

GREETINGS FROM FR. SCOTT July 13, 2014 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

During my childhood my mother continually told me to turn off the lights and not to waste food because there were children starving in other countries. Born during the depression era, my mother learned to save and conserve. The parable of the sower gives us valuable insight. It teaches about the environment. God asks us to be good stewards of the earth, that is, to use wisely the resources that are given to us. Genesis reminds us that all humanity is to care for the earth, not wreck it. I will use three examples to explain the parable of the sower: environmental concerns, attending Mass, and success/failure rate.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

Seed on Path: We are aware that our world only has so many resources and they are being wasted. We really want to conserve energy but we quickly forget about doing it.

Seed in Rocks: We are not receptive to hearing anything that demands a change in our comfortable lifestyle. Something that lessens our comfort is out of the question.

Seed in Thorns: I have other priorities. I have other issues that must be dealt with. It is not that important right now and it can wait for another generation.

Seed in Fertile Soil: We want to do whatever we can to see that the earth continues to bear fruit for as many generations as God intends. We do our part not to waste resources and use prudence when interacting with our environment and its resources.

ATTENDING MASS

Seed in Path: You go to Mass, understand the message, but you quickly forget about it.

Seed in Rocks: You go to Mass to make your spouse happy. You do not hear or understand the message.

Seed in Thorns: You go to Mass, hear the message; other priorities get in the way of putting God's word into action.

Seed on Fertile Soil: You go to mass, hear the message, understand and put into practice the message in your daily life all you have learned.

SUCCESS/FAILURE RATE

The first three steps of the parable fail, the last one succeeds. This is a 25 percent success rate. Here are the four spiritual steps: We fail, we listen, we learn, and we grow. One out of every four seeds grows. What this means is that it is not the end of the world to fail at something. Keep trying and never give up! The Lord asks us to try, not necessarily succeed. Mother Theresa said, "Jesus does not ask us to be successful, but to be faithful."

MESSAGE

The message today is clear: Be good stewards of the earth. Appreciate what God has given us. Take care of our resources. Cut down on waste. If we have failed at doing our part, don't give up. Keep trying.

STEWARDSHIP

July 6, 2014	\$5,850.50	Online \$715.00
Last Year	\$5,295.45	Online \$930.00

Daily Mass Readings

Monday July 14

Is 1:10-17 Ps 50:8-9, 16b-17, 21, 23 Mt 10:34—11:1

Tuesday July 15

Is 7:1-9 Ps 48:2-8 Mt 11:20-24

Wednesday July 16

Is 10:5-7, 13b-16 Ps 94:5-10, 14-15 Mt 11:25-27

Thursday July 17

Is 26:7-9,12,16-19 Ps102:13-14b,15-21 Mt 11:28-30

Friday July 18

Is 38:1-6,21-22,7-8 (Ps) Is 38:10-12, 16 Mt 12:1-8

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday

5:00pm

Sunday

9:00am

11:30am

Monday

9:00am

Tuesday

9:00am

Wednesday

9:00am

Thursday

9:00am

Friday

9:00am

July 12

+Walter Lee Durant

July 13

For the People of the Parish

+Sarkis Atamian

July 14

July 15

July 16

July 17

July 18



FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation, Confirmation, and 1st Reconciliation classes begin in the Fall.

1st Reconciliation /1st Eucharist

Students should be in the 2nd grade or higher and registered in Faith Formation classes. Baptismal certificate is required for students not baptized at Sacred Heart.

CONFIRMATION

Students should be entering 9th grade or higher. Classes begin in the fall. Adult classes are scheduled for March. Baptismal certificate is required for those not baptized at Sacred Heart.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

GOOGLE QUESTION

Who is the "Lily of the Mohawks"?

ONE BREAD ONE BODY

Thank you for your enthusiastic support of the 2014 One Bread, One Body Annual Appeal. Your pledges and donations make possible the vital work of our local Church. Last week, 292 families had participated, an Archdiocesan record. We raised 70% of our \$45,000 goal. Help your Archdiocese Go Green! Pledge securely online at www.archdioceseofanchorage.org/donate



WATERING FLOWERS

We need help with watering the flowerbeds and baskets on the parish grounds. Please contact Diane if you can help. 376-5087

OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Unique to Catholic schools is the opportunity to nurture spiritual and moral values within the students. This occurs and is constantly reinforced not only in classes of religious instruction but throughout the curriculum and extracurricular activities. The Gospel message is taught in our classrooms every day.

Parents and students will gather on August 17 for meetings with teachers at 3pm and at 4pm for a back to school barbeque.

Parishioners are invited to OLV's back to school Open House after all the masses on August 16-17

Joyce Lund, Acting Principal Enrollment is open—Please call for an appointment—376-0883



COMING EVENTS

JULY

- 14 Centering Prayer 6:30pm
- 17 Rosary 7pm
- 26/27 Debra Lighthart Rosaries & Gifts
- 27 Adult Catechism Discussion 10:15 am

AUGUST

- 17 3pm OLV Teacher-Parent Meeting
- 16/17 OLV Open House for Parish after all Masses
- 18 OLV School opens

WELCOME FR. CHRIS

Fr. Chris is joining Sacred Heart again this year for the month of July. Please contact the office if you would like to schedule an appointment with him.

FR. MIKE SHIELDS

Fr. Mike will visit Alaska August 15 to Sept 15. He will be at Sacred Heart August 16 and 17. He will hold a mom's day of prayer at St. Michael's on September 13th from 9am—2pm. Babysitting provided 745-3229.

CARDBOARD CITY 2014—July 18 FAIRGROUNDS

Family Promise is a ministry that cares and shelters families with no homes. \$50 in pledges gets your team a box! Cardboard City shows solidarity with the homeless while having fun: live music, soup/breadline, cardboard box decorating, doughnuts, cocoa, coffee, and more!! Pledge and donation sheets available. Contact Laurie Kari <https://vimeo.com/83239145>

ADULT CATECHISM—JULY 27

Parishioners are welcome to our 2nd presentation. Fr. Chris will present a discussion on "Blessing in the Communion Line." Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are urged to attend this gathering. Fr. Chris will begin at 10:15am.

FAMILY PROMISE JULY 27—AUGUST 3

Volunteers are needed for meals, hosting, setup, and breakdown. Please let us know as soon as possible.

FOOD BANK

Peanut Butter, Jelly,
Rice, Sugar, Flour,
Tomato Sauce, Pasta,
Cereal, Oats,
Milk—Powdered/Can
357-3769

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayers may be requested on-line on the parish web site under Spiritual Life.

LINEN MINISTRY

We need more volunteers to launder Mass linens. Please sign-up in the Sacristy.

SACRED HEART ONLINE GIVING

Simply click the image at our website <http://sacredheartwasilla.org/>
This is a prayerful and convenient way to give safely.

