

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church

June 21, 2020

My Dear Parishioners,

This past Friday was the Feast of the Sacred Heart, which is a Feast established at the request of Jesus Himself. In Seventeenth Century France, Jesus appeared to St. Margret Mary, a Visitation nun, asking her assistance in establishing this Feast. We are so blessed to have such a beautiful record of her vision and conversation with Jesus:

Being before the Blessed Sacrament one day within the Octave of Corpus Christi, I (St. Margret Mary) received, from my God, consolations of His love, and I felt urged with the desire of making Him some return, and of rendering Him love for love. He said, *“Thou cannot make me a greater return of love than by doing what I have so often asked of you.”*

Then, showing me His Divine Heart, He said to me, *“behold this Heart, which has loved men so much, that it has spared nothing, even to exhausting and consuming itself, in order to testify to them in love, and in return I have received from the greater number of people nothing but ingratitude by reason of their irreverence and sacrileges, and by the coldness and contempt which they show me in this Sacrament of My Love. But what I feel most keenly is that it is hearts which are consecrated to me that treat me thus. Therefore I ask of you that the Friday after the Octave of Corpus Christi be set apart for a special Feast to honor my Heart, by worthily receiving Holy Communion on that day, and by making reparation to it by a solemn act, so as to make amends for the indignities which it has received during the time it has been exposed on the altars. I promise thee that my Heart shall expand itself to shed in abundance the influence of its divine love upon those who shall thus honor it and cause it to be honored.”*

The human heart of Our Blessed Savior is the object of our devotion because it is the heart of a Divine Person, the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity, and because it is the symbol of Our Blessed Savior’s human and Divine love for all people.

And there is no greater proof, no surer sign, of Our Blessed Savior’s love for us that even after our hearts had grown cold, had grown indifferent, He gave us this beautiful devotion of the Sacred Heart.

So we rejoice in the fact that Our Blessed Savior loves us so much, that He never ever gives up on us. He never ever gives up on us!

What a great consolation that He stills loves us in spite of our own sins. Not only that, but *because* of our weaknesses, because of our distractions, because of our sins, He wants us, wants us, come back again and again to His Sacred Heart. He wants us to pray to His Sacred Heart and to make that solemn act of reparation for our sins and the sins of others, so that He can again pour His love out upon us.

With our own faithful devotion to His Sacred Heart He allows us to abandon ourselves more and more to Him and to His Divine will. With devotion to the Sacred Heart, we become one with His Heart, and He becomes ever more the rule of all of our desires, all of our words, and all of our actions. So I encourage all of you, my dear parishioners, that if you do not practice this beautiful devotion to the Sacred Heart already, to do so, not because I want you to, but because Jesus wants you to.

Jesus, meek and humble of Heart, make my heart like unto Thine

Fr. Michael J Pawelko





Ask Father Pawelko

Please send in your questions about the Sacred Liturgy and the Sacred Scriptures, and I will do my best to answer them in this column.

Why can we eat pork, but the Jewish people can't? This is a good question that has a long answer.

When we think of the Law of Moses, we usually immediately think of the Ten Commandments. In fact, the Law of Moses was a huge body of law. Within it, there were three major categories of rules and regulations: Liturgical Law, Cultural Law, and Moral Law.

- The Liturgical Laws governed Temple worship and sacrifices and also governed the cycle of Jewish Feasts.
- The Cultural Laws were designed to set the Jewish people apart from their neighbors and within the Cultural Laws was the prohibition of eating pork.
- Lastly was the Moral Laws, summarized by the Ten Commandments, which governed relationships within the community.

When Jesus Christ established the New and Eternal Covenant, He did so to bring both Jews and Gentiles into one body, one Church. So the Cultural Laws lost their significance. In Acts 10:9-16, the blessed Apostle St. Peter was informed by God through a vision that he was not to reject the use of certain animals for food on a religious basis. The apostle St. Paul also writes, "For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer" (1 Timothy 4:4). And so we Catholic Christians can eat pork. Of course, if we are a Jewish restaurant, we should not ask for it out of respect. Also, we must remember that while bacon tastes soooooo good, too much of it is not good for us!

Podcasts for Catholics Affected by Divorce and Families in Crisis

Two podcasts are being offered through the St. Raymond Nonnatus Foundation for Freedom, Family, and Faith.

Podcast for Catholics Affected by Divorce and Separation

The First Tuesday of each month at 8:00 – 9:00 PM

Podcast for Families in Crisis.

The Last Thursday of each month at 8:00 – 9:00 PM

Both podcasts are available on YouTube, Facebook, Podbean app, and Tune In app. Subscribe to the "Philly Nonnatus" YouTube channel, and on Podbean and Tune In subscribe to: "Patchwork Heart Ministry". For more information go to the foundation website at www.Nonnatus.org, text or call (215) 870-9913.



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Some updates about our Parish, the Coronavirus and “Going Green”

On behalf of our Deacons and Staff, I would like to thank everyone for their enthusiasm as we returned to public Masses two weeks ago. I assure you that no one was happier than me. Here are some things we are hoping will happen as we move from the “yellow phase” to the “green phase.”

- Our hope is to bring back the 9:30 AM Sunday Mass with the first weekend of July.
- Our hope is to also bring back some music that same first weekend of July.
- Moreover, our hope is to begin rotating back in Sacristans, Lectors and Extraordinary Ministers with that first weekend in July.
- Lastly, our hope is to keep the Facebook Live Mass going for at least the near future.

Again, we are taking things slowly and cautiously for the common good, because the virus is still out there and still dangerous. During this period of transition, we thank everyone for their understanding and cooperation. In addition, we are still asking those with pre-existing conditions or general health issues to please consult their physicians before returning to Mass.

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 starting Monday, June 22nd. The Rosary will be said Monday – Friday at 4:00 PM via ZOOM. To join the daily rosary, please go to [Legion of Mary Rosary](#).

