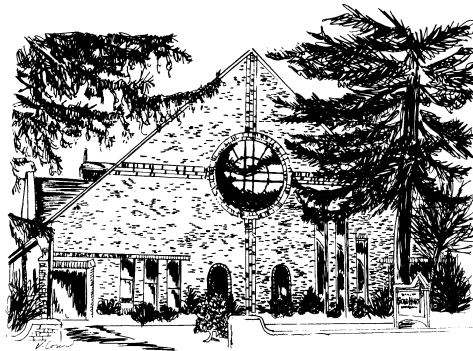


Sacred Heart Church



260 High Street, Mount Holly, NJ 08060-1404

Telephone: 609-267-0209 • FAX: 609-267-9293 • Website: www.parishofsacredheart.org

Office Hours: Mon. - Sat. 9:00am - 5:00pm (Closed for Lunch 12:00pm-1:00pm)

Evening Office Hours: Mon. - Fri. 6:00pm - 9:00pm • Sunday 8:30am - 1:00pm

Mass Schedule

Saturday: 4:30pm (Vigil)

Sunday: 7:30am, 9:30am, 11:30am & 7:00pm

Weekday: Mon.-Fri. 7:00am & 8:30am

Saturday: 8:30am

Confessions

Saturday: 3:30pm - 4:00pm

(Reconciliation Rooms are to the right of the Eucharistic Chapel)

Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. John P. Czahur ext. 308

Parochial Vicar: Rev. Roberto Padilla
Residence: Christ The Redeemer Church
113 South Avenue, Mt. Holly
(609) 261-0181

Deacons: Deacon Jim Casa
fisherking13@comcast.net
Deacon John Hoefling
Deacon Stan Orkis
Deacon William Rowley

Parish Secretary: Mrs. Michele O'Toole ext. 301
secretary@parishofsacredheart.org

Business Manager: Mrs. Deneen Thomas ext. 303

Cemetery Manager: Mrs. Paula Pietrow ext. 304
cemeterymgr@parishofsacredheart.org

Pastoral Administrator: Mrs. Marge McGinley ext. 306
mcginley@parishofsacredheart.org

Asst. to Pastoral Admin.: Ms. Merry Marcellino ext. 305
ministry@parishofsacredheart.org

Parish Maintenance Mr. Jason D'Entremont ext. 319
jasontmd@parishofsacredheart.org

Sacred Heart School

250 High Street, Mount Holly, NJ 08060

Telephone: 609-267-1728

Email: schooloffice@sacred-heart-school.org

Website: www.sacred-heart-school.org

Principal: Ms. Kathryn Besheer ext. 340

Admin. Assist. Margo Lihvarcik ext. 316

Sacred Heart Religious Education

Telephone: 609-267-6319

Email: rel.ed@parishofsacredheart.org

Director of Rel. Ed: Mrs. Jessica Donohue ext. 307

Admin. Assistant: Mrs. Amy Raimondi ext. 324

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs. 9:00am – 2:00pm

Fall Program Class Times

Grades 1st - 8th Tuesday: 5:30pm to 6:45pm

Grades 1st - 8th Wednesday: 5:30pm to 6:45pm

March 11 – March 12 2017
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Parish Registration

Our Parish family warmly welcomes new members. Please register at your earliest convenience by stopping by the Parish House during the office hours.

The Sacrament of Baptism

We welcome new life into the Church through the sacramental sign of Baptism which is celebrated **every Sunday of the month at 1:00pm** with the exception of Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. We encourage parents who wish to have their child baptized to call the Parish Secretary, Michele O'Toole, at 609-702-1848 ext. 301 or stop in and pick up a Baptism packet.

Once the Baptismal Preparation class is attended, the form completed and the Godparent Eligibility Certificates are turned in then a date for your child's Baptism will be set.

Baptismal Preparation

Catholic Godparents are required to complete an Eligibility Certificate and have the certificates signed by the pastor of the parish where they are currently registered and practicing their faith.

We offer a Baptismal Prep Class for parents as a way of preparing them for their child's journey of faith. Classes are scheduled for the first Wednesday of every month at 7:30pm. Please contact the Parish Secretary to register.

Sacramental Sponsorship Letter

This is a form required to be a Godparent or Sponsor for Baptism or Confirmation. To receive this form the following requirements must be met:

- If married, be in a valid marriage according to the laws of the Catholic Church.
- Be at least 16 years of age.
- Completed the Sacraments of Initiation; Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation
- Be a registered, active participant of a Parish.

The Sacrament of Marriage

Couples wishing to celebrate and consecrate their love in the Sacrament of Marriage are asked to call the Parish Secretary, Michele O'Toole at 609-702-1848 ext. 301.

Arrangements are to be made with the Pastor a year in advance of the requested date. At least one person should be a registered member of the parish. All couples are required to attend preparation sessions.

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

Any Catholic who is seriously ill, advanced in age, or who feels the need for the comforting presence of the Church's sacramental prayer life may be anointed. Please contact the Parish Office at 609-702-1848 ext. 301 during office hours. In the case of an emergency, please call and follow the instructions listed on our telephone message.

Funerals

In all cases, the family of the deceased parishioner should contact the funeral home directly. They will contact the Church to make further arrangements. For information regarding our Parish Cemetery, please call the Cemetery Office at 609-702-1848 ext 304

Care of the Sick, Homebound and Elderly:

The sick, the homebound and the elderly are valued members of our parish. Please call the Parish House at 609-267-0209 ext. 305 for a visit.

Bulletin Articles

Articles for the Bulletin need to be submitted **No Later than Friday** to appear the next weekend (**9 days prior**). Articles can be emailed to

bulletins@parishofsacredheart.org

March 11 – March 12 2017
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

MASSES FOR THE WEEK
March 13th - March 19th

MONDAY

7:00am **Brian Berg** Req. By The Redder
Family

8:30am **The Special Intentions of Gail Reilly**
Req. By The Altar Rosary Society

TUESDAY

7:00am **Johanna Barbara Nomejko** Req. By
Kristine Conley

8:30am **Angel Aponte** Req. By Sacred Heart
Parish House Staff

WEDNESDAY

7:00am **Stanley Kiczek** Req. By Eliza
Fraczkowski

8:30am **Josephine Muller** Req. By Madeline
Loffredo

THURSDAY

7:00am **Marlane DeMara** Req. By Jeff &
Teresa Redder

8:30am **Josephine Muller** Req. By Eileen &
Jim Lamarca

FRIDAY

7:00am **James Day** Req. By The Panzitta
Family

8:30am **Vincent C. Fynan, Sr.** Req. By The
Clothier Family

SATURDAY

8:30AM **Stanley Kiczek** Req. By Nancy Reid

4:30pm **Charles Fernandes** Req. By Allwyn &
Sandra Mascarenhas

SUNDAY

7:30am **Rose Marie Gillis** Req. By Dave &
Rita Gillis

9:30am **Lucy Insalaco** Req. By Tom &
Barbara Fox and Family

11:30am **Nick J. Milazzo** Req. By Ed & Marge
McGinley

7:00pm **The People of the Parish**

*The Devotional Candle in the
Chapel of the Two Hearts*



*Will Burn for the Special Intentions of:
Eliza Peña*

Eucharistic Adoration – Come and spend time in the quiet with Our Lord in the Chapel of the Two Hearts located next to the Parish House. Our Chapel is open for you and Jesus to spend some time during the following hours:
Monday through Friday 9:00am to 8:30pm
Saturday 9:00am to noon.

Readings for the Week

Monday: Dn 9:4b-10; Lk 6:36-38

Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20; Mt 23:1-12

Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20; Mt 20:17-28

Thursday: Jer 17:5-10; Lk 16:19-31

Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a; 17b-28a;
Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Sunday: Ex 17:3-7; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42 (5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42)

SUNDAY OFFERING

Weekly 3/4 – 3/5 \$ 15, 220.86

**Special Collection for Black & Native
American \$ 1, 471.00**

*Thank you for the faithful and generous support that
you continue to give to our Church.*

Banns of Marriage



II Brittany Gazelle & Robert Gray

March 3, 2017

by Bishop David M. O'Connell, C.M.

There are very few days in the Church year for penitential abstinence from meat as a sacrifice. It is serious enough an obligation as to be listed as one of the "Precepts of the Church."

I am happy this year to give a dispensation from the Lenten abstinence requirement for those attending a St. Patrick's Day celebration in a parish or other Catholic organization, but ask our Catholics attending that dinner/event to transfer the Lenten abstinence sacrifice to Thursday, March 16.

Respectfully yours in the Lord,
Most Reverend David M. O'Connell, C.M., J.C.D.
Bishop of Trenton

March 11 – March 12 2017
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

THE SEASON OF LENT

During the holy season of Lent, from Ash Wednesday, March 1st, to Holy Thursday, April 13th, you are strongly encouraged to participate in Mass and receive Holy Communion, to receive the Sacrament of Penance, to attend Lenten devotions and the Stations of the Cross, to read the Scriptures prayerfully, and to perform acts of self-denial and works of mercy.

PRAYER:

Daily Mass is celebrated at 7am & 8:30am. Weekend Mass and Confession times can be found on the front of the bulletin.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena is held every Wednesday at 7:15pm in the chapel. Stations of the Cross are held at 4pm & 7pm every Friday during the Lenten Season. Eucharistic Adoration is Monday through Friday from 9am to 9pm in the Parish House Chapel.

FASTING:

The days of fast and abstinence are ASH WEDNESDAY AND GOOD FRIDAY.

The other Fridays of Lent are DAYS OF ABSTINENCE.

ALMSGIVING:

Give of your time, talent and treasure. Donations of canned or boxed food to the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry can be made by placing the items in the collection bins in the vestibule of the church. Monetary donations are accepted at the Parish House or you may mail them to The Saint Vincent de Paul Society.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays during Lent Stations of the Cross will be held at 4:00pm and 7:00pm in the Church.
LENTEN COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE
MONDAY, April 3rd at 7:00pm

Following a brief prayer service and examination of conscience, priests from around the region will be available to hear private confessions.

A general absolution will not be given.

Please remember in your prayers:

Connie Vazquez, Vinnie Vazquez-Garcia, Paisley Trojanowski, Bobby Sumanga, Freddie J. Faber, III, Megan Dezur, Matthew Ottenwess, Talia Rosko, Lenore Scatuorchio, Kristal Faber, Alice Farkas, Justin Beckett, Robert Lally, Tonya DeMaio, Olga Aponte, McKenzie Hunter, Gail Reilly, Alva Marino, Paul J. Marcinko, Fred Zimmer, Wayne Potts, Stephanie Martin, Pat Adornetto, Corey Kaiser, Baby Stella Grundahl, Rebecca Bozarth, Matthew Wernoch, Kay Weiss, Maria Wolfe, Casey Davitt, Fredrick Naphys, Margaret Brock, Herbert Cucchini, Daniel Toussaint, Baby Zoey Reed, Mason Damico, Lynn Kellogg, David McCoy, Lois Pedrick, John Rubino, George Sampson, Evan Martinez, Trey Nieves, Gisela Harrell, Camila Doris Perez, Annabelle Ochipinti, Loretta Minakee, Patricia Parker, Jane Ciletti, Sabrina Kaiser, Wilma Peterson, Christine, Morgan Ackerman, Celeste Bunn, Tom Polinski, Raymond Bishop, Jenny Hand, Patricia O'Connor, George Schneider, Marie Donahue, Peggy Stewart, Dylan Crespo, Doris Gallo, Sharon Carroll, Teddy Smith, Arthur Netti, Clara Hynes, Don Hartman, Mary Hartman, Daniel DeMaio, Frank Anton, Michelle Schafle Reed,

As a parish family we remember all who are struggling or suffering in mind, body, or spirit, especially those who have requested our prayers.

Please pray for the men and women now serving in the military, especially the loved ones of our parishioners who are serving overseas:

L.Cpl. Noah Stimiloski U.S.M.C.
Capt. Robert J. Boccio, U.S.A.F
Michael Bakker, Isaac Paredes
Douglas Schwenck, Army Reserve
Richard DeLorge U.S.M.C
Peter Liedman, Dorinia Dibuono
Capt. James Rankin U.S.M.C
SSgt Daniel E. Naro, Sgt. Alison Lyport
Sgt. Stephanie Robertson, U.S. Army
Sgt. Russell Norton, NG Army
Cpl. Marshall Norton, U.S.M.C
Corporal Maxwell Hughes, U.S.M.C
Lt. Matthew Carr, U.S.M.C
Lt. Victoria Holbert, U.S.M.C

March 11 – March 12 2017
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

SERRA VOCATION PRAYER CHALICE



Confirmation 2017

Confirmation will be celebrated here at
Sacred Heart on
March 30, 2017
Very Reverend Phillip C. Pflieger, E.V.
Will preside

SAVE THE DATE!

Mass of Thanksgiving for Marge McGinley, our Pastoral Administrator and for the gift she has been to all of us over these last 26 years on **Sunday, June 4th at 3:00pm followed by dinner in the auditorium.** She will be retiring at the end of May. All are invited! You may drop off your well wishes or email them to Merry and also if you wish to RSVP please email Merry at ministry@parishofsacredheart.org or call 609-267-0209 x 305. You can also go to our bulletin on the website <http://parishofsacredheart.org> and click on the Save the Date link to RSVP.

Blue Mass

Join the Diocese of Trenton at our 18th annual diocesan Mass in Celebration of Law Enforcement celebrating the dedication of these men and women who, by serving in various agencies of law enforcement, sacrifice a great deal to provide for the safety of our communities.

Date: Tuesday, April 18, 2017

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Location: Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption
151 N. Warren & Perry Street
Trenton, New Jersey

For information, visit www.bluemass.org.



CHRIST SPOKE OF THE TALENTS each one of us has, talents which must not be buried. Our calling is to take those talents, develop them fully, and then use them in establishing His kingdom on earth. Are you using your talents to fulfill your vocation to service? Are you an active Christian in the parish, at your workplace, and in the home? Take some time today to reflect on how you might use your special talents in the service of the Kingdom.

Thank you for praying for vocations.

To learn more about the Vocation Prayer Chalice, please call Ann (609)-267-5836

CEMETERY NEWS



St. Patrick's Day decorations may be placed one week prior to the holiday and must be removed two weeks after the holiday.

Please call Paula Pietrow, Cemetery Manager, at 609-267-0209 x 304 if you have any questions.

The Altar Rosary Society needs a few extra hands – Perhaps you have heard the saying, “Many hands make light the work.” Well, there are many small altar linens that are used at our Masses. These linens are ironed so they look neat and clean during our Masses and there are many volunteers that make that happen. Turn on a good TV show, put up the ironing board and the iron and before you know it, you’ve ironed enough cloths for the week. We could use your help as little as once a month. For more details please call Carol Ward at (609)267-4811. Your Church family needs you!

March 11 – March 12 2017
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT



Our help-The Strength that Comes
from God

The reading from Genesis today is an amazing event of a God engaging in a constructive relationship with a human being, a God who makes a covenant with a human being. This is the God of Abram who has become Abraham, the father of a host of nations. In Abraham we have a model of obedience and trust in God.

Moses and Elijah appear at the Transfiguration of Jesus. We have a glimpse into another world. Peter, James, and John behold Jesus' real nature as Messiah and "the fulfillment of the Law and the Prophets."

Paul's Letter to Timothy speaks of bearing hardships for the Gospel. An appropriate response for us is to have a grateful heart that does good things with sincerity.

The SVDP Pantry is in need of the following:

Macaroni and Cheese, Canned Soup, Canned Fruit, Baked Beans, Tuna, and Canned Vegetables.

If you would like to make a monetary donation please make checks payable to:

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT de PAUL
Thank you!

FEDERAL DONOR RECORDKEEPING RULE ON CHARITABLE DEDUCTION

The Pension Protection Act of 2006 included a section relative to charitable deductions. The rules require that people claiming charitable deduction back up those deduction claims with cancelled checks; records from banks or credit card companies; or written notices from the charity or not-for-profit institution. The burden is on the donor to maintain or obtain the required records.

The parish will provide a record of contributions, upon request, which will satisfy the IRS requirements. Contributions of cash can only be used as a deduction if church envelopes are used enabling the parish to identify the donor. Please call **Deneen Thomas at 609-267-0209 ext. 303** or e-mail accountant@parishofsacredheart.org

**PARISH
CHICKEN DINNER**

Saturday, April 1st at 6pm
In the Sacred Heart Auditorium



Dinner includes: salad, Sweet Potato Crusted Chicken, Herb Roasted Chicken Breast, Oven Roasted Potato Medley, Roasted Winter Vegetable Medley, rolls, beverage and dessert.

Catering by: Mirabella's

Price is \$13 per person, children under 6 are free

If you are attending, please call the Parish House at 609-702-1848 ext. 488 or by email bcurtis@HIG.net

Please give us your name, the number of people in your party, and the number of children under the age of 6.

We need volunteers. If you are able to help, please use the contact information above.

OUR PROMISE TO PROTECT The Diocese of Trenton is committed to the initiatives outlined in the U.S. Bishops' Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People in regard to the reporting and investigation of sexual abuse allegations involving minors. If you have been sexually abused as a minor by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church, or if you know of someone who was, you can report that abuse through the diocesan Abuse Hotline: 1-888-296-2965 or via e-mail at abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org The Diocese of Trenton reports any allegations of sexual abuse to the appropriate law enforcement agencies. Anyone with an allegation is also encouraged to provide that information to local law enforcement authorities.

March 11 – March 12 2017
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

The Knights of Columbus

SAVE THE DATE

**March 26, 2017 @ 3 P.M. In the Auditorium
Benefit Concert to assist in the Paving the
Parking Lot Fund**

Come out to an Afternoon of Celtic Maritime and Traditional American music with the one and only *Charlie Zahm* and accompanying him will be the violin virtuoso *Tad Marks*.

A free will offering will take the place of a traditional set price. All proceeds will go to help fund the Sacred Heart parking lot

Annulment Information Sessions

For many people, the process of marriage annulment is very mysterious, often accompanied by considerable misinformation. In order to dispel misconceptions, the diocese sponsors ***Annulment Information Sessions*** annually in parishes within each county of the diocese. For more information, call 609 406-7434 or e-mail moore@dioceseoftrenton.org.

Join St. Paul Street Evangelization

“The moment has come to commit all of the Church’s energies to a new evangelization.” (Saint John Paul II)
St Paul Street Evangelization is a grassroots, nonprofit Catholic evangelization organization, dedicated to responding to the mandate of Jesus to preach the Gospel to all nations by taking our Catholic faith to the streets. As an on-the-street Catholic evangelization organization, St Paul Street Evangelization provides a non-confrontational avenue for you to share Jesus Christ and the truth and beauty of the Catholic Faith with a hungry culture. Contact Team Leader Pete Bender at pbender2171@gmail.com or call 609-832-2191 about joining a team already operating in the local area.

The Knights of Columbus Raffle Tickets to assist the Seminarians of the Trenton Diocese can still be obtained through members of the council or by contacting Dan Fox Grand Knight 609-261-8257. The Grand Prize is a \$5000 Vacation Gift Card. Drawing is on June 16, 2017

**Sacred Heart School PTA
St. Patrick's Day**



**9th Annual BEEF & BEER MARCH 18 - 7pm
in the Auditorium**

Beer, Wine, DJ, Dinner and Dancing!

***No one under 21 yrs. of age permitted*
\$30 a ticket**

Tickets must be purchased in advance!

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

of Tickets: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

Table of 10?

Table

Name: _____

Questions: kelly.trojanowski@comcast.net
or call (609) 784-8575

Reader Training for Mass

Did you ever think about proclaiming the Word of God as a Reader at our Masses? Lent is a great time to think and pray about an invitation to become more involved in the parish. We will hold a workshop for those who might be interested in becoming a liturgical Reader on Monday, March 20th at 7:00pm in the Church. For more information or to register for the workshop, please contact Marge McGinley at mcginley@parishofsacredheart.org or (609) 267-0209, ext. 306.

March 11 – March 12 2017
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT



Offerings at Francis House of Prayer

Trenton Diocesan Spiritual Center
Box 392 • Rancocas, NJ 08073
609-877-0509 or FHOP@verizon.net

Please check www.FHOP.org for directions and for our other offerings!

**FINDING GOD
IN TIMES OF LONELINESS**

Despite the apparent connectedness of our technological culture, loneliness seems more prevalent and pervasive than ever. With the help of Ronald Rolheiser's book, *The Restless Heart*, we will explore the causes of loneliness, and the life-giving opportunities loneliness presents for deepening our relationships with God, ourselves and others.

Date: Friday, March 17
Time: 9:30 AM – 1:00 PM
Donation: \$20, includes lunch & materials
Presenter: Judy Principe

**MADE IN THE IMAGE AND LIKENESS OF
GOD BECOMING WHO YOU ARE!**

God's desire is always for our healing and wholeness. Perhaps the gift of God for you this Lent is God's healing of what you think and how you feel about yourself. I suppose we all need a little repair work in this department. Only God knows the truth of who we are. Only God loves us as we are, knowing the whole truth. Come, experience God's personal, unconditional, unique and passionate love for you. God's love is the healing we all need to become who God made us to be. Make it a Lenten gift to yourself.

Date: Wednesday, March 22
Time: 9:30 AM – 1:00 PM
Donation: \$20, includes lunch

**THE LOVING-KINDNESS
PRAYER**

THE ASCETICISM OF COMPASSION

All the asceticism we need lies in the true love of neighbor. The Loving-Kindness Prayer fills us with compassion for ourselves first and with all others. Sprinkle this Easter Season with the love of Jesus

Risen. Let the risen Jesus in you reach out with love and compassion to all others. Like all prayer, this prayer is life-changing.

Date: Thursday, March 23
Time: 9:30 AM – 1:00 PM
Donation: \$20, includes lunch and materials

To register, call 609-877-0509. Please check www.FHOP.org for our other offerings!

Have Mercy on Us – a Volunteer Opportunity!

Did you know that a large number of incarcerated people actually suffer from a mental health disorder. Once on appropriate medication, these offenders come to understand appropriate behavior and can re-enter our society as well-balanced persons. The problem that has existed for a long time is that people being released from prison are usually without medical insurance. So they become well-balanced in prison and upon release are off their medications. This system doomed to defeat must be corrected.

That is where the Burlington County Council of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul needs your help. We have been able to form a collaborative agreement with many groups (Board of Chosen Freeholders, County Social Services, Jail/Prison administration etc.) to work together so that an offender being discharged has the medical care that they need to help prevent this avenue of reoccurring imprisonment. When someone has to go to jail to get medical care there is something terribly wrong. If you would be able to volunteer one day a month – a Wednesday – from 1pm to 3pm – to assist offenders to fill out Medicaid forms please continue to read this!!! You would have to be a person of a clean criminal history and be willing to be present in an all-purpose room in the jail or prison. You would go through an orientation so that you would have a comfort level prior to the beginning of this volunteer activity. This is a secure environment so you will not be at risk. Still interested? Did you feel that n.u.d.g.e. (Notice the Urge to Do Good on this Earth)? Call Marge McGinley at (609)271-8310 or svdpmcginley@gmail.com.

March 11 – March 12 2017
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Living the Good News Today

“I will make of you a great nation.”

When our oldest daughter was an active duty Army nurse, she met our son-in-law (active duty Marine) on a deployment to the Republic of Georgia. After their tour, both of them wanted to deepen their relationship, but they faced more challenges than the average couple: geographical separation, different branches of the service, and real world threats. While their relationship was blossoming shortly after 9/11, my son-in-law was sent to Afghanistan. As a token of his affection for my daughter (and his home team, not hers), he sent her two major league baseball tickets to watch the Boston Red Sox play the Baltimore Orioles in Camden Yards stadium. After I agreed to accompany my daughter to this weekday afternoon game, I gained a new appreciation for “Red Sox Nation,” who appeared to have more fans in the stadium than the Orioles!

This weekend’s first reading from the Book of Genesis reminded me of this game so vividly. As God is asking Abram (later, Abraham) to leave his familiar surroundings and his father’s house to go to someplace that God has not yet revealed to him, God promises Abram, *“I will make of you a great nation.”* We know from later Scripture readings that God would compare Abraham’s descendants to be as numerous as the grains of sand on a beach or the stars in the night skies. Too many to count! Boston teams (Patriots, too) have yet to get where Abram did. ☺

After attending Mass on the weekend, we should be energized by the readings and delight in sharing with others what effect they have had on us. Having been asked to be an RCIA sponsor for a high school-aged catechumen preparing to enter the Church at the Easter Vigil this year, I remembered the questions that he has asked in our meetings to date and the natural curiosity that he has about God. Listening carefully to his questions, I found myself savoring what had been passed on to me by my grandparents, family, parish, and teachers as I grew up. My catechumen had never had that experience. Perhaps during this Lenten journey, all of us may have the opportunity to wonder with gratitude at the grace and blessing of our faith that can be framed by what others are wondering. I will share some of the catechumen’s questions:

• **Was Jesus Jewish?** This question arose during a larger overview of religious denominations within Christianity and what distinguished our Catholic faith. The answer to his question was *“Yes, Jesus most certainly is Jewish”* and the full revelation of God’s love and glory to His chosen people. To help him understand, I made a little family tree for him that started with Abraham, who

is the ancestor of three great world religions: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam (mentioned by name in the sacred texts of all three religions). During our animated discussion about Abraham, we spoke about how Abraham could never comprehend what his “great nation” would resemble in future generations (2017), when more than half of the world’s 7.3 billion people belong to one of those religions!

• **Can I choose “Elijah” for my confirmation name?** This question required us to take time to understand why Christians choose a confirmation name. Because he had such a limited faith experience, he had little or no knowledge of the saints who are remembered by the Church, but he did remember the heroes he had already met in the Scriptures, such as Elijah, Daniel, and Jeremiah. As I read this weekend’s Scriptures readings, I found myself wondering how the catechumen will connect to Elijah appearing with Moses during the transfiguration of Jesus on Mount Tabor.

• **Did Jesus know Elijah?** When he asked this question, it reminded me of my reaction to watching the recent sci-fi movie “Arrival,” which had been nominated for several Academy Awards. The movie captured the challenges of communication with an alien life form that did not define time in linear terms. Our God (“I AM”) has no starting or end point. As the second person of the Holy Trinity, Jesus most certainly knew Elijah! The catechumen gained insight into the awesome mystery of God. In other Gospel accounts of Jesus’ preaching about His prior intimacy with Moses and Elijah, the Pharisees could not accept it in their limited human/linear way of thinking. It takes faith.

• **Will I see angels or the saints?** Having heard the Gospel story about the temptation of Jesus in the desert two times (parish and cathedral) because of his Rite of Election, he wondered if a person could see angels or saints. This was such an excellent opportunity to talk with him about Psalm 91 and how God has given each of us a guardian angel to protect us always. As his awareness of the communion of saints grows prior to his baptism, he is so transformed, as seen in his smiles over God’s generous conferral of grace and love.

The transfiguration records a significant event for us in the life of Christ. Jesus chose three apostles to share that moment with Him in which He revealed His full glory to them. During Lent, let us take the time to think back to our own baptism and confirmation. Where have we been on our linear journey, and where are we going? Whether we are sponsor or not, do we welcome the questions of others on the Way with us? They are a gift from God as we imitate Saints Peter, James, and John in exclaiming:

“Lord, it is good that we are here.”

Teresa S. Redder, OFS

**March 11 – March 12 2017
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

WEEKLY PLANNER

**SUNDAY March 12th
Second Sunday of Lent**



Penitential Rite RCIA 9:30am Mass
Adults RCIA LIB
Mass Music Practice 6:30pm Church

MONDAY March 13th
Bible Study 9:30 PHCR
Children's RCIA 5:00pm PHMO
Cub Scouts 5:00pm – 8:00pm
Basketball 6:30pm Gym

TUESDAY March 14th
Religious Ed. Fall Program 5:30pm - 6:45pm
Basketball 6:30pm Gym
SVDP Meeting 7:00pm SVDP Center
Legion of Mary 7:00pm PHCR
Knight of Columbus 7:30pm LIB
Columbiettes 7:30pm LIB

WEDNESDAY March 15th
Religious Ed. Fall Program 5:30pm - 6:45pm
Basketball 6:30pm Gym
OLPH 7:15pm Chapel
Bible Study 7:30pm PHMR

THURSDAY March 16th
RE Summer Program Section 2 5pm- 6pm
Music Practice 6:00pm Church
Boy Scouts 7:00pm PHMR
Basketball 6:30pm Gym
Adult Choir 7:30pm Church

FRIDAY March 17th



Sacred Heart School Stations 1:45pm
Stations of the Cross 4:00pm & 7:00pm

SATURDAY March 18th
PTA Beef and Beer 7:00pm AUD
Mass Music Practice 3:30pm Church

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY March 19th
Third Sunday of Lent
First Scrutiny 9:30am Mass
Adults RCIA LIB
Mass Music Practice 6:30pm Church

MONDAY March 20th
Saint Joseph's Day
Children's RCIA 5:00pm PHMO
Cub Scouts 5:00pm – 8:00pm
CYO Softball 6:00pm AUD
Reader Training 7:00pm Church

TUESDAY March 21st
Religious Ed. Fall Program 5:30pm - 6:45pm
SVDP Meeting 7:00pm SVDP Center
Legion of Mary 7:00pm PHCR
High School Youth Group 7pm to 8:30pm LIB

WEDNESDAY March 22nd
Religious Ed. Fall Program 5:30pm - 6:45pm
OLPH 7:15pm Chapel
PTA meeting 7:00pm LIB
Bible Study 7:30pm PHMR

THURSDAY March 23rd
Music Practice 6:00pm Church
SH School Recorder Concert 7pm AUD
Boy Scouts 7:00pm PHMR
Adult Choir 7:30pm Church

FRIDAY March 24th
Sacred Heart School Stations 1:45pm
Stations of the Cross 4:00pm & 7:00pm
Student Council Dance 7:00pm AUD

SATURDAY March 25th
Boy Scouts Pinewood Derby 9:00am AUD
Mass Music Practice 3:30pm Church

GATHERING LOCATION KEY

AUD- Auditorium/Gym
Chapel- Adoration Chapel of 2 Hearts- Entrance faces High St., on side of Parish House closest to the School
LIB- Library
PHCR- Parish House Conference Room (Room behind the Library)
PHMO- Parish House Ministry Office
PHMR- Parish House Meeting Room (Under Library)