

How Deep is Our Trust in God?

Today's First Reading mirrors the Gospel, for both are about widows exemplifying total trust in God. • The First Reading is the story of the poor widow visited by the Prophet Elijah on his way to another place. (*There was a great drought in that region outside Israel, because the Israelites were worshipping the pagan god of fertility, Ba'al. Yahweh withheld the rain to show the Jews that He alone was the one true God, not just of rain.*) Despite the scarcity of food, and being at death's door, the widow included Elijah in her family's last meal. Her *obedience and trust* in Elijah's prophecy to her, protected her and her son from starvation, for God miraculously fulfilled Elijah's promise to the widow. • Today's Responsorial underscores God's care and concern for the weakest. As His followers, He wants us to defend them as well. It is our Christian duty to look out for the most defenseless in society, typically those at both ends of the life spectrum: the pre-born and infants; and the elderly. We are called to be their advocates, their protectors. It is said that the moral worth of a society is judged by how its most defenseless citizens are treated. May we have the grace to recognize this and help them. • Today's Second Reading continues last week's theme of Jesus as the perfect priest and the perfect sacrifice. No priest before or since could accomplish the act of freeing us from our sin. It took Jesus, God's only Son, to achieve this mission: *the remission of our sins*. His was the perfect self-sacrifice: *giving His own life* was the perfect restitution of our sin. • In today's Gospel, St. Mark opens our eyes to the great temptation to use our faith, our religion, as a means to advance ourselves at the expense of others. For some, the Faith is a symbol of prestige and a mere tool of self advancement. In contrast, St. Mark wants us to see the total, absolute trust the widow exhibits when she gives her all, which though monetarily meager, has infinite value because of what it cost her. May we have this same humility and depth of faith.

Prayer of the Week

Almighty Father, strong is your justice and great is your mercy. Protect us in the burdens and challenges of life. Shield our minds from the distortion of

Faith First

pride and enfold our desire with the beauty of truth. Help us to become more aware of your loving design so that we may more willingly give our lives in service to all. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

*Monday, November 12
Veterans Day Observance
Mass at 9:00 am, not at 8:00 am.*

The Dignity of the Individual

The social teaching of the Catholic Church rests on the *inherent dignity of the human person*, each person made in the image of God with a capacity to know and love our Creator. Human dignity means we have freedom to shape our lives and our communities. It means that we have the capacity for love and friendship. God has appointed us master of all earthly creatures so that we might use them to God's glory (Vatican II, *Church in the Modern World*, 12). As the psalmist put it: "Yet You have made him little less than a god, You have crowned him with glory and beauty, made him lord of the work of Your hands, put all things under his feet" (Psalm 8:5-6). • Humans have dignity by the way God made us. But when God became human in the person of Jesus Christ, human nature was "raised in us also to a dignity beyond compare" (*Redeemer of Man*, 8). Our Lord became our way to the Father; he saved every human being. Jesus Christ, the full revelation of the Father and the perfect human being brings to light our vocation and identity as children of God.

Church Teaching on Peace

Peace is a blessing of Christ. The Prince of Peace and the Church he founded as a sign of his peace teach that peace--the tranquility of order--is the fruit of both justice and love. Peace results when persons are treated with dignity, communicate freely, and lovingly relate to each other as brothers and sisters. To be a disciple of Jesus Christ means to be passionately devoted to peace. Peace is not merely the absence of war; it is an enterprise of justice and must be built up ceaselessly.

In Our Prayers

In Memoriam

Rev. Ronan Brennan • October 26, 2018
Bradford Dozier • October 27, 2018
Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.

Please Pray for the Sick

Bishop Francis Quinn, Linda Ryle, Rick Cwynar, Kang Simon Lee, Suzie Riehl, Jane Lee Smith, Ashley Briar, Laurel Sunderman, Genevieve Dallosta, Isabel Harper, Rouzbeh Daylami, Howard Huston, Mark Zane, Richard Honey, Josephine Davila, Dale Wooldridge, Donald Anderson, Teresa Yeung, Nancy McGarry, Vivian Stolp, Rita Doherty, Patrick Valenzuela, Cheryl Halm Lincoln, Michael Fletcher, Grayson Kemp, Gary Pepe, William Daniel Reed, Stephanie Merenda, Victoria Generoso, Jim Collins, Grace Grant, Robert Arkebauer, Libby Basurto, Dena Foster-Cook, Marie Schumacher, Ralph Goodall, Josephine Haddock, G.R. Gurley, Darren Stewart, Marge Mugartegui, Angel Curiel, Phillip Worth, Sonia Damiano, Barbara Cramer, Ava Grace Arnold, Karen Amnon, Mary Terese Henricksen, Pamela Saenz, Stan Boyd, David Hunn, Addison Parker, Brett Stover, Norma Clark, Robert Clark, Jr., Ranier Guzman

Meetings & Events

Coffee and Donuts? This Sunday

Join us for the "Second Sunday" Social from 12(noon) to 1:15 pm this Sunday, November 11 in the Parish Hall located behind the church. All parishioners, and their families/kids, are welcome, regardless of the Mass they attend. It is a chance to catch up with fellow parishioners and meet some new people. Bring a friend or make a new one. We hope to see you there!

Parish Retreat: Save the Date

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend our Parish Retreat beginning Sunday, February 10, 2019 and concluding Tuesday, February 12. Fr. Robin Ryan, CP, PhD, will be our presenter. He is a Passionist priest who teaches at the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago. Parishioners who attended *God and the Mystery of Human Suffering* last year will remember Fr. Ryan as a gifted and down-to-earth teacher. The presentation is entitled: *Gazing on the Face of Christ*. Fr. Ryan writes: "Jesus Christ is central to the Christian faith. You are invited to reflect on the various dimensions of the mystery of Christ. As you do so, you will increase your faith and strengthen your life as a believer." • Through this special retreat, you will connect the everyday concerns of your life with the presence and action of Jesus. • Questions? Please contact Rita Spillane at 916-452-4830.

Parish Study Group

The Study Group assignment for this Thursday, November 15, is Paragraphs 2683 to 2758 in *The Catechism of the Catholic Church*. We meet from 1:00 to 2:30 pm in the Parish Hall. Newcomers are always welcome. For more information call Tom Slakey at 916-455-7186.

45th Annual Holiday Home Tour Coming Soon

Starts Friday, November 30 ends Sunday, December 2. Support the Home Tour by participating in the Candy Cane Lane. Each candy cane will be displayed outside in front of the Candy Cane Boutique during the Home Tour and will have the desired family/name on the sign. This is a great sponsorship opportunity for our school families and parishioners. The stakes this year will be made of metal, and sponsors can take them home at the end of the Tour to use in their yards. Candy canes can be purchased for \$40 each. • Please contact Ashley Andrews at ashleyandrews21@gmail.com if you are interested in purchasing a candy cane. The deadline to purchase is November 16.

Parish School Now Accepting Applications

The School is now accepting applications for the 2019-2020 school year. Applicants for Transitional Kindergarten must be 4 years old by September 1, 2019 and applicants for Kindergarten must be 5 years old by September 1. We will also be accepting applications for 1st-6th grade. • For more information, please contact the Parish School at 916-456-1576.

Sutter's Fort Experience

On Wednesday, November 13, our Parish School's fourth grade class will be picked up at school by horse drawn wagons to head to Sutter's Fort. The class and parent volunteers will spend the day and night in the Fort and experience a day in the life of our early pioneers. There will be candle making, story telling, a camp fire, and a family dinner. It is a wonderful time to learn about the history of California. We would love to have you come and wave good bye as the students head out around 9:00 am.

Bishops Fall Meeting

This coming week, the Bishops in the U.S. will meet in assembly in Baltimore. The most important issue to be discussed

is the scourge of child abuse by some in the Church and the resulting cover-up by the hierarchy. Bishop Soto has asked that, during this important meeting, we all pray for three intentions: "for the healing and support of all victims of clergy sexual abuse; for the conversion and just punishment of the perpetrators and concealers of sexual abuse; and for the strength of the bishops to be holy shepherds in protecting and leading God's people from all harm." • Let us ask the Holy Spirit to guide our bishops in their important deliberations.

Book of the Dead

November of every year is the month devoted to remembering our family and friends who have died. Just inside the altar rail is the Book of the Dead which lists parishioners and others who have a connection with Sacred Heart who have died since November 1, 2017, and have had their funeral at Sacred Heart Church. You are invited to remember those on the list in your prayers this month.

Youth Group Update

The Sacred Heart Youth Group will be held on Wednesday, November 14 and 28. The meeting on the 14th will be their second annual Charity Bingo Night. Please bring a donation to support the Sacramento Food Bank Services and win some great prizes. The theme for the meeting on Wednesday, November 28 is still to be determined. • If you are a student in grades 8 through 12, please consider joining us for our next meeting. All meetings are held from 6:30-7:30 pm in St. Anthony's Hall located on the school campus. • If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Sunderman at psunderman@sacredheartschool.net

Food Donation Bonanza!

We received approximately 90 bags of non-perishable items for our St. Vincent de Paul food pantry, for Cristo Rey High School and The Catholic Newman Center at Sacramento State. The generosity of Sacred Heart parishioners will ensure the SVdP clients in our neighborhood as well as the families at Cristo Rey High School will have food for Thanksgiving. • A big thank you to Trader Joe's on Folsom Blvd. for donating the bags and to the Sacred Heart Parish School 8th Graders for tying the ribbons on all the bags.

Sacramento Catholic HIV/AIDS Ministry

The HIV/AIDS Ministry is requesting donations in the form of grocery gift cards for Thanksgiving meals for the community we serve. We deeply appreciate your continued compassion and support. Gift cards can be inserted in the mailbox at home of Susan Mendez (1453 - 45th Street). • If you have any questions about this ministry please call Dr. Susan Mendez, Psy.D. at 916-761-5971.

Catholic Campaign for Human Development

Next weekend, our second collection will be for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. Over 43 million people in the United States live in poverty. This collection supports programs to empower people to identify and address the obstacles they face as they work to lift themselves out of poverty. By supporting this collection you give people a hand up, not a hand out. • To learn more about the Catholic Campaign for Human Development visit the U.S. bishops website at www.usccb.org/cchd/collection.