

## GREETINGS FROM FR. SCOTT

In Old Testament days Jewish males were obligated to be circumcised. It marked them as God's people. Saint Paul in Galatians is explaining that you do not need to be circumcised to become a Christian. Not to boast, but for some reason I was circumcised twice: once when I was born and once when I was five years old. I still really don't know why.

In Galatians, Saint Paul also asks us never to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. I would rather not go into detail about circumcision, so instead I am going to talk about boasting. There are 58 verses in the Bible that contain the word boast. A similar word is brag. In Webster's dictionary, boast is different. Bragging is worse than boasting. Bragging suggests rudeness and sincerity in glorifying oneself. Boasting is talking with excessive pride and self-satisfaction about one's achievements, possessions, or abilities.

Boasting is a favorite expression for Saint Paul. For Paul, boasting is an expression of absolute confidence in God, whose grace is revealed in Christ. Saint Paul gives us this message: Boasting can actually be good. The secret is not to boast in oneself, but boast in the Lord.

Boasting for Paul is not glorifying oneself or talking about how great we are or how much we have accomplished. Boasting gives glory to God who makes us a new creation in Christ. Boasting in the Lord is not telling everyone we are better because we go to Mass or know Jesus. Boasting in the Lord entails a certain amount of humility.

If you want to boast about something, boast because you belong to God. That is exactly what Jesus told his returning disciples in the Gospel today. He said, "Don't rejoice or brag about your own success. If you are going to boast, boast about your connection to God. Boast because you belong to God."

Paul says, "Whoever boasts should boast in the Lord." What exactly does it mean to "boast in the Lord"?

Boasting in the Lord is not about being like a fruit tree that turns to its source and tries to feed itself on its fruit! It's about keeping one's focus directed outward from the inside toward the Lord.

In Biblical times, boasting in the Lord meant that the people boasted about the power and grace God gave them to help build the temple. Boasting about the Lord helped them to remember that it was not just them building the temple, but the people, with the help of God, were building the temple.

Today boasting in the Lord is praising God by singing loudly at Mass; standing up for our Christian beliefs; giving God credit for our accomplishments; thanking God for our gifts such as being creative, talented, smart, adaptable, easygoing, patient, or focused, or whatever gifts we have, and acknowledging that it is not me, but me and God. That is boasting in the Lord.

### STEWARDSHIP

June 30, 2013	\$6,048.10	Online \$755.00
Last Year	\$5,621.35	Online \$0.00

#### Daily Mass Readings

#### Monday July 8

Gn 28:10-22a Ps 91:1-4,14-15ab Mt 9:18-26

#### Tuesday July 9

Gn 32:23-33 Ps 17:1-3.6-7 Mt 9:32-38

#### Wednesday July 10

Gn 41:55-57;42:5-7a Ps 33:2-+3,10-11 Mt 10:1-7

#### Thursday July 11

Gn 44:18-21 P 105:16-21 Mt 10:7-15

#### Friday July 12

Gn 46:1-7 Ps 37:3-4,18-19 Mt 10:16-23

### MASS INTENTIONS

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>July 6</b>
5:00pm	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>July 7</b>
9:00am	
11:30am	For the People of the Parish
<b>Monday</b>	<b>July 8</b>
9:00am	
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>July 9</b>
9:00am	
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>July 10</b>
9:00am	
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>July 11</b>
9:00am	+ Nancy Inglis
<b>Friday</b>	<b>July 12</b>
9:00am	+ Shan Satterfield



## FAITH FORMATION

Classes for Faith Formation and Confirmation will resume in Sept.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL GOOGLE QUESTION

Who is Augustine Zhao Rong and why was he tortured and killed?

## MINISTRY TRAINING

On October 12, the parishes in the Valley will come together for Mass ministry training: Eucharistic Ministers, Hospitality, Servers, Music, Linens, and Lectors. Please mark your calendar if you wish to continue or join one of these ministries.

## ON-LINE GIVING

Recently we updated our Online Giving link to a new address; this will not affect any donations you have scheduled, your account information or anything else in your account. It will, however, affect any bookmarks you may have created on your computer. The next time you access your Online Giving account on the church website, click on the new Online Giving logo and bookmark this new address.



## OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Why Catholic school for your child? Catholic schools emphasize a challenging core curriculum that stimulates students to question, evaluate, discover, and create. Students encounter a broad variety of learning experiences that blends the traditional and the innovative. These experiences together with strong Catholic values, foster every student's ability to shape the world through his or her ideas and vision. We have a place for your child. Please call the office 376-0883 or 715-2788.

—Theresa Sand, Principal

## WELCOME TO SACRED HEART

Sacred Heart welcomes all our summer visitors to Alaska and our parish. Have a safe and happy summer vacation.



## COMING EVENTS

### JULY

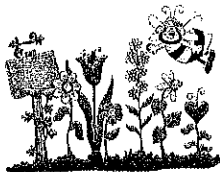
8 Centering Prayer 6:30pm  
11 Rosary 7pm

### OCTOBER

12 Ministry Training

### KNIGHTS GARDEN BOXES

The Knights have garden boxes left for families to plant for the Food Pantry.



### 2nd COLLECTION—BLUE ENVELOPES

The 2nd collection this week is for the support of the new sign construction.

### DILLINGHAM MISSION TRIP

We had a great time on our mission and will be telling everyone about what we did and what we learned. Thanks for supporting our trip. You can see our pictures on the parish web page link to Facebook. Caroline, AJ, Alex, Bradley, Samantha, Corby, Oliver, Michael, and Alyssa.



### FOOD PANTRY

Items needed at the pantry:  
toilet paper, flour, sugar,  
cereal, oatmeal,  
all kinds of baby food  
357-3769

\*\*The Pantry needs lots  
of grocery sacks.

### WELCOME FR. CHRIS!

Fr. Chris Arockiaraj, S.S. was ordained in 1995. He is a Sulpician priest and full time faculty member at St. Patrick's Seminary in San Francisco. He is a professor, spiritual director, advisor and supply-priest in local parishes on weekends. During the academic year, he teaches courses such as Pastoral Counseling, 12-step Spirituality, World Religions, Introduction to Spirituality etc. He also celebrates mass in Spanish. As a faculty in a seminary, he has a summer vacation in July, so he has agreed to come and replace Fr. Andrew and myself during our vacations.