



Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church Newsletter
October 10, 2021

My Dear Parishioners,

October is a magical time of year. The leaves start to change. Some days remind us of summer; other days foreshadow the winter to come. Football and ice hockey replace baseball as the favorite sports on TV. We all head out to the nursery to pick up some mums and pick some pumpkins. Our children and grandchildren start thinking about Halloween. Yes, October is full of wonders.

The change of the seasons happens whether we want it or not and so reminds us that we are a part of something so much bigger than ourselves and that we have little or no control over. The change of the seasons reminds us of the power and beauty of God.

The beauty of this time of year really does remind us of the beauty of God. Beauty of one of the attributes of God and is a reflection of His Love and Providential concern for us.

So, as we take in the beauty of this time of year, we have the opportunity to step outside, with a nice warm cup of coffee and reflect on the beauty of God.

Which brings us to the beautifully written Letter to the Hebrews, which we have heard from for the last couple of weeks. The Letter to the Hebrews is attributed by some scholars to St. Paul, but most modern scholars, along with some ancient scholars, do not believe that it was written by St. Paul himself. These scholars believe that it was most likely written by a student of St. Paul sometime after his martyrdom in the year 63 AD and before the destruction of the Temple of Jerusalem in the year 70 AD.

The student of St. Paul who is now believed to have wrote the letter remains anonymous, but it is believed that the student was most likely a Jewish convert who was well educated, well versed in Greek, and an expert on the Old Testament

Regardless of who actually wrote it, the letter is part of Sacred Scripture, and so the Church affirms that its teaching is the authoritative Word of God. That is why we hear this letter proclaimed at Holy Mass this week.

The Letter authoritatively teaches major themes that are central to our Catholic Faith:

- that Moses and the Prophets were preparation for something greater
- that something greater is Jesus Christ
- that Jesus Christ is the High Priest and Mediator of a New Covenant
- that Jesus Christ continues His role of High Priest and Mediator from His throne in Heaven
- that Jesus Christ intercedes for us and waits for us from His throne in Heaven
- that by Faith in Him and Fidelity to Him, we share in, and benefit from, His High Priesthood and his Mediatorship and will be with Him in Heaven

This week in Hebrews 4: 12-13, we hear the author’s teaching on the power of the “Word of God.” When we hear “Word of God,” we should never first think of words on a page. When we hear “Word of God,” we should first think of a Person, the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity, Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. He is the eternal Word through which all things are created (see Gospel of John 1: 1-5, Col 1: 15-16).

Given the major themes of the Letter to the Hebrews, that fact that that the Word of God has become Man is now a “two edged sword” for mankind. The two edged sword comes in the choice that now must be made by all people: to accept the Word of God or to reject Him. Following the major themes, there is no escaping the choice that must be made.

The fact that nothing is hidden from the Eternal Word and that “we must render an account” of ourselves is reference to our own Particular Judgements and the General Judgement at the end of time. Thus according to the author’s train of thought, those who choose correctly live in joyful expectation of their Judgment; those who have chosen wrongly have much to fear at their Judgment.

Thankfully, God is His immense Love for us gives us so many helps to choose wisely: the Sacraments, the teachings of the Church, the Sacred Scriptures, the prayers and the examples of the Saints, our Devotions, and the good people He places in our lives. Let us join with the anonymous author of the Letter of the Hebrews and live in joyful expectation of seeing Our High Priest and Mediator, Jesus Christ, because He really does love us and wants us to be with Him forever.

One of the successes of this past year is our High School Lector program. They are all taking their roles as readers very seriously and are all doing a great job. I am very proud of them. If fact, they are doing such a good job, we are again extending an invitation for our high school students to become Lectors. Please see the bulletin or newsletter for details.

Lastly, let us pick up our Rosaries in this month of the Holy Rosary and lay siege to Heaven for our loved ones living, for our loved ones who are now deceased, for our nation, for our parish, and for a final end to the pandemic.

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, pray for us!
St. Joseph, Patron of the Church, pray for us!

Fr. Michael J Pawelko, Pastor





Our Lady of the Sacred Heart

CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO

Volunteer Appreciation

Dinner

10 . 16 . 2021

AT FIVE THIRTY IN THE EVENING

FATHER MCBRIDE HALL (GYMNASIUM)

To thank our Adult Volunteers for their Time & Talent

RSVP by October 10, 2021

olsacredheart@gmail.com



