

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church Newsletter

July 26, 2020

My Dear Parishioners,

In our society, a “STEM” education has become all the rage. Yet, while we emphasize science, technology, engineering, and math, studies in other areas have suffered. Among subjects that suffer is history, especially American History. Which is sad.

We know that good citizens are also a well-informed citizens and well informed citizens know their history. History helps develop a loyalty to a country and a national identity. Knowledge of the history, moreover, helps good citizens to properly assess current events and to make better choices on how to proceed into the future. Knowledge of history, then, is essential for building a better tomorrow. Knowledge of history is also essential for preventing a society from making the same mistakes of the past, for as we know, those who are ignorant of history are condemned to repeat it.

There is a lot of evidence that we as a society no longer know our history. Look at all the young people who now support socialism and even communism. These are people who absolutely do not know their history. If they did know their history they would know the horrors of the Soviet Union and Communist China under Joseph Stalin and Mao Zedong and would absolutely have nothing to do with either socialism or communism. Which is why, we as a nation, have to recapture the importance of history.

Which brings us to the topic of Church History. It is important that we know our own history as a Christian Community for the same reasons that it is important to know our American History. Knowing our Church History helps us to be good Christian Citizens of both Church and state. Knowing Church History helps us to properly assess current situations in both the Church and state and to make good choices on how to proceed into the future. Ignatius Press is a good place to start if you are interested in picking up a new Church History book for some summer reading.

The best place to start studying Church History, however, is the New Testament. In fact, the very first Church History book even written is the Acts of the Apostles. “Acts” records the period immediately following Our Blessed Savior’s Ascension into Heaven to just before the martyrdoms of the Apostles Saints Peter and Paul (about 33AD to about 60AD).

Then there are the Letters of the New Testament. The Letters of Saints Peter, Paul, and John address topics of central importance to the Early Church. These topics included Church unity, the need for virtuous behavior, the need for perseverance in the face of persecution, warnings against false teachers, warnings against those who cause division, and how to bring Gentiles into the Church.



Right after the New Testament, the next most important group of Early Christian writings are the writings of those now called the “Apostolic Fathers.” The Apostolic Fathers are a group of Christian leaders and writers who immediately succeeded the Apostles. Most of them, moreover, personally new Apostles and were personally taught by the Apostles.

As we would expect, they themselves wrote and taught on many of the same topics that were important to the Apostles. As we would also expect, these writings were of extreme importance to the Early Church. Some in the Early Church held these writing with such high regard that they thought that these writings should have been included in the New Testament.

The Apostolic Fathers include Pope St. Clement of Rome, St Ignatius of Antioch, and St. Polycarp of Smyrna. Their letters are available in book form and also on the internet. Try this link to find at least some of them along with the writings of other Fathers of the Church: <https://www.newadvent.org/fathers/>

As good Catholic citizens, I do encourage all to know their history, including and maybe especially our Church History. As good, informed, Christian citizens then, we can truly build on our past to make a better future.

Last week was the funeral of our retire pastor, Fr. John McBride. I was happy that we were able to include a memorial to Fr. McBride in last week’s bulletin and e-newsletter. He certainly deserved it.

Some of you have asked about making a memorial donation in Fr. McBride’s honor. If you do, please indicate that in the donation. We are planning to set aside the memorial donations and to use the donations for some new sacred vessels and sacred vestments in his honor. May Fr. McBride, and all of the souls of the Faithfully Departed, rest in peace.

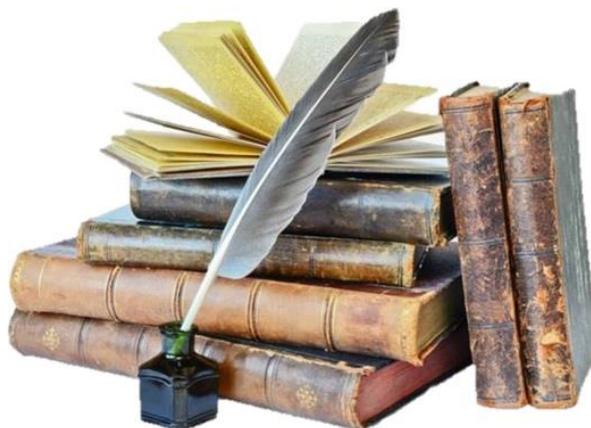
Starting this week, we will have a prayer request basket. You will find the forms in the Narthex. Simply fill it out and drop in the basket and the prayer intention will be remembered by the priest celebrating Mass. In this time of so many challenges, prayer is more important than ever.

In this newsletter I have included an excerpt from St Ignatius of Antioch Letter to the Magnesians. I have also included this Sunday’s Readings.

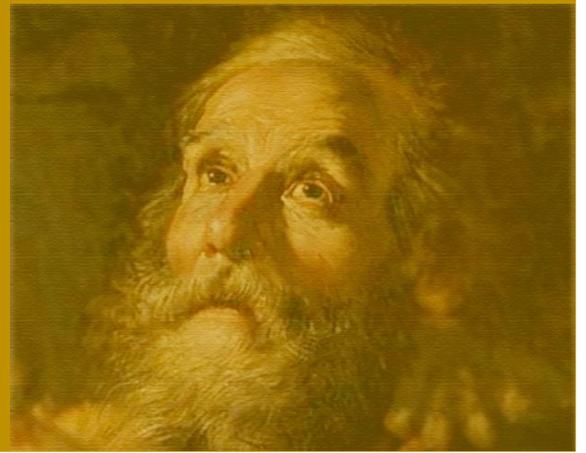
Let us continue to pray for each other and let us continue to pray our Rosaries and our Chaplets for first responders, those in the military, for those sickened by the coronavirus and for an end to the pandemic.

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

Fr. Michael J Pawelko



From St. Ignatius of Antioch's Letter to the Magnesians



Theme: United in one prayer and one hope, in joy and holiness

Since I have met the persons I have just mentioned and seeing and embracing them I have seen and embraced your whole congregation, I exhort you — be zealous to do all things in harmony with God, with the bishop presiding in the place of God, and the presbyters in the place of the Council of the Apostles, and the deacons, who are most dear to me, entrusted with the service of Jesus Christ, who was from eternity with the Father and was made manifest at the end of time. Be all in conformity with God, and respect one another, and let no man judge his neighbor according to the flesh, but in everything love one another in Jesus Christ. Let there be nothing in you which can divide you, but be united with the bishop and with those who preside over you as an example and lesson of immortality.

Just as the Lord was united to the Father and did nothing without him, neither by himself nor through the Apostles, so you also must do nothing without the bishop and the presbyters. Do not attempt to make anything appear right for you by yourselves, but let there be in common one prayer, one supplication, one mind, one hope in love, in the joy which is without fault, the joy that is Jesus Christ, than whom there is nothing better. Hasten all to come together as to one temple of God, as to one altar, to one Jesus Christ, who came from the one Father, and is with one Father, and returned to one Father.

Do not let yourselves be seduced by foreign teachings or by old and worthless fables. If we continue to live according to Jewish law then we are simply showing that we have not received grace. Look at their holy prophets: their lives were filled with Jesus Christ and inspired by his grace to teach doubters that there is one God, and for this they were persecuted. That one God manifested himself through Jesus Christ his son, who is his Word proceeding from silence and in all respects was well-pleasing to the One who sent him.

You see how the followers of the ancient customs have come to a new hope. They no longer rule their lives by the Sabbath but by the Lord's Day, which is our day also, the day on which also our life sprang up through him and his death. Though some deny it, it is by this mystery that we received faith, and for this reason also we suffer, that we may be found to be true disciples of Jesus Christ our only teacher. If all this is true, how can we possibly not give him a place in our lives, since even the prophets were his disciples in the Spirit and looked forward to him as their teacher? They waited for him in righteousness, and when he came he raised them from the dead.



Sunday Mass Readings

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary

Reading 1: [1 KGS 3:5, 7-12](#)

The LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream at night. God said, “Ask something of me and I will give it to you.” Solomon answered: “O LORD, my God, you have made me, your servant, king to succeed my father David; but I am a mere youth, not knowing at all how to act. I serve you in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a people so vast that it cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant, therefore, an understanding heart to judge your people and to distinguish right from wrong. For who is able to govern this vast people of yours?”

The LORD was pleased that Solomon made this request. So God said to him: “Because you have asked for this—not for a long life for yourself, nor for riches, nor for the life of your enemies, but for understanding so that you may know what is right—I do as you requested. I give you a heart so wise and understanding that there has never been anyone like you up to now, and after you there will come no one to equal you.”

Responsorial Psalm: [PS 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130](#)

R. (97a) **Lord, I love your commands.**

- ▶ I have said, O LORD, that my part is to keep your words. The law of your mouth is to me more precious than thousands of gold and silver pieces. **R.**
- ▶ Let your kindness comfort me according to your promise to your servants. Let your compassion come to me that I may live, for your law is my delight. **R.**
- ▶ For I love your command more than gold, however fine. For in all your precepts I go forward; every false way I hate. **R.**
- ▶ Wonderful are your decrees; therefore I observe them. The revelation of your words sheds light, giving understanding to the simple. **R.**

Reading 2: [ROM 8:28-30](#)

Brothers and sisters: We know that all things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, so that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. And those he predestined he also called; and those he called he also justified; and those he justified he also glorified.

Alleluia

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

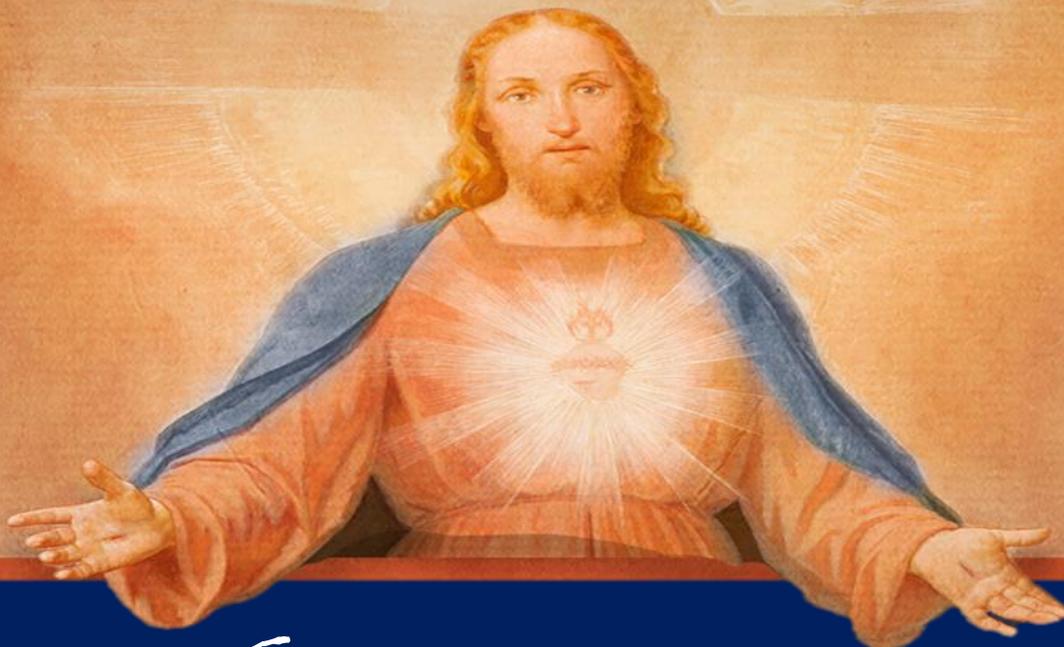
The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower. All who come to him will have life forever.

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

Gospel: [MT 13:44-52](#) OR [13:44-46](#)

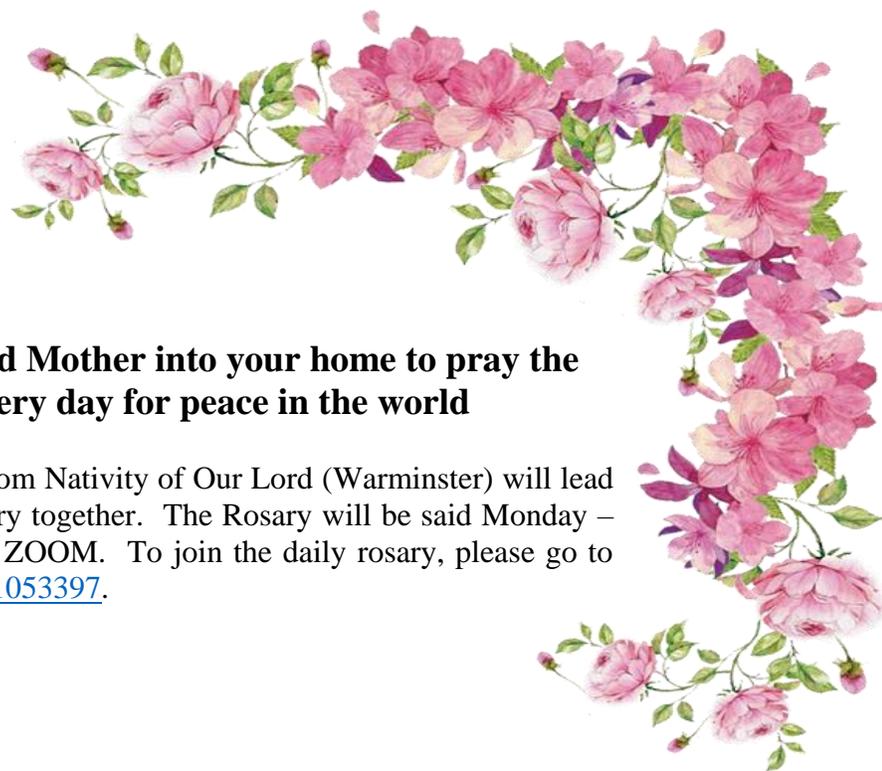
Jesus said to his disciples: “The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net thrown into the sea, which collects fish of every kind. When it is full they haul it ashore and sit down to put what is good into buckets. What is bad they throw away. Thus it will be at the end of the age. The angels will go out and separate the wicked from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.

“Do you understand all these things?” They answered, “Yes.” And he replied, “Then every scribe who has been instructed in the kingdom of heaven is like the head of a household who brings from his storeroom both the new and the old.”



Prayer Intentions

We will have a basket for you to place your Prayer Intentions in. For all of your concerns for your loved ones, sick relatives and friends, those searching for employment, school concerns, our country, etc. Our concerns are endless. Fill out a Prayer Request and place in the basket or mail to the Rectory and we will place them in the basket for you.



Invite the Blessed Mother into your home to pray the rosary every day for peace in the world

The Legion of Mary from Nativity of Our Lord (Warminster) will lead us in praying the Rosary together. The Rosary will be said Monday – Friday at 4:00 PM via ZOOM. To join the daily rosary, please go to <https://zoom.us/j/93381053397>.





CHRISTMAS BAZAAR DONATION CURBSIDE DROP-OFF July 25 & 26, 2020

Garage behind the Chapel ~ Before & After Mass

We ask you to wear a Mask as the Volunteers will too.



There are a few changes this year in what we are looking for. Due to space constraints, please adhere to the list below.

- Books: in good condition
- Gems and Jewelry: in good condition
- Santa's Attic: **Holiday Décor, Toys, Games, Puzzles**

Please NO HOUSEHOLD GOODS!

We are also in great need of donations for the raffle baskets. If you have any NEW items or gift cards (new or partially used) we would happily accept those. Please consider purchasing an item that would work in a raffle basket and donating it to the bazaar. Due to COVID-19, we anticipate that donations from local businesses will be down.

Questions please email: olshbazaarhilltown@gmail.com