

GREETINGS FROM FR. SCOTT

Proverbs tells us, "He who lacks understanding, come, eat of my food." Ephesians tells us, "Do not continue to be ignorant, but try to understand the will of God." The Gospel says, "Unless you eat my flesh you will not have life." Our readings portray a struggle between good and evil; life and death; peace and unrest.

Dante lived from 1265 to 1321. He was a confident, cocky, well-known leader in his community. He was a literary genius who wrote about the spiritual life. One of his famous writings is the poem "Dante's Inferno."

"I woke up," Dante says, "to find myself alone and lost." He laments, "Yes, I am a sinner and all is not well with me." He then cries out to God, and God sends him a Roman poet named Virgil. Virgil cautions, "Dante, I have good and bad news. The good news is that there is a way out of this and the bad news is that we have to go to hell."

With Virgil, Dante walks down through hell and sees the effects of sin in himself. Descending farther, he sees all the terrible things he has done. He faints. Virgil picks him up and says, get up and look. He tells Dante, you have to see clearly. You cannot faint or make up excuses. "The light is on," he tells Dante, "You must see that you are a sinner." As they get lower, it gets colder, not hotter. At the top of hell, there are flames. In Dante's hell, the lower the level the colder it becomes. The lower people go, they become more isolated and are unable to move or reach out to others. They become more self-centered and withdrawn.

In Dante's hell, Satan is stuck in the ice up to his waste. His great wings are constantly flapping. The soul is meant for flight to God. Satan's soul is stuck and is trying to fly but cannot. By flapping his wings, he makes the world around him colder. He is weeping and chewing on sinners. Satan is sad and pathetic. I can relate to this image. Sometime I get very possessive and materialistic and everything revolves around me and my needs. I resent things that eat me up inside.

Dante's image of sin is about us. Sometime we get stuck and are afraid of change. We tend to make the world around us colder, not warmer. We chew on past resentments like Dante's Satan chews on the sinner. Dante looks hell in the eye. He looks at sin and sees what sin has done to him. At that moment he is ready for purgatory: he ready to be purified before he sees God.

Seeing ourselves as sinners has advantages. It helps us to take ourselves lightly. It humbles us. It helps us be compassionate. This gives us Joy. The Gospel today also tells us how to get that Joy. Jesus said, "I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever"

STEWARDSHIP

Aug. 12, 2012	\$6,626.10
Online Giving	\$145.00
Property Improvement Online	\$300.00
Property Improvement	\$384.00
Last Year	\$7218.78

Daily Mass Readings

Monday Aug 20

Ez 24:15-24 (ps) Dt 32:18-21 Mt 19:16-22

Tuesday Aug 21

Ez 28:1-10 (Ps) Dt 32:18-21 Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday Aug 22

Ez 34:1-11 Ps 23:1-6 Mt 20:1-16

Thursday Aug 23

Ez 36:23-28 Ps 51:12-15.18-19 Mt 22:1-14

Friday Aug 24

Rv 21:9b-14 Ps 145:10-13ab,17-18 Jn 1:45-51

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday Aug 18

5:00pm + Michael & Margaret Lajcsak

Sunday Aug 19

9:00am For the People of the Parish

11:30am

Monday Aug 20

9:00am

Tuesday Aug 21

9:00am

Wednesday Aug 22

9:00am

Thursday Aug 23

9:00am For Judy Eagle's health & recovery

Friday Aug 24

9:00am



FAITH FORMATION

Registration for the 2012-2013 Faith Formation Classes will be available in August. Students entering 9th grade are eligible to register for Confirmation. Students entering 2nd grade are eligible to enter 1st Reconciliation and 1st Eucharist classes. Students must also register in the regular Sunday School program.

RCIA INQUIRY

Are you interested in learning about the Catholic Church or becoming Catholic? Inquiry sessions are for you. This is a time to learn about what the Church believes and teaches in an informal setting. Join us on August 26 at 1pm in the family room. Please call Jenny at 907-297-7729 or email her at jmichaelson@caa-ak.org or call our office @376-5087

COMING EVENTS

AUGUST

- 18 Eagle Scout Project work day 9am-2pm
- 20 Centering Prayer 6:30pm
- 23 Rosary 7pm
- 24 Adoration 10am-2pm
- 25 OLV Open House 6-7pm
- 26 OLV Open House 10-11am & 12:30-1:30pm

AUGUST MINISTRY LIST

Please check the ministry lists on the bulletin board and arrange for a sub if you are not able to serve on the assigned weekend.

RETROUVAILLE

This program teaches couples how to survive times that are difficult in their marriage. Rediscover your marriage: Oct 19-21. Call 907-863-8000 for information or 6001@retrouvaille.org. Website: www.HelpourMarriage.com

FOOD PANTRY

Items needed at the pantry:
flour, sugar
all kinds of baby food
cereal, oatmeal
grocery bags

357-3769

CONFIRMATION SPONSORS

If you are a confirmed Catholic, practicing your faith, and would love to share that faith with one of our Sacred Heart Confirmation candidates, WE NEED YOU! Please, prayerfully consider this opportunity to not only share your faith, but to grow in holiness and love. Please call our office.

VENTURING CREW

Venture crew - group of teens and young adults looking for outdoor excitement - meets the first Monday of the month at 7 pm in the social hall. Call Ed at 357-7029 if you want more information or come to the meeting!

Congratulations
Hans & Hannah Beer
who celebrated their full
Initiation into the Catholic faith on
August 14, 2012

OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Enrollment forms for the 2012-2013 school year are available at the OLV office in the St. Jude Center or call 376-0883.

Welcome OLV families and students to the 2012-2013 Year

Thank you to all our families, the parishes, and supporters who helped us with this move.

Annual Cash Raffle

Tickets are \$10 each/15 chances to win \$50 daily prize. Drawings start Sept 17 and end Sept 30th.

Each ticket drawn goes back in for a chance at the final drawing on October 1st.

1st prize \$1,000 2nd prize \$500
3rd prize \$250. Tickets available after masses or in the St. Jude's Bldg. Thank you for your support!!

Please contact Theresa Sand at 715-2788 for more information.

HOSPITALITY 5PM

We are in desperate need for more people to assist with Hospitality at this Mass. Please call the office.



SACRED HEART ONLINE GIVING

Simply click the above image at our website <http://sacredheartwasilla.org/> This is a prayerful and thoughtful way to give safely. Thank you for supporting Sacred Heart Catholic Church.

LABOR DAY CLOSURE

The Sacred Heart office will be closed from August 31 through Sept 3. We are open Sept 4 at 11am.

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT —UPDATE August 18

The work day has changed to SATURDAY, AUGUST 18th.

9:00am –2:00pm for everyone on all the projects.

Please bring a shovel, rake, work gloves, and work shoes/boots. We also need wheel barrels. Everyone is welcome; we will join together for some hard work and a lot of fun!! Questions, please call the office—376-5087. Fr. Scott will open with a Project Blessing.