

GREETINGS FROM FR. SCOTT September 7, 2014 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

When I graduated from high school in 1975, I was a negative thinker and had low self-esteem. I was a loner. I couldn't relate socially very well with others. I did not like myself very much.

Today, there is so much that I like about myself. I have come to the realization that God has made me special, has given me special talents, and has made me in his own image and likeness, just like you!

What do you like best about yourself? The reading from Romans and the Gospel tell us something important: We must love ourselves first, in order to love others. Saint Paul believed, "Our love of God is expressed in the healthy and appropriate esteem we have for ourselves."

About loving ourselves, Saint Ignatius of Loyola believes, "One of the greatest gifts the Lord can give us is when we see our sinfulness for what it is, but are not overwhelmed by it."

To love yourself is to not beat yourself up inside. Deal with your sin in a healthy way, i.e. go to confession and communion. Loving yourself means to start again, keep struggling, and don't give up. And while you are doing that, cut yourself some slack! Letting our sinfulness pull us down is the devil's work!

In the Gospel Jesus teaches this: Those who do not love themselves, and thus cannot love their neighbors, should be treated with dignity and respect. Offer them every opportunity to seek forgiveness. After exhausting every possible effort to help them, it may be clear that they can no longer be a part of the Christian family. This seems harsh. But even Christians have boundaries.

We have a responsibility to call people to conversion through love and forgiveness, even if it means tough love. Tough love means being firm with those we love. Turning in an abusive friend or reporting a shoplifter may be the best thing for that person.

Jesus tells us everything we must do to bring someone back into the fold, including tough love. "Tell him his fault, tell him again with witnesses, tell the church." If that still does not work, then he should be expelled. The three step lesson is confrontation, intervention, and excommunication.

This program tells us how to act responsibly toward our brothers and sisters who are having difficulties in life. If we love ourselves and call on the Holy Spirit, we will be able to convert a lost sheep, one who is straying from the fold.

There is no greater way to store up treasure in heaven than to lead a person back to the flock. In order to do that we have to have a good answer to the following question: How do I love and forgive myself?

STEWARDSHIP

Aug. 31, 2014	\$4,856.55	Online \$890.00
Last Year	\$5,068.30	Online \$870.00
Story & Song Collection: \$1,470.90		

Daily Mass Readings

Monday Sep. 8

Mi 5:1-4a Ps 13:6abc Mt 1:1-16, 18-23

Tuesday Sep. 9

1 Cor 6:1-11 Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b Lk 6:12-19

Wednesday Sep. 10

1 Cor 7:25-31 Ps 45:11-12, 14-17 Lk 6:20-26

Thursday Sep. 11

1 Cor 8:1b-7, 11-13 Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14b, 23-24 Lk 6:27-38

Friday Sep. 12

1 Cor 9:16-19, 22b-27 Ps 84:3-6, 8, 12 Lk 6:39-42

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	Sep. 6
5:00pm	+Demosthenes Sims
Sunday	Sep. 7
9:00am	For the People of the Parish
11:30am	+Earl Hopp
Monday	Sep. 8
9:00am	
Tuesday	Sep. 9
9:00am	
Wednesday	Sep. 10
9:00am	
Thursday	Sep. 11
9:00am	
Friday	Sep. 12
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 /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. A meeting for parents will be in the All Saints Center at 1pm on Sunday, September 7.

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.

COMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

- 6 Story & Song Jesse Manibusan & Sarah Hart
Music workshop 1:30—3:30pm
Mass 5pm
- 7 1st Reconciliation Parent Mtg 1pm All Saints
- 8 Centering Prayer 6:30pm
- 11 Rosary 7:00pm
- 12 OLV Mass with Archbishop Schwietz

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!!

MIDDLE SCHOOL GOOGLE QUESTION

What feast is celebrated nine months after the Immaculate Conception?

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

WHY CATHOLIC?

This fall the Why Catholic?-- Small Communities will explore the Creed—our statement of faith. On Monday, Sept. 8 at 6pm, All Saints Center we will hold a Why Catholic? workshop to discuss the fall groups. All parishioners are welcome. If you did not participate last year, you can still join or form a small group of family and friends. Find out all the details on Sept. 8.

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.”

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 Altar Servers on October 4 from 10am—Noon. Lectors, music, environment, EMOHC, Hospitality and Communion to homebound will meet on October 11 from 10am—Noon.

HOMESCHOOL GROUP

Our 1st meeting is this Friday, September 12th. We will gather for the 9am Mass. After Mass we meet in the All Saints Center for snacks, religious activities, and fun games. All homeschool families are welcome. Please call Andrea at 376-1330 with questions.

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.