

# GREETINGS FROM FR. SCOTT September 14, 2014 The Exaltation of The Holy Cross

The Exaltation of the Cross, also called the Triumph of the Cross, celebrates the remarkable story of finding the true cross, losing it, and returning it to the city of Jerusalem.

- In 326, Constantine's 80 year old mother, Helena, set sail for Jerusalem.
- Helena was in search of the Cross of Jesus and his tomb.
- She found the site of the tomb but not the cross and established a church.
- The true cross was elusive. It was hidden inside of a well in Jerusalem.
- A Jewish leader told Helena which well to look in.
- They dug for many days and found three crosses.
- Helena let Saint Macarius, Bishop of Jerusalem, figure it out.
- He sent all three crosses to the bedside of a dying woman.
- She touched the first two crosses and nothing happened.
- After touching the third cross, she immediately recovered.
- The true cross remained in Jerusalem in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher.
- In the 600's, Jerusalem was looted by the Persian King Chosroes II
- King Chosroes took the cross back to Persia.
- In 628, Emperor Heraclius II overthrew Persia.
- Heraclius carried the cross to Constantinople, his capital city.
- In 629, Heraclius returned the cross to Jerusalem.

Today's feast, the Triumph of the Cross or the Exaltation of the Cross, commemorates the triumphant return of the holy cross to Jerusalem.

The triumph of the cross: (1) Shows us how to let go of destructive behaviors and embrace a life that is loving, just, and good. (2) Reminds us of the depths that God cared for us in order to save us. (3) Is the price to be paid for sacrificial love. (4) Is the price to be paid for confronting evil head-on. (5) Stands as the sign that God does not condemn us. (6) Stands as the sign that the Son of God came to us, suffered, died, and was raised so that we might know the way that leads to love and eternal life.

The Byzantine Greek Monk, Theodore of Studios, stated, "How splendid the cross of Christ! It brings life, not death; light, not darkness; Paradise, not its loss. It is the wood on which the Lord, like a great warrior, was wounded in hands and feet and side, but healed thereby our wounds. A tree has destroyed us, a tree now brought us life" (Theodore of Studios). Next time you look at Jesus hanging on the cross, think of the brazen serpent Moses raised on a stick so that those bitten would be healed when they looked at it. The brazen serpent became the instrument of God's power. In the same way, the gospel of John presents Jesus on the cross as the source of eternal life. Those of us who look upon him will have our hearts moved by this amazing divine love and come to believe.

## STEWARDSHIP

|              |            |                 |
|--------------|------------|-----------------|
| Sep. 7, 2014 | \$6,655.20 | Online \$410.00 |
| Last Year    | \$5,906.25 | Online \$815.00 |

### Daily Mass Readings

#### **Monday Sep. 15**

1 Cor 11:17-26, 33 Ps 40:7-10, 17 Jn 19:25-27

#### **Tuesday Sep. 16**

1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a Ps 100:1b-5 Lk 7:11-17

#### **Wednesday Sep. 17**

1 Cor 12:31—13:13 Ps 33:2-5, 12, 22 Lk 7:31-35

#### **Thursday Sep. 18**

1 Cor 15:1-11 Ps 118:1b-2, 16-17, 28 Lk 7:36-50

#### **Friday Sep. 19**

1 Cor 15:12-20 Ps 17:1b-d, 6-7, 8b, 15 Lk 8:1-3

## MASS INTENTIONS

### **Saturday**

5:00pm

### **Sep. 13**

For the People of the Parish

### **Sunday**

9:00am

### **Sep. 14**

Gene & Gerri Sauer (Anniversary)

11:30am

+Chad Hall

### **Monday**

9:00am

### **Sep. 15**

### **Tuesday**

9:00am

### **Sep. 16**

+Marcela Rooks

### **Wednesday**

9:00am

### **Sep. 17**

+Victoriano Rala, Jr.

### **Thursday**

9:00am

### **Sep. 18**

### **Friday**

9:00am

### **Sep. 19**



### FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation, Confirmation, and 1st Reconciliation registration forms are available after Mass and on-line. Classes begin September 28. Forms should be turned in as soon as possible.

#### 1st Reconciliation

Classes began on September 13 in the All Saints Center at 3pm. We will celebrate 1st Reconciliation on October 18.

#### CONFIRMATION

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

### MIDDLE SCHOOL GOOGLE QUESTION

Who are two notable martyrs, a layman and a priest, who were dedicated to the Church in Korea?

#### RETROUVAILLE

If your marriage is stressed, Retrouvaille can help you survive and improve marital problems. For more information about the weekend of October 17-19: 1-800-470-2230. [www.HelpOurMarriage.com](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.com)

#### WHY CATHOLIC?

This fall the Why Catholic?-- Small Communities will explore the Creed—our statement of faith. All parishioners are welcome. If you did not participate last year, you can still join or form a small group of family and friends. Please call the office for details.

### OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Enrollment is open—Please call for an appointment—376-0883

#### Annual Raffle:

If you would like to purchase a raffle ticket, please call or stop by the school office or see a parent after the weekend Masses now through 9/21. Ticket prices are \$10 each with only 1,300 tickets available. There are 15 Chances to win! Drawings begin September 22 and final drawing is October 3rd. A ticket is drawn every day for a prize of \$50; then, the ticket goes back in the barrel for more chances. 1st prize is \$1,000, 2nd prize is \$500 and 3rd prize is \$250. Good luck!!

#### Attention Home Demonstrators:

OLV is having a vendor fair Nov 8, 9am—3pm in the social hall. If you are interested in a table, please contact Donna 373-1310 or 232-2634. Tables are “first come first serve basis.”

## COMING EVENTS

### SEPTEMBER

- 13/14 Oktoberfest Ticket Sales after each Mass
- 15 Centering Prayer 6:30 pm
- 18 Rosary 7:00 pm
- 20 1st Reconciliation, Class 2, 3:00 pm
- 28 Adult Catechism 10:15 am

#### SPECIAL STORY & SONG COLLECTION

Thank you Jesse and Sarah for visiting Sacred Heart and sharing your faith and gift of music.

#### RCIA

Are you or someone you know interested in the Catholic Church or have questions about the Church? Inquiry gatherings will be after the 11:30am Mass this weekend in the Family Room. All are Welcome!!

### MINISTRY LISTS

If you will be out of town in November-December, contact the office as soon as possible. Ministers should dress appropriately; no shorts, inappropriate or advertising t-shirts, etc.

### MINISTRY TRAINING

Parish wide training will take place for all mass ministries in October. New and old ministers must attend training. Please call/email the office with questions.

October 4 10am—Noon Altar Servers

October 11 10am—Noon Lectors, music, environment, EMOHC, Hospitality and Communion to homebound

### FOOD BANK

Rice, Sugar, Flour,  
Tomato Sauce, Pasta,  
Cereal, Oats,  
Grocery Bags  
Please write checks to

#### Mat-Su Food Bank

357-3769

### ADULT CATECHISM September 28

Joyce Lund, Principal OLV, presents Classical Curriculum for Catholic Schools.

### PRAYER REQUESTS

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

### SUGGESTION BOX

Parishioners are invited to submit suggestions for Adult Catechism topics on-line in our suggestion box on the Sacred Heart Homepage.