

GREETINGS FROM FR. SCOTT

In our earthly world we have dirt roads, paved roads, country roads, and even yellow brick roads. We have interstates, highways, streets, alleys, and paths. Our roads are long, short, curvy, straight, bumpy, and smooth. There are fast lanes, slow lanes, and car pool lanes. All roads on earth come to dead ends. In the spiritual world we have the Royal Road that never ends!

Speed: On the Royal Road there are as many speeds as there are people. That speed is up to the individual person's openness to God's grace and how well he or she loves God and neighbor.

Travelers: All of God's children can travel on the Royal Road: The poor, the rich, the sick, the healthy, the smart, the dumb, the skinny, the fat, the bad drivers and the good. All you have to do is love God above all else and your neighbor as yourself.

Detour: Some may take a detour off the Royal Road. We veer off the Royal Road by being selfish and uncharitable. Veering off the road is putting something other than God is the center of our lives. When we alienate ourselves from God, we take a detour off the Royal Road.

End: For those who believe and have faith, the Royal Road has no end and goes on for eternity. Believers will gain eternal happiness, heaven, and salvation. Those who do not believe are traveling down a dead end road to nowhere.

Preparing: The first reading from Baruch tells us how to prepare the Royal Road for the Lord's coming. God wants us to level the mountains and fill in the gorges so this road can be built. To me, leveling the mountains means knocking down prejudice, injustice, materialism, and self-centeredness. To fill in the valleys means sharing our gifts with others, helping the poor, and praying for the sick, dying, and grieving.

Repairing: The idea is to repair the Royal Road to "prepare the way for the Lord." We do this by straightening out our lives. One of the best ways to repair the Royal Road is to repent our sins. By repenting our sins, we are turning back to Jesus so he can guide us back to the Royal Road.

Stops: Most of the faithful stop on the Royal Road for a time in purgatory. The amount of time spent in Purgatory depends on how a person lives his or her life. Purgatory is like a final cleansing before we meet God face to face.

If you think you are veering from the Royal Road, now is the time to turn back. During these next two weeks of Advent, repair your road so that you can "Prepare the way for the Lord." As our Gospel says today, "The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

STEWARDSHIP

December 2, 2012 \$8,420.60 Online \$450.00
Last Year \$6,669.05
Blue Envelope \$1,212.70 Online & 15.00

Daily Mass Readings

Monday Dec. 10

Is 35:1-10 Ps 85:9ab-14 Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday Dec. 11

Is 40:1-11 Ps 96:1-3,10-13 Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday Dec. 12

Zec 2:14-17 Ps 45:11-12 Lk 1:26-38

Thursday Dec. 13

Is 41:13-+20 Ps 145:1,9-13ab Mt 11:11-15

Friday Dec. 14

Is 48:17-19 Ps 1:1-4,6 Mt 11:16-19

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	Dec. 8
5:00pm	+ Earl Hopp , Emery & Helen Jadack
Sunday	Dec. 9
9:00am	For the People of the parish
11:30am	+ Leonard Schneibel
Monday	Dec. 10
9:00am	
Tuesday	Dec. 11
9:00am	+Annie Ruder
Wednesday	Dec. 12
9:00am	+ Shan Satterfield
Thursday	Dec. 13
9:00am	+Mr & Mrs William T. O'Connor
Friday	Dec. 14
9:00am	



FAITH FORMATION

Grades 1-8 meet from 10-11:15 am.
Pre-school and K meet from
11:30am-12:30pm.

MIDDLE SCHOOL GOOGLE QUESTION

Who is the Patroness of the Americas
and what is her feast day?

PEANUT BUTTER, JELLY, & BREAD

Thank you for supporting sandwich
making by the Middle School stu-
dents. The students made over 550
sandwiches which were distributed to
Burchell High School here in the Val-
ley and the Br. Frances Shelter in
Anchorage. We will make sandwich-
es again on January 6th.

CONFIRMATION—1-2:30pm

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

COMING EVENTS

December

- 8-9 St. Jude Quilt Group Sale all masses
ACTS Bake Sale all masses
- 10 Grief Support Group 1:30pm Social Hall
Advent Reconciliation Our Lady of the Lake 7pm
- 11 Advent Reconciliation St. Michael's 7pm
- 12 Advent Reconciliation Sacred Heart 5:30pm
- 20 OLV Christmas Mass & Celebration 10:30am
- 24 Christmas Eve Masses 4pm, 9pm, & Midnight
- 25 Christmas Day Mass 10am
- 31 Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God 5:30pm

January

- 1 Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God 10am

OPPORTUNITIES FOR GENEROSITY

21ST ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FRIENDSHIP DINNER

Volunteers and donations are needed. Text or call 907-
354-6115 or email CFD@mtaonline.net

CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS

Envelopes are available in the Atri-
um. Please return by December 16.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

If your life has been impacted by the
death of a family member or some-
one you loved, please consider join-
ing our Grief Support Group. The first
meeting will be held on Dec. 10, 2012
at Sacred Heart Church from 1:30-
2:30pm. Everyone is invited. Please
contact Mary Sears 373-1215.

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

Give to those who have given a life-
time. Senior Catholic sisters, broth-
ers, and religious order priests
worked for many years for little, if
any, pay. Their sacrifices now leave
their religious communities without
adequate savings for retirement. Your
gift to today's second collection for
the Retirement Fund for Religious
helps to provide prescription medica-
tions, nursing care, and more for
thousands of elderly religious. Please
be generous. Envelopes available in
the Atrium.

OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Enrollment forms are at the OLV of-
fice in the St. Jude Center or call 376-
0883.

Our steak dinner was fun and deli-
cious. The school earned \$2800.
Thank you to all our diners and din-
ner volunteers.

The staff and students of OLV would
like to invite you to join us for our cel-
ebration of Christmas on Thursday,
December 20th. Mass will begin at
10:30 followed by a luncheon and
the students' Christmas program.
The program, History of Christmas
Carols, will begin at approximately
12:00.

If you are considering Catholic Edu-
cation for your child, enrollment for
second semester is open. Just call
the school office at 376-0883 or stop
by between 8:00 and 4:00, so we can
give you a tour of the school. OLV
has so much to offer your child and
we hope to hear from you.

CHRISTMAS GIFT BOX PROJECT

Thank you for supporting our Gift Box Project—the gift
bags and boxes were wonderful.

BEARS FOR MAGADAN

We are collecting new and gently used stuffed ani-
mals, (especially bears) for Fr. Mike in Magadan.
Thank you for your generosity over the years in sup-
port of this ministry. He also needs new winter cloth-
ing. Call the office for more details.

BISHOP'S ATTIC VOLUNTEERS

The Bishop's Attic needs volunteers. Please call Jack
for more information 745-4215

WASILLA FOOD PANTRY

Please consider us as a volunteer opportunity this
season. We also need donations of holiday food and
staples.

FOOD PANTRY

Items needed at the pantry:
toilet paper, flour, sugar,
cereal, oatmeal
all kinds of baby food
357-3769

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Fr. Augustine will teach the Liturgy of the Hours at the Campbell home on
December 6 and 13 from 7-8:30 pm. Please call the office for information.

ST. JUDE QUILT GROUP ANNUAL SALE

Quilt and crafts will be on sale with proceeds to benefit Sacred Heart Par-
ish. Beautiful gift items will be available after all Masses.

ACTS BAKE SALE

The ACTS community will hold their annual bake sale at the same time as
the St. Jude's sale. Enjoy a one stop holiday opportunity after Mass.