

GREETINGS FROM FR. SCOTT Fourth Sunday of Easter May 11, 2014

ICELAND: Iceland is located in the North Atlantic Ocean and is an island country the size of Kentucky. It is beautiful and interesting. I was stationed there in the Air Force from 1977-1978. One of my favorite pictures of Iceland is a picture of green rolling hills, covered with tundra, with a pool of water in the background. Three Icelandic sheep are grazing.

PONDERING NO SHEPHERD: I was intrigued with the Icelandic sheep. They ran wild all over the island. There are no fences in Iceland. I saw no sheep dogs or shepherds. I pondered the idea of sheep without a shepherd. First, they could not stray far because they would run into the ocean. Second, if they strayed, they would not get eaten because there are no predators on Iceland.

ICELANDIC SHEPHERDS NEEDED: However, shepherds were needed for the yearly roundup. Each year shepherds come together with their sheep dogs and roamed the island on horseback to round up all the sheep. They then herded them into Reykjavik, through a narrow gate, and into a corral. In the corral the sheep are divided among all the shepherds, sheared, and then released for another year.

WE NEED SHEPHERD: Not only do sheep need shepherds, but people need them as well. Archbishop Roger Schwietz is the shepherd for the Archdiocese of Anchorage. Shepherds are responsible for showing us and nudging us through the narrow gate. They are in charge of ensuring that we have a spiritual house and that we have a faith path to follow.

THREE MUNERA: Bishops are the predecessors of the original disciples. Canon Law (c. 375) tells us that through the Holy Spirit and by divine institution, Bishops are successors to the apostles. Archbishop Schwietz is a priest of sacred worship, a teacher of doctrine, and a minister of governance. Through his episcopal consecration, he is ultimately responsible to ensure the three *munera* (functions) of Christ are carried out: sanctifying, teaching, and governing.

WE HAVE PREDATORS: A shepherd is not out in front of the flock, but in the back nudging and prodding. Every archdiocese needs a bishop to keep its people safe and united together. Unlike Iceland, we have predators. We need to be reminded that when we stray, we are easy prey for wolves. When we are united, we have the protection of our flock. Like a shepherd, the Archbishop carries a crosier (staff) to nudge straying Catholics back to the main flock.

GIVE THANKS: Let us give thanks for the Bishops who shepherd us and keep us together as a strong and healthy community; the priests who teach us and lead us in prayer; the Deacons who keep the wolves away; the sisters and brothers of the religious orders who give their lives to building up our Catholic Church.

THANKS FOR OUR SPIRITUAL HOUSE: Above all, thanks to all of you for generously supporting this spiritual house with time, treasure, and talent

STEWARDSHIP

May 4, 2014 \$7,217.25 Online \$600.00
 Last Year \$9,823.75 Online \$775.00

Daily Mass Readings

Monday May 12

Acts 11:1-18 Ps 42:2-3;43:3-4 Jn 10:11-18

Tuesday May 13

Acts 11:19-26 Ps 87:1b-7 Jn 10:22-30

Wednesday May 14

Acts 1:15-17,20-26 Ps 113:1-8 Jn 15:9-17

Thursday May 15

Acts 13:13-25 Ps 89:2-3,21-22.25.27 Jn 13:16-20

Friday May 16

Acts 13:26-33 Ps 2:6-11b Jn 14:1-6

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday

May 10

5:00pm

+ Michael & Margaret Lajcsak

Sunday

May 11

9:00am

For the People

11:30am

+ Florence Wassmann

Monday

May 12

9:00am

Tuesday

May 13

9:00am

Wednesday

May 14

9:00am

Mrs. William T O'Connor

Thursday

May 15

9:00am

Friday

May 16

9:00am



FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation classes will begin in September.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Congratulations to our newly confirmed teens.

ACYC

Alaska Catholic Youth Conference will be June 2-5. Registration forms are on the website: sacredheartwasilla.org.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

GOOGLE QUESTION

Who was chosen as the successor to Judas?

BACCALAUREATE MASS

The Mass to celebrate all graduates—high school, college, tech—will be May 18 at 11:30am. Please submit names of graduates to the office.

ONE BREAD ONE BODY

By now, you should have received a letter from Archbishop Schwietz asking you to share your gift of treasure with the ministries of your local Church through the One Bread, One Body Annual Appeal. Please consider making a gift to support the ministries of your faith community. Help the Archdiocese Go Green! Pledge securely online at www.archdioceseofanchorage.org/donate.



OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Are you skilled in communication, organization, finance, building management, education or catechesis? Do you simply desire a chance to make a major impact in the lives of truly remarkable children? We are now accepting applications for School Board members from all three supporting parishes. Please prayerfully consider applying for this amazing ministry. Contact the school at 376-0883 or at contactlv@valleycatholicschool.org for an application form.

"A heartfelt thank you to the generous donors of Sacred Heart. Your contributions to the tuition/fund of Our Lady of the Valley Catholic School will enable our students to continue their education in a learning environment which instills closeness to our Catholic traditions and values. God bless You."

Joyce Lund, Acting Principal

COMING EVENTS

MAY

- 11 Mother's Day
Dillingham Youth Mission Car Wash
Knights Breakfast for Moms
- 17 Why Catholic? 1:30-3:30pm
- 18 Baccalaureate Mass 11:30am
- 18-25 Family Promise Hosting Week

DILLINGHAM MISSION TRIP

Thank you for supporting our garage sale. We had a lot of fun and now we are closer to our goal. Mark your calendar for our Mother's Day Car Wash. Give mom a shiny, clean car on her day!



JUNE

- 8 Parish picnic w/Blessing of Motorcycles
- 23-27 Dillingham Retreat for Youth

LINEN MINISTRY

Please check the sign-up sheet in the sacristy for available months. We need your help.

FOOD BANK NEEDS

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

WHY CATHOLIC? MAY 17 1:30-3:30PM

A *Believe* event! Gather with Catholics at Sacred Heart for an inspiring experience of prayer, sharing, and learning. We will have a wonderful afternoon exploring our Catholic faith.

FAMILY PROMISE—HOSTING MAY 18-25

We need help delivering meals at 5:30pm to the Day Center on Nelson Road, or hosting from 5:30 to 9, or staying overnight from 9 pm to 8 am. On Friday, May 16, we'll know the number of families. The success of the Family Promise mission depends on you. Your gifts are precious to every family and are appreciated by the Family Promise network and coordinators more than words can say. Thank you for your supporting Family Promise and families in crisis here in the valley. Judith 373-3852