

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church Newsletter

August 9, 2020



My Dear Parishioners,

Big developments! Priests and deacons of the Archdiocese are now allowed to perform weddings in a venue other than the parish church. Yes, now we can preside at a wedding at a wedding venue. We can even do an outside wedding. These are some of the general guidelines

- The following guidelines apply to all proposed locations.
- The parish church is the preferred location for all Catholic marriages. Before making a request for another venue, the priest or deacon should strongly encourage the couple to have the ceremony in a church.
- The location should be in keeping with the sacredness of the character of Catholic marriage.
- The location should be in keeping with the sacredness for the occasion.
- The location should be an established wedding venue.
- The actual Rite of Marriage may be inside or outside, as long as the wedding occurs at an established wedding venue.
- The wedding location may not be a commercial (for profit) non-denominational church or chapel, in a private home, a bar, a restaurant, casino, on a boat, on the water, or other similar location.
- Marriages that take place outside of a Catholic Church, Oratory or Chapel can only take place using “The Order of Celebrating Matrimony without Mass”.

Of course, all Catholics are strongly encouraged to be married “in the Church” and now thankfully, they can be married “in the Church” even if it happens to be in a place other than the parish church. If you have any questions, please contact myself or one of the deacons. If you would like one of us to preside at your wedding, please contact us personally.

Of course, a powerful and certain way to grow in our relationship with Our Blessed Savior is to cultivate a devotion to the saints. The saints are those who have run the race and received their crowning glory. The saints then offer us good example. They are also praying for us and longing for the day when we join them. By becoming a friend of the saints we allow them to become our guides to Heaven. This is why I write a lot on the saints.

Sunday, August 9, is the Feast of St. Theresa Benedicta of the Cross. That was her professed name. The name she was given at birth was Edith Stein. Edith Stein was extremely intelligent and had an unquenchable thirst for knowledge. Her thirst for knowledge would lead her on great intellectual journey: a journey that would take her from atheism to Catholicism to the Consecrated Life to Martyrdom at the hands of the Nazis. I do encourage you to learn more about her life. Moreover, if you too are on an intellectual journey to God, I encourage you to become her friend and then let her become your guide. In this newsletter, I have included an excerpt from her spiritual writings.

I have also included this Sunday's readings.

Yet us continue to pray our Rosaries and Chaplets for our first responders, for our sick, and for an end of the pandemic.

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us!
Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, pray for us!

Fr. Michael J Pawelko





From the spiritual writings of St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross

“Ave Crux, spes unica!” (“I welcome you, Cross, our only hope.”)

“We greet you, Holy Cross, our only hope!” The church puts these words on our lips during the time of the passion which is dedicated to the contemplation of the bitter sufferings of our Lord Jesus Christ. The world is in flames. The struggle between Christ and anti-Christ rages openly, and so if you decide for Christ you can even be asked to sacrifice your life. Contemplate the Lord Who hangs before you on the wood, because He was obedient even to the death of the cross. He came into the world not to do His own will but that of the Father. And if you wish to be the spouse of the Crucified, you must renounce completely your own will and have no other aspiration than to do the will of God.

Before your the Redeemer hangs on the cross stripped and naked, because He chose poverty. Those who would follow Him must renounce every earthly possession. Stand before the Lord Who hangs from the cross with His heart torn open. He poured out the blood of His heart in order to win your heart. In order to follow Him in holy chastity, your heart must be free from every earthly aspiration. Jesus Crucified must be the object of your every longing, of your every desire, of your every thought.

The world is in flames: the fire can spread even to our house, but above all the flames the cross stands on high, and it cannot be burnt. The cross is the way which leads from earth to heaven. Those who embrace it with faith, love, and hope are taken up, right into the heart of the Trinity. The world is in flames: do you wish to put them out? Contemplate the cross: from His open heart the blood of the Redeemer pours, blood which can put out even the flames of hell. Through the faithful observance of the vows you make your heart free and open; and then the floods of that divine love will be able to flow into it, making it overflow and bear fruit to the furthest reaches of the earth.

Through the power of the cross you can be present wherever there is pain, carried there by your compassionate charity, by that very charity, which you draw from the divine heart. That charity enables you to spread everywhere the most precious blood in order to ease pain, save and redeem. The eyes of the Crucified gaze upon you. They question you and appeal to you. Do you wish seriously to renew your alliance with Him What will your response be?

“Lord, where shall I go? You alone have the words of life.”

Ave Crux, spes unica!



Sunday Mass Readings

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary

Reading 1: [1 Kings 19:9a, 11-13a \(115A\)](#)

At the mountain of God, Horeb, Elijah came to a cave where he took shelter. Then the LORD said to him, “Go outside and stand on the mountain before the LORD; the LORD will be passing by.” A strong and heavy wind was rending the mountains and crushing rocks before the LORD—but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake—but the LORD was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake there was fire—but the LORD was not in the fire. After the fire there was a tiny whispering sound. When he heard this, Elijah hid his face in his cloak and went and stood at the entrance of the cave.

Responsorial Psalm: [PS 85:9, 10, 11-12, 13-14](#)

R. (8) Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

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| ▶ I will hear what God proclaims;
the LORD — for he proclaims peace.
Near indeed is his salvation to those
who fear him,
glory dwelling in our land. R. | Truth shall spring out of the earth,
and justice shall look down
from heaven. R. |
| ▶ Kindness and truth shall meet;
justice and peace shall kiss. | ▶ The LORD himself will give his benefits;
our land shall yield its increase.
Justice shall walk before him,
and prepare the way of his steps. R. |

Reading 2: [ROM 9:1-5](#)

Brothers and sisters: I speak the truth in Christ, I do not lie; my conscience joins with the Holy Spirit in bearing me witness that I have great sorrow and constant anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. They are Israelites; theirs the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; theirs the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, is the Christ, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

Alleluia: [PS 130:5](#)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

▶ I wait for the Lord; my soul waits for his word.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel: [MT 14:22-33](#)

After he had fed the people, Jesus made the disciples get into a boat and precede him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. After doing so, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When it was evening he was there alone. Meanwhile the boat, already a few miles offshore, was being tossed about by the waves, for the wind was against it. During the fourth watch of the night, he came toward them walking on the sea. When the disciples saw him walking on the sea they were terrified. “It is a ghost,” they said, and they cried out in fear. At once Jesus spoke to them, “Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid.” Peter said to him in reply, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” He said, “Come.” Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus. But when he saw how strong the wind was he became frightened; and, beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!” Immediately Jesus stretched out his hand and caught Peter, and said to him, “O you of little faith, why did you doubt?” After they got into the boat, the wind died down. Those who were in the boat did him homage, saying, “Truly, you are the Son of God.”



Parish Food Pantry Needs

OLSH Food Pantry Team are still providing for many families and need donations. Here's the list of food pantry needs:

- Deodorant
- Coffee
- Hand soap
- Can chicken
- School Supplies (all kinds/ all grade levels)
- Toothbrushes (soft)
- Laundry detergent
- Cleaning supplies
- Shampoo & Conditioner

If you are facing difficulties where the Parish Pantry can help, or if you know of someone else in need, please do not hesitate to contact Deacon Gary and Pat Schoenenberger at **(215) 230-8897**. We assured that all contacts remain confidential. We will be happy to fill your shopping list the best we can and bring everything out to your car for you. We are here to help. Stay safe and God Bless.



USA

WE NEED STAMPS!

The Parish Raffle that is drawn at our Christmas Bazaar & Craft Fair, is in need of stamp donations. Due to decreased attendance at masses, less people will be picking up their raffle tickets in person, so we will need to mail them. Please help defer the postage costs! You can drop the stamps off or mail to the Rectory Office or place them in the collection basket. Thank you!

FOREVER