

GREETINGS FROM FR. SCOTT February 23 2014 Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

"When someone strikes you on your right cheek turn the other one to him as well." If I were to be slapped on the right cheek, a person would have to use the left hand. In many cultures the left hand is considered dirty because of how it was used to clean the body. It was a sign of disrespect to be slapped with the dirty left hand.

If I then turned the other cheek, the person would be forced to use the "non-dirty" right hand. It is an act of defiance. I refuse to let you rob me of my God-given dignity. Turning the other cheek is how Christians fight back.

Here is my definition of dignity: Take a \$20 bill and crumple it up. It is still worth \$20. No matter how bad things get in our lives or how many sins we commit, our value to God never changes. God always values us.

Here is how we acknowledge we have Christian dignity. First, do as Saint Paul says, "Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: humble yourselves and become a servant to all." Second, Leviticus tells us to "love your neighbor as yourself." Also, love your enemies. Third, be open to God's grace. Fourth, realize how much God loves and values you. Acknowledging our dignity enables us to hold our heads high even when people humiliate us.

Love your enemies. An enemy could be someone who does not like you at work, a relative you cannot forgive, or a friend who could not keep your secret. Pray for your enemies.

When I added Al to my prayer list it was freeing. I overheard him gossiping about me with our boss. I prayed that our relationship would get better. Through prayer, the Holy Spirit led me to confront him and we worked through our problems.

To maintain our dignity, we must know, without doubt, that God values us. When people cut us down, gossip about us, and hurt us in any way, I think one thing, "I only have to please God, not man."

The best way to incorporate Christian dignity into our lives is "self-respect in conduct." Behave in a way that reflects that great value that God has for you. It will force you to examine your actions. Ask yourself, "What would I do if I knew others were watching? Would they see my actions as admirable?"

We are all created in the image and likeness of God. We all deserve to be treated like God's Children. If someone treats you differently, fight back!! No one has the right to slap us on the right cheek with their left dirty hand. We have the right to defend ourselves. When we stick up for our Christian beliefs, we become martyrs. Turning the other cheek says I dare you to try and take away my God-given dignity.

STEWARDSHIP

Feb.16 2014 \$6,571.60 Online \$1,160.00
Last Year \$7,588.55 Online \$565.00
Black & Indian Mission \$75.00

Daily Mass Readings

Monday Feb.24

Jas 3:13-18 Ps 19:8-10,15 Mk 9:14-29

Tuesday Feb. 25

Jas 4:10-10 Ps 55:7-11,23 Mk 89:30-37

Wednesday Feb.26

Jas 4:13-17 Ps 49:2-3,6-11 Mk 9:38-40

Thursday Feb. 27

Jas 5:1-6 Ps 49:14-20 Mk 9:41-50

Friday Feb. 28

Jas 5:9-12 Ps 103:1-4,8-9 Mk 10:1-12

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday

Feb. 22

5:00pm

For the People of the Parish

Sunday

Feb. 23

9:00am

11:30am

+ Geneva & James Hargett

Monday

Feb. 24

9:00am

Tuesday

Feb. 25

9:00am

Wednesday

Feb. 26

9:00am

+ Mr. & Mrs. Robert Wille

Thursday

Feb. 27

9:00am

Friday

Feb. 28

9:00am



FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation and Confirmation meet on Sundays. Registration is on line or at the office. 1st grade students who plan to celebrate 1st Eucharist in 2nd grade must be enrolled in 1st grade faith formation now. 8th grade students who plan to celebrate Confirmation in high school must be enrolled in Middle School faith formation now.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

The second year class meets in the All Saints Center at 1pm. The New Confirmation class Candidates continue meetings with their sponsors. *Why Catholic?* groups resume in March. Study groups will continue in the same books with the final 6 chapters on prayer.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

GOOGLE QUESTION

To what Saint is March dedicated?

1ST EUCHARIST

PARENT MEETING FEB. 23

Information for 1st Eucharist will be discussed in the Church at 1pm. Children currently attending Sunday classes are eligible.

WHY CATHOLIC? March 2

Prayer can take many forms: praise, adoration, petition, thanksgiving. Prayer can be silent, vocal, shared, or private. Sometimes prayer comes with great ease and other times it may be quite difficult. Join us as we explore Prayer this Lent.

ACYC

Alaska Catholic Youth Conference will be June 2-5. Catholic students from Alaska gather for workshops, liturgies, projects, activities, and music concerts. ACYE is sponsored by the Archdiocese of Anchorage and the Alaska Conference of Bishops.

OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY

CATHOLIC SCHOOL



Our Lady of the Valley Catholic School

"Breakfast at Tiffany's"

OLV's 7th Annual Gala Dinner Auction is on March 29, 2014, at the Menard Sports Complex. Doors open at 5:30pm. Tickets are \$50/person, 21 and older. Reserved table levels are Platinum, Gold and Silver. Call Karen at 376-0883

COMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY

- 22 Youth Mass 5pm
- 23 1st Eucharist Family Meeting 1pm
- 24 Contemplative Prayer 6:30pm
- 27 Rosary 7pm

MARCH

- 1 RCIA Pre-Lent Gathering
- 2 Adult Confirmation 10am
Middle School Sandwich making for Br. Francis
- 5 Ash Wednesday 9am & 5:30pm—Lent begins
- 7 Soup & Stations Middle School hosting 6pm
- 9 RCIA Rite of Sending
Adult Confirmation 10am
- 16 Adult Confirmation 10am
Doughnuts will not be served during Lent

MEN'S ACTS RETREAT—MARCH 6-9

Spend a special weekend with God. For information call Bobbie Ackley 376-0930.

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES BABY BOUTIQUE

Babies and toddlers need new and gently used hooded sweatshirts, hats, mittens, sweatpants, coats, snowsuits, and jackets. One piece t-shirts and diapers in all sizes are always in demand. A collection basket is in the social hall.



FAMILY PROMISE

Family Promise will be hosting families during the week of March 16. Sacred Heart needs volunteers in many areas. Please contact Gini King-Taylor or Judith Akreps 373-3852.

PALM COLLECTION

Palms are being collected to burn for Ash Wednesday. Please leave them in the basket in the Atrium.

FOOD BANK NEEDS

Peanut Butter, Jelly, Rice, Pasta, Sugar, Flour, Tomato Sauce, Oats, Powder/Can Milk

357-3769

DILLINGHAM YOUTH RETREAT

High school students are invited to sign up for the Dillingham Retreat, which is June 23-27. Sign up sheets are posted in the Social Hall. This is the final weekend for sign-up.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

Children must be accompanied to the rest rooms by an adult and supervised on the playground. Due to meetings, children cannot run and scream in the halls

SACRED HEART OUTREACH

Thanks to the Pastoral Council and the generosity of our parishioners has provided outreach funds to support several groups and projects, locally and nationally. Sacred Heart sends annual support to MyHouse, Family Promise, Nugen's Ranch, Alaska Fisher House, Cross Catholic, City Christmas Dinner, and Compassionate Friends of Mat-Su.