

GREETINGS FROM FR. SCOTT

Salvation history in the Old Testament has a basic pattern that goes like this: God promises us salvation if we keep his commandments, so we promise to keep his commandments; but we decide not to choose God, break our promise and sin; God punishes us, we beg God to take us back, so God is merciful and gives us another chance. This is a cycle that goes on and on. The cycle started with Adam and Eve, and then Cain killed Able, and then Noah built the Ark.

The rainbow in Noah's Ark was the start of a new covenant between God and his people. The rainbow is a sign of God's promise never to destroy the whole population again when people turn to sin. But people continued to sin after the Great Flood. In the Tower of Babel, man again became wicked. The tower was the start of an urban culture being built apart from God. God scattered these people and broke it up.

After the Tower of Babel came the story of Abraham. God made a covenant with his people the Israelites, but they broke that covenant by sinning, and they ended up in Egypt as slaves. During the Exodus, God showed them mercy, freed his people from slavery, and saved them again. Once Moses and the Israelites reached the promise land, a number of sinful and corrupt Kings started leading God's chosen people. King David was probably the best, but they got progressively worse.

The story of Joshua, our first reading, is a story about God giving His people yet another chance. God allows his people to renew their promise, that is, to keep the commandments.

As you can see, our entire salvation history in the Old Testament is about getting a choice to choose God, choosing wrong, sinning, and getting another chance.

After the story of Joshua and after selecting several humans such as Abraham, Moses, King David, Jonah, and numerous prophets, God decided to give us one last chance for salvation. He sent us his Son Jesus Christ, both divine and human, to give his people a final chance at salvation.

The pattern of choosing wrong and sinning continues in the New Testament. Judas denied Jesus, Peter denied Jesus three times, and numerous disciples betrayed him. Jesus said, "Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you." Even the Apostles decided at times not to choose Jesus. But there is a fundamental difference with Jesus. The beauty of Christianity is that if we sin, start down the wrong path, or choose not to love Jesus, he will welcome us back with open arms. All we have to do is make that choice, ask to be forgiven, and struggle to change our sinful ways. The choice is yours.

STEWARDSHIP

Aug. 19, 2012	\$7,905.20
Online Giving	\$195.00
Property Improvement Online	\$5.00
Property Improvement	\$155.00
Last Year	\$6,616.75

Daily Mass Readings

Monday Aug 27

2 Thes 1:1-5, 11b-12 Ps 96:1-5 Mt 23:13-22

Tuesday Aug 28

2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17 Ps 96:10-13 Mt 22:23-26

Wednesday Aug 29

2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18 Ps 128:1-2, 4-5 Mk 6:17-29

Thursday Aug 30

1 Cor 1:1-9 PS 145:2-7 Mt 24:42-51

Friday Aug 31

1 Cor 1:17-25 Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11 Mt 25:1-13

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	Aug 25
5:00pm	+ Annie Ruder
Sunday	Aug 26
9:00am	+ David Drinkhouse
11:30am	For the People of the Parish
Monday	Aug 27
9:00am	
Tuesday	Aug 28
9:00am	
Wednesday	Aug 29
9:00am	
Thursday	Aug 30
9:00am	
Friday	Aug 31
9:00am	



FAITH FORMATION

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

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!

SCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED

OLV is in need of letter size copy paper and boxes of Kleenex. Any donated amount would be greatly appreciated for this school year. Tax receipts available.

E-SCRIPTS

You can earn cash for OLV every time you shop for groceries! Clip Box Tops for Education and eBox-Tops. Our code is 500017406 Use your CarrsPlus/Safeway Club Card to buy participating items. For details, go to Carrsqc.com/BackToSchool Flyers available after all the masses. Each box top/label is worth 10¢ which OLV can redeem for books, computers, etc.

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.

Box Tops/Campbell's Points

Clip these from participating products and bring to the office.

Annual Cash Raffle

Thank you for supporting our Raffle. This is one of our largest fundraisers. 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 Oct. 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!!

COMING EVENTS

AUGUST

- 25 OLV Open House 6-7pm
- 26 OLV Open House 10-11am & 12:30-1:30pm
Inquiry 1pm Family Room
- 27 Centering Prayer 6:30pm
- 30 Rosary 7pm
- 31 Office closed

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

LABOR DAY CLOSURE

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

OLV will be closed on September 3rd.

RCIA INQUIRY

Are you interested in learning about the Catholic Church or becoming Catholic? Inquiry sessions are for you. 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



FOOD PANTRY

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

357-3769

THE FOOD PANTRY OF WASILLA

The Food Pantry of Wasilla is thankful for your continued support of our work in providing food for our neighbors in need. Your contribution of food and household products will help provide much needed help to the increasing number of Mat-Su Valley residents who require assistance. As resources dwindle, the need only increases due to rising costs and unemployment. Your support and contribution will help us to continue to serve our clients and support our motto, "Because no one should go hungry." Thank you for supporting the Pantry. Your donation is tax deductible.