

GREETINGS FROM FR. SCOTT September 21, 2014 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Growing up in Bend, Oregon, one of my fondest memories was getting a surprise from the Big Eagle. Every Friday after his job at the lumber mill, my dad stopped off at the old stump outside the mill. There was something hidden there; candy, and lots of it. As the story goes, there was a Big Eagle that flew down and put candy into this big hollow stump every Friday. Brenda, Skip, and I would always be waiting at the door when my dad came home. We looked forward to Friday's because it was Big Eagle Day.

The workers in the Gospel were surprised that the owner gave those who worked less the same wage. Here is the surprise: Out of genuine concern for the unemployed workers who started late, and for their families, the vineyard owner paid them the same wage. The wage was not proportionate to the work they did. It was proportionate to their needs.

Surprise means to express forcibly through unexpectedness. The Bible is full of surprises.

The Father in the prodigal son kills the fatted calf when his wayward son returned after spending his inheritance. Jesus asks us to love our enemies. The meek will inherit the earth. The last shall be first and the first shall be last: surprise, surprise, surprise.

The vineyard owner's actions are intended to demonstrate God's compassion and generosity towards all. The parable is not about the jealousy of the workers. It is about the goodness, the kindness, and love that the landowner has for unemployed workers with families.

Those who only worked one hour got paid the same as those who struggled all day. That might be compared to the story of St. Augustine's father. His father was a pagan all his life. He was baptized on his deathbed. Saint Augustine believed that in a deathbed baptism, no matter what kind of life you have led, you go straight to heaven. Our Heavenly father is extremely generous and merciful.

I will leave you with this surprise: Michael McGirr, a Catholic author in the 1950's, wrote a book entitled, *Things You Get for Free*. In that book he wrote about the crisis of belief.

He said, "The crisis of belief is that people inside the church sometimes cannot believe that people outside its traditional structures can experience the love of Jesus. God loves and guides the church, but is not bound by it. God is busy about making sure those who might be last have a chance to become first."

STEWARDSHIP

Sep. 14, 2014 \$5,821.30 Online \$1,490.00
 Last Year \$6,380.85 Online \$1,305.00

Daily Mass Readings

Monday Sep. 22
 Prv 3:27-34 Ps 15:2-4b, 5 Lk 8:16-18

Tuesday Sep. 23
 Prv 21:1-6, 10-13 Ps 119:1, 27, 30, 34-35, 44 Lk 8:19-21

Wednesday Sep. 24
 Prv 30:5-9 Ps 119:29, 72, 89, 101, 104, 163 Lk 9:1-6

Thursday Sep. 25
 Eccl 1:2-11 Ps 90:3-6, 12-14, 17bc Lk 9:7-9

Friday Sep. 26
 Eccl 3:1-11 Ps 144:1b, 2abc, 3-4 Lk 9:18-22

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday Sep. 20
 5:00pm +Michael & Margaret Lajcsak

Sunday Sep. 21
 9:00am For the People of the Parish
 11:30am

Monday Sep. 22
 9:00am

Tuesday Sep. 23
 9:00am

Wednesday Sep. 24
 9:00am

Thursday Sep. 25
 9:00am

Friday Sep. 26
 9:00am



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 on Saturdays in the All Saints Center at 3pm. We will celebrate 1st Reconciliation on October 18.

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation 14 meets Sunday, September 21st at 10am in the All Saints Center. Confirmation 14 and Confirmation 15 meet Sunday, September 28th at 1pm in the All Saints Center.

COMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

- 20/21 Oktoberfest Ticket Sales after each Mass
- 21 Knights Breakfast
- 22 Centering Prayer 6:30 pm
- 25 Rosary 7:00 pm
- 27 1st Reconciliation, Class 4, 3:00 pm
- 27 Youth Mass 5pm
Home School Youth Group 6-8:00pm
- 27/28 Debra Lighthart Rosaries and Gifts
- 28 Adult Catechism 10:00 am

OCTOBER

- 3 Home School Gathering 9am-Noon
- 4 Altar Server Training 10am
Oktoberfest
- 10 Adoration 9:30am-11:30am
- 11 Adult Ministry Training 10am
- 18 1st Reconciliation Celebration 11:00am
Confirmation Celebration 5:00pm

MIDDLE SCHOOL GOOGLE QUESTION

Who are the three great heralds of salvation and defenders against evil?

RETROUVAILE

Do you want more for your marriage? For more information about the weekend of October 17-19: 1-800-470-2230.

www.HelpOurMarriage.com

WHY CATHOLIC?

If you've missed the small group experience that you had when you were in RCIA, why not join a Why Catholic small group this fall? We will be exploring What We Believe (the Creed). The sessions are not classes, but instead an opportunity for you to share how God is working in your faith life. September 20/21 is Sign Up Sunday so watch for us in the narthex and join a group. You'll be glad you did!!

OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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

Annual Raffle:

The Knights of Columbus Arctic Madonna Council at Sacred Heart is preparing breakfast this Sunday, 9/21 after the 9 and 11:30am masses. The Knights are generously donating 50% of their breakfast proceeds to our school's scholarship program. Come and show your support for them and for us! Thank you Knights of Columbus! We appreciate all you do for us and for our community!

LAST weekend to get your OLV Annual Raffle Ticket! Tickets are only \$10 with 15 chances to win! Daily drawings of \$50 beginning 9/22 with the final Grand prize drawings on 10/3 for \$1000, \$500 & \$250.

Good Luck!!

RCIA

Are you or someone you know interested in the Catholic Church or have questions about the Church? Please contact the office for more information. 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 10:00am

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.