

## GREETINGS FROM FR. SCOTT

I was accepted into the graduate program at the University of Oregon in 1989. At that time I was an extremely ambitious person. The competition for grades among the MBA students was vicious. We all wanted to get the best grades, so we could knock down the best jobs, so we could get paid the most money. The goal was to become rich. After the second semester or so, I felt a nagging that something was not right. It was the Holy Spirit. It was then that I recalled a homily by the late Monsignor Lunny of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Anchorage. He contrasted ambition with aspiration. That homily changed my life.

The disciples in today's Gospel are caught up in selfish ambition. They wanted to be first and were trying to find out how to be number one. Sound familiar?

Ambition is an eager or strong desire to achieve something. It is having the will to succeed in earthly things. Ambition is about DOING something and getting something in return, like money, power, and possessions. Ambition can be good if used as a way to help others, for example, getting an education. But ambition can lead to selfishness very quickly.

Aspiration, on the other hand, is something different. To aspire is to seek to attain something high or great. To aspire to something is to rise; to ascend; to tower; to soar; to have a lofty goal.

Aspiration is about BEING someone, like being a good parent, being an honest person, and being a good steward with our resources. The aspiring person's goal is not money, but gaining eternal life.

In the second reading, St. James tells us what selfish ambition does to us. "Where ambition exists, there is disorder and every foul practice." I strongly believe that selfish ambition can lead to jealousy, bitterness, and disharmony.

An overly ambitious person may start to use greed and deceit to accomplish a goal. Being ambitious is something we as humans do out of our human nature. Ambition is purely human and does not leave much room for God to enter into our lives. It can be like a wall we put up between earth and heaven.

Aspiration is the better choice. I think James is talking about the fruits of aspiration when he says, "The wisdom that comes down from above is essentially something pure; it also makes for peace, and is kindly and considerate; it is full of compassion and shows itself by doing good." When we aspire to be someone, God gives us blessings from above in return.

To aspire to something might mean to have an objective to raise a family in the church; to adhere to a work ethic that incorporates the teachings of Christ; to live a life of love.

The message today, don't just be ambitious and DO something in your life: Aspire to BE someone, the best person you can possibly be

### STEWARDSHIP

Sept. 16, 2012,	\$6,197.10
Online Giving	\$420.00
Property Improvement Online	\$105.00
Last Year	\$ 6,790.11

#### Daily Mass Readings

#### Monday Sept. 24

Prv 3:27-34 Ps 15:2-5 Lk 8:16-18

#### Tuesday Sept. 25

Prv 21:1-6:10-13 Ps 119:1,27,0,34-35,44 Lk 8:19-21

#### Wednesday Sept. 26

Prv 30:5-9 Ps 119:29,72,89,101,104,163 Lk 9:1-6

#### Thursday Sept. 27

Eccl 1:2-11 Ps 90:2:3-6,12-14,17 Lk 9:7-9

#### Friday Sept. 28

Eccl 3:1-11 Ps 144:1b,2abc,3-4 Lk 9:18-22

### MASS INTENTIONS

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Sept. 22</b>
5:00pm	For the People of the Parish
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Sept. 23</b>
9:00am	
11:30am	+ Richard Shanders
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Sept. 24</b>
9:00am	
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Sept. 25</b>
9:00am	+ Samuel Garcia
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Sept. 26</b>
9:00am	
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Sept. 27</b>
9:00am	
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Sept. 28</b>
9:00am	



## FAITH FORMATION

Classes begin September 23rd.  
Grades 1-8 meet from 10-11:15 am.  
Pre-school and K meet from  
11:30am-12:30pm.

### 1st RECONCILIATION

Classes began Sept 15 at 3pm and meet every Sat. until Oct 20th. The sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated Oct 20 at 11:15am.

### CONFIRMATION—1-2:30pm

Students in the second year (2013) program meet at 1pm in the Old Church, and students in the first year (2014) program meet in the St. Jude Center.

### REMEMBER WHEN?

Holy Family Cathedral is collecting stories for their centenary in 2015. If your family celebrated a marriage, baptism, hosted missionaries, or has any other memories, join us Sept 28th at 7pm or Oct 1st at 1pm at the Holy Family Center. Punch and cookies will be provided.

## COMING EVENTS

### SEPTEMBER

- 22 Altar Server Training 10am-Noon
- 23 Faith Formation classes begin  
Choir Ministry Meeting 1pm
- 24 Centering Prayer 6:30 pm
- 27 Rosary 7pm
- 30 Eucharistic Ministers Training 1pm  
Debra Lighthart Rosary Sales

### OCTOBER

- 7 Hospitality Training 1pm
- 14 Linen Ministry Training 1pm
- 21 Lectors Training 1pm

### RCIA

Classes for people wishing to learn more about the Catholic faith meet at 10am in the family room.

### RCIA SPONSOR MINISTRY

The Sponsor Ministry is a journey with someone to a deeper faith in Christ. The Sponsor is the representa-

## PARISH NURSING—2012

Foundations of Faith—  
Community Nursing  
“...and he sent them out to preach  
the kingdom of God  
and to heal the sick”—Luke 9:2  
Oct 11—5-9pm  
Oct 12-14, 26-28 9am-5pm  
Recognized by the

American Nurses Association  
Faith community nursing provides holistic care of mind, body, and spirit. Please call Marlise A. James for details and registration information at 907.212.5053 or [Marlise.James@providence.org](mailto:Marlise.James@providence.org)

### OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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

Thank you and good luck to everyone who purchased tickets for our Annual Cash Raffle. We will be contacting our lucky winners

throughout the next few weeks as the tickets are drawn. Check our Facebook page, newsletter, or parish bulletins for a list of winners.

Throughout the upcoming year you will have many opportunities to support OLV including the raffle tickets and our Annual Dinner Auction. In addition, two Appeals provide a chance to support OLV and other Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese. The first comes from Archbishop Schwietz. You may support a particular school or all of our Catholic Schools. The second Appeal, in October, is a local Appeal from our OLV School Board. All funds donated to the Local Appeal go directly to OLV. We greatly appreciate all support given to our school and ask that you consider supporting one or both of these Appeals. If you have any questions regarding our fundraising events or the Appeals please contact Theresa Sand at 376-0883 or 715-2788.

tive of the Catholic community, but the sponsor does not have to be an expert. A sponsor is a full member of the Church, who will be a friend, pray for candidate and answers questions. In the process, a friendship is formed that often lasts a lifetime. If you are interested in sharing this journey please contact Jim or Jacques Briskey at 907.688.0820 or [cook4u@gci.net](mailto:cook4u@gci.net)

### ALASKA CATHOLIC QUARTERLY

This new magazine is looking for story ideas for this new publication. Please pick up a form after Mass.

### RETROUVAILLE October 19-21

Rekindle your marriage: Call 907-863-8000 for information or [6001@retrouvaille.org](mailto:6001@retrouvaille.org). Website: [www.HelpourMarriage.com](http://www.HelpourMarriage.com)

### FOOD PANTRY

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

357-3769

### THE FOOD PANTRY OF WASILLA

The Food Pantry appreciates your continued support of food for our neighbors in need. Your contributions help us serve our clients and support our motto, “Because no one should go hungry.” Thank you and remember your donation is tax deductible.

### BOY SCOUT PROJECT

Thank you to everyone who helped and supported my Eagle Scout Service Project. Without your support, this project would not have been possible. The pavilion, topsoil, and hydro-seeding will be completed in the spring. Thank you—Bradley Grover