



Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church Newsletter
October 3, 2021

My Dear Parishioners,

One of the greatest joys in the life of a priest or deacon is the joy of helping a couple prepare for a wedding, and then presiding at that couple's wedding.

Our theology of marriage is beautifully reflected in the nuptial blessing that is prayed over a newly married couple, and it goes like this:

O God, who by your mighty power created all things out of nothing, and, when you had set in place the beginnings of the universe, formed man and woman in your own image, making the woman an inseparable helpmate to the man, that they might no longer be two, but one flesh, and taught that what you were pleased to make one must never be divided;

O God, who consecrated the bond of Marriage by so great a mystery that in the wedding covenant you foreshadowed the Sacrament of Christ and his Church;

O God, by whom woman is joined to man and the companionship they had in the beginning is endowed with the one blessing not forfeited by original sin nor washed away by the flood.

Look now with favor on these your servants, joined together in Marriage, who ask to be strengthened by your blessing. Send down on them the grace of the Holy Spirit and pour your love into their hearts, that they may remain faithful in the Marriage covenant.

May the grace of love and peace abide in your daughter N., and let her always follow the example of those holy women whose praises are sung in the Scriptures.

May her husband entrust his heart to her, so that, acknowledging her as his equal and his joint heir to the life of grace, he may show her due honor and cherish her always with the love that Christ has for his Church.

And now, Lord, we implore you: may these your servants hold fast to the faith and keep your commandments; made one in the flesh, may they be blameless in all they do; and with the strength that comes from the Gospel, may they bear true witness to Christ before all;

(may they be blessed with children, and prove themselves virtuous parents, who live to see their children's children)

And grant that, reaching at last together the fullness of years for which they hope, they may come to the life of the blessed in the Kingdom of Heaven. Through Christ our Lord.

This nuptial blessing and this week's readings remind us that marriage has its origin in God. Since marriage comes for God, we then say that a marriage must be blessed by God to be truly called a marriage.

This is why we as Catholics are bound to be married by a Catholic Priest or Deacon, unless dispensed by the Archbishop—not to put a damper on peoples' fun but to make sure that the marriage is blessed by God.

A couple married by a Catholic Priest or Deacon, or a couple that was dispensed by the Archbishop, are said to be in a valid marriage.

A couple not married or a Catholic Priest or Deacon nor dispensed by the Archbishop, are said to be in an invalid marriage. As we may remember hearing from our parents or grandparents or from a priest or a nun, a couple in an invalid marriage is living in a state of sin.

Thankfully, the Church in her wisdom and goodness provides a remedy for those in an invalid marriage. The remedy is officially called a "Convalidation" and is more commonly called "the Blessing of a Marriage."

Deacon Vince, Deacon Gary, Deacon Gregg, and I are always willing and happy to assist couples who need to have their marriages Blessed in the Church. So, if you find yourself in this situation, or if someone you know and love is in this situation, we would love to speak with you or with them and to help you or them receive the fullness of God's Blessings.

Another great joy is when we preside at wedding anniversaries. The wedding anniversary celebration can be a ceremony or can be a Mass. These wedding anniversary ceremonies and Masses call down special blessings from God on the couple and also are an inspiration for those in attendance and for the entire parish. So, if you are approaching your 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th, or another date that is special to yourself and your family, please again speak with one of our Deacons or myself about having a wedding anniversary celebration here in church.

I would again like to thank everyone for your generosity in our collection for the Coalition to Shelter and Support the Homeless right here Central Bucks. They were most appreciative. If anyone would like to get more involved with CSSH, their website is [The Code Blue Shelter - HOME - Doylestown, PA \(co2ssh.org\)](http://TheCodeBlueShelter-HOME-Doylestown,PA(co2ssh.org))

As we enter this month dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary, we are also entering Respect Life Month. As in past years, there will be a collection for Legacy of Life on the weekends of October 23rd & 24th. If anyone would like to get more involved with Legacy of Life, their website is [Home - Legacy of Life Foundation](http://Home-LegacyofLifeFoundation)

Today, Saturday, October 2, is the Feast of the Holy Guardian Angels. In this week's newsletter, I have included a teaching on the Guardian Angles from St. Bernard.

I also included an article about Servant of God Leo Heinrichs, O.F.M by Heather King. I never knew about this priest or his story until I read this article and found it very interested, and I think you might also.

In this month of the Holy Rosary, let us continue to lay siege to Heaven with our Rosaries and our Chaplets for our nation, and for life.

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

Fr. Michael J Pawelko, pastor





FROM A SERMON BY ST BERNARD OF CLAIRVAUX

He has given his angels charge over you to guard you in all your ways. Let them thank the Lord for his mercy; his wonderful works are for the children of men. Let them give thanks and say among the nations, the Lord has done great things for them. O Lord, what is man that you have made yourself known to him, or why do you incline your heart to him? And you do incline your heart to him; you show him your care and your concern. Finally, you send your only Son and the grace of your Spirit, and promise him a vision of your countenance. And so, that nothing in heaven should be wanting in your concern for us, you send those blessed spirits to serve us, assigning them as our guardians and our teachers.

He has given his angels charge over you to guard you in all your ways. These words should fill you with respect, inspire devotion and instill confidence; respect for the presence of angels, devotion because of their loving service, and confidence because of their protection. And so the angels are here; they are at your side, they are with you, present on your behalf. They are here to protect you and to serve you. But even if it is God who has given them this charge, we must nonetheless be grateful to them for the great love with which they obey and come to help us in our great need.

So let us be devoted and grateful to such great protectors; let us return their love and honor them as much as we can and should. Yet all our love and honor must go to him, for it is from him that they receive all that makes them worthy of our love and respect.

We should then, my brothers, show our affection for the angels, for one day they will be our co-heirs just as here below they are our guardians and trustees appointed and set over us by the Father. We are God's children although it does not seem so, because we are still but small children under guardians and trustees, and for the present little better than slaves.

Even though we are children and have a long, a very long and dangerous way to go, with such protectors what have we to fear? They who keep us in all our ways cannot be overpowered or led astray, much less lead us astray. They are loyal, prudent, powerful. Why then are we afraid? We have only to follow them, stay close to them, and we shall dwell under the protection of God's heaven.

Angel of God, my guardian dear,
to whom God's love commits me here
ever this day, be at my side
to light and to guard
to rule and to guide,
Amen

Servant of God Leo Heinrichs, O.F.M

by Heather King

Reprinted from Magnificat (www.magnificat.com)

Servant of God Father Leo Heinrichs, O.F.M. (1867–1908), “Martyr of the Eucharist,” was shot and killed at the altar rail while distributing Communion in Denver, Colorado. The assassin, a mentally deranged Sicilian anarchist, harbored an obsessive hatred of priests.

Born on the feast of the Assumption in Oestrich, Germany, Father Heinrichs was named Joseph at birth. Upon joining the Franciscans as a friar, he adopted the monastic name Brother Leo and immigrated to Paterson, New Jersey, with his chapter. He was ordained there on the feast of the Immaculate Conception, 1890.

For the next seventeen years, he served at various churches in New York and New Jersey. He was known for his devotion to our Lady, his charity to the poor and love for children, and, at Saint Bonaventure’s in Paterson, for tending ill and dying smallpox victims in spite of the danger to himself.

Then, in 1907, he was assigned to Saint Elizabeth of Hungary parish in Denver, Colorado. At that point, he had not seen his family in over twenty years. But though he was given permission to visit Germany, he put the trip off for another year, preferring to stay in Denver and prepare a class of children for their first Holy Communion.

Only a week before his death, Father Heinrichs met with a parish group called the Young Ladies’ Sodality. “If I had my choice of a place where I would die,” he told them, “I would choose to die at the feet of the Blessed Virgin.”

The first two Sunday Masses at Saint Elizabeth of Hungary were at 6:00 and 8:00 am, the former being known as the “Workingman’s Mass.” Father Heinrichs was scheduled to say the 8 o’clock Mass but asked his fellow priest, Father Wulstan Workman, to switch with him as he had a meeting to attend.

The three hundred or so parishioners that morning included Giuseppe Alia, a fifty-year-old Italian immigrant and avowed anarchist. During the Communion rite, Alia approached the altar rail and knelt. When Father Heinrichs placed the Eucharist on his tongue, Alia spat it out—he would later claim it had burned his tongue—drew a revolver, and shot the priest through the heart.

With his dying breath, per the account of a young altar server that morning, Father Heinrichs reached out a weak hand, restored two scattered hosts to the ciborium, then expired. A statue of the Virgin Mary stood nearby, thereby fulfilling his last wish.

He was administered last rites by Father Workman and buried at Holy Sepulchre Catholic Cemetery in Totowa, New Jersey.

Alia was arrested, jailed, and convicted, never expressing a word of remorse. He bit, snarled, and delivered logically incoherent harangues, inveighing: “I have a grudge against all priests in general. They are all against the workingman... my only regret is that I could not shoot the whole bunch of priests in the church.”

His last words, before being hanged at the Colorado State Penitentiary in Canon City, were “Death to the priests!”

As for Father Heinrichs, the coroner found chains of steel wire, studded with spikes and rusted with blood, coiled tightly around his arms and waist: a form of mortification that this workingman’s priest had apparently practiced for years, possibly in an effort to tame his quick temper.

The process of beatification was opened in Rome in 1938. Pilgrims continue to flock to Father Heinrichs’ grave.



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



High School Lectors

CALLING MORE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

We have a perfect opportunity for High School age young men and women, and that is to become a High School Lector. Becoming a High School Lector is a perfect way for you to serve our parish, to grow in appreciation of the Sacred Scriptures, and to grow in confidence and experience in public speaking.

To qualify, you must be at least in 9th grade, be a practicing member of the parish, be willing to work with and be trained by current Lectors, be willing to commit to a schedule and have the permission of your parents.

Please ask your parents to fill-out the Form below, and return the permission slip to the parish office either by email olsacredheart@gmail.com, mail or by dropping it off in the collection basket by Sunday, October 17th. After you are registered, there will be one, one-hour training session on the basics of reading at Mass. Once you have completed the training session, you then will be added to the regular rotation of Lectors, which means that you will be reading at Mass once every 4-5 weeks.

~~~~~Permission Slip for High School Lector~~~~~

Name: _____ Grade: _____

Parent/Guardian Email: _____

Child's Email: _____

Parent/Guardian Primary Phone Number: _____

The Mass I usually attend (Please indicate first & second choice of Mass preference):

_____ 4:00 P.M. (Vigil) _____ 8:00 a.m. _____ 9:30 a.m. _____ 11:00 a.m.

I _____ (Print Parent/Guardian Name) hereby give permission for

_____ (Child's Name) to be trained and become a High School Lector for Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church, Hilltown. In addition, I understand that my child may be recorded on video during their course of ministry.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Child's Signature

Date

