



Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church September 27, 2020

My Dear Parishioners,

This coming Tuesday, September 29th is a special day for our parish, as we welcome Bishop Timothy Senior. Bishop Senior will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation with us and Confirm 65 of our children. Unfortunately, because of social distancing constraints, attendance is limited to our children, their sponsors, and their parents.

While we cannot all be in attendance, we can, however, all pray for the Confirmand and their families, and I ask you to do that this week. I also thought that this is a great opportunity to review what we believe about the Sacrament of Confirmation, and about the Holy Spirit, who these children will be receiving in a special way. So, I included a summary of those beliefs from the *Compendium to the Catechism* in this week's newsletter.

Some additional good news is that we now have a new coordinator of Pro-Life activities. She is Miss Renzi Dager. Renzi attended SASH school, is presently in graduate school, and she is regular volunteer in our food pantry. We certainly extend a sincere thank you to our out-going coordinator, Mrs. Anne Plummer, as we offer our support to Renzi. May she have great success in her new position.

Renzi is also heading up a brand new program for young adults called JOYA (Journey of Young Adults). It is an opportunity for young adults, 19-35 years old, to gather together and learn more about our Catholic Faith. Please see the blurb in the bulletin for more information.

All of these events and activities, along with Metanoia, the Thursday evening Lectio Divina group, and the return of on campus meetings such as our Senior's Group and Youth Group, means that we have a lot of great things happening here at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. While we had a quiet spring and summer because of the virus, I think that we are going to have a really exciting Fall, and I am looking forward to a terrific New Year here in our parish.

Let us continue to pray our Rosaries and our Chaplets for the end of the pandemic, for first responders, for our families and friends, for our deceased loved ones, and for a return to normalcy.

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us!

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, pray for us!

Fr. Michael J Pawelko

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION



What place does Confirmation have in the divine plan of salvation? In the Old Testament the prophets announced that the Spirit of the Lord would rest on the awaited Messiah and on the entire messianic people. The whole life and mission of Jesus were carried out in total communion with the Holy Spirit. The apostles received the Holy Spirit at Pentecost and proclaimed “the great works of God” (*Acts* 2:11). They gave the gift of the same Spirit to the newly baptized by the laying on of hands. Down through the centuries, the Church has continued to live by the Spirit and to impart him to her children.

Why is this sacrament called *Confirmation*? It is called *Confirmation* because it confirms and strengthens baptismal grace.

What is the essential rite of Confirmation? The essential rite of Confirmation is the anointing with Sacred Chrism (oil mixed with balsam and consecrated by the bishop), which is done by the laying on of the hand of the minister who pronounces the sacramental words proper to the rite. In the West this anointing is done on the forehead of the baptized with the words, “Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit”.

What is the effect of Confirmation? The effect of Confirmation is a special outpouring of the Holy Spirit like that of Pentecost. This outpouring impresses on the soul an indelible character and produces a growth in the grace of Baptism. It roots the recipient more deeply in divine sonship, binds him more firmly to Christ and to the Church and reinvigorates the gifts of the Holy Spirit in his soul. It gives a special strength to witness to the Christian faith.

Who can receive this sacrament? Only those already baptized can and should receive this sacrament which can be received only once. To receive Confirmation efficaciously the candidate must be in the state of grace.

Who is the minister of Confirmation? The original minister of Confirmation is the bishop. In this way the link between the confirmed and the Church in her apostolic dimension is made manifest. When a priest confers this sacrament, as ordinarily happens in the East and in special cases in the West, the link with the bishop and with the Church is expressed by the priest who is the collaborator of the bishop and by the Sacred Chrism, consecrated by the bishop himself. **I Believe in the Holy Spirit**

What does the Church mean when she confesses: “I believe in the Holy Spirit”? To believe in the Holy Spirit is to profess faith in the Third Person of the Most Holy Trinity who proceeds from the Father and the Son and “is worshipped and glorified with the Father and the Son”. The Spirit is “sent into our hearts” (*Galatians* 4:6) so that we might receive new life as sons of God.

Why are the missions of the Son and the Holy Spirit inseparable? In the indivisible Trinity, the Son and the Spirit are distinct but inseparable. From the very beginning until the end of time, when the Father sends his Son he also sends his Spirit who unites us to Christ in faith so that as adopted sons we can call God “Father” (*Romans* 8:15). The Spirit is invisible but we know him through his actions, when he reveals the Word to us and when he acts in the Church.

What are the names of the Holy Spirit? “The Holy Spirit” is the proper name of the third Person of the Most Holy Trinity. Jesus also called him the Paraclete (Consoler or Advocate) and the Spirit of Truth. The New



THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

What symbols are used to represent the Holy Spirit? There are many symbols of the Holy Spirit: *living water* which springs from the wounded Heart of Christ and which quenches the thirst of the baptized; *anointing* with oil, which is the sacramental sign of Confirmation; *fire* which transforms what it touches; the *cloud*, dark or luminous, in which the divine glory is revealed; the *imposition of hands* by which the Holy Spirit is given; the *dove* which descended on Christ at his baptism and remained with him.

What does it mean that the Spirit “has spoken through the prophets”? The term “*prophets*” means those who were inspired by the Holy Spirit to speak in the name of God. The Spirit brings the prophecies of the Old Testament to their complete fulfillment in Christ whose mystery he reveals in the New Testament.

What did the Holy Spirit accomplish in John the Baptist? The Spirit filled John the Baptist, who was the last prophet of the Old Testament. Under his inspiration John was sent to “prepare for the Lord a people well disposed” (*Luke* 1:17). He was to proclaim the coming of Christ, the Son of God, upon whom he saw the Spirit descend and remain, the one who “baptizes with the Spirit” (*John* 1:33).

What is the work of the Spirit in Mary? The Holy Spirit brought to fulfillment in Mary all the waiting and the preparation of the Old Testament for the coming of Christ. In a singular way he filled her with grace and made her virginity fruitful so that she could give birth to the Son of God made flesh. He made her the Mother of the “whole Christ”, that is, of Jesus the Head and of the Church his body. Mary was present with the twelve on the day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit inaugurated the “last days” with the manifestation of the Church.

What is the relationship between the Spirit and Christ Jesus in his earthly mission? Beginning with his Incarnation, the Son of God was consecrated in his humanity as the Messiah by means of the anointing of the Spirit. He revealed the Spirit in his teaching, fulfilled the promises made to the Fathers, and bestowed him upon the Church at its birth when he breathed on the apostles after the Resurrection.

What happened at Pentecost? Fifty days after the Resurrection at Pentecost the glorified Jesus Christ poured out the Spirit in abundance and revealed him as a divine Person so that the Holy Trinity was fully manifest. The mission of Christ and of the Spirit became the mission of the Church which is sent to proclaim and spread the mystery of the communion of the Holy Trinity.

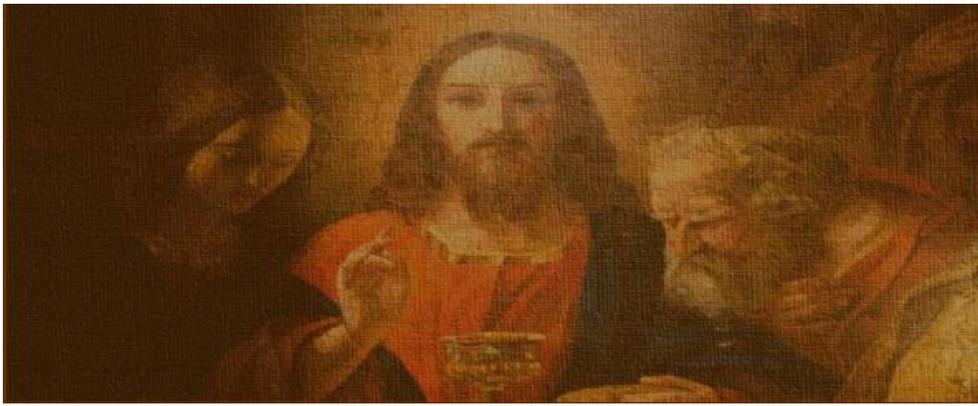
“We have seen the true Light, we have received the heavenly Spirit, we have found the true faith: we adore the indivisible Trinity, who has saved us.” (Byzantine Liturgy, Troparion of Vespers of Pentecost)

What does the Spirit do in the Church? The Spirit builds, animates and sanctifies the Church. As the Spirit of Love, he restores to the baptized the divine likeness that was lost through sin and causes them to live in Christ the very life of the Holy Trinity. He sends them forth to bear witness to the Truth of Christ and he organizes them in their respective functions so that all might bear “the fruit of the Spirit” (*Galatians* 5:22).

How do Christ and his Spirit act in the hearts of the faithful? Christ communicates his Spirit and the grace of God through the *sacraments* to all the members of the Church, who thus bear the fruits of the *new life* of the Spirit. The Holy Spirit is also the Master of *prayer*.

What are the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit? Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Fortitude, Knowledge, Piety, Fear of the Lord

What are the twelve fruits of the Holy Spirit? Charity, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Generosity, Gentleness, Faithfulness, Modesty, Self-control, Chastity



Sunday Mass Readings

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary

Reading 1: [Ezekiel 18:25-28 \(136A\)](#)

Thus says the LORD: You say, “The LORD’S way is not fair!” Hear now, house of Israel: Is it my way that is unfair, or rather, are not your ways unfair? When someone virtuous turns away from virtue to commit iniquity, and dies, it is because of the iniquity he committed that he must die. But if he turns from the wickedness he has committed, and does what is right and just, he shall preserve his life; since he has turned away from all the sins the he has committed, he shall surely live, he shall not die.

Responsorial Psalm: [Psalm 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9](#)

R. Remember your mercies, O Lord.

- ▶ Your ways, O Lord, make known to me;
teach me your paths,
guide me in your truth and teach me,
for you are God my savior. **R.**
- ▶ Remember that your compassion, O Lord,
and your love are from of old.

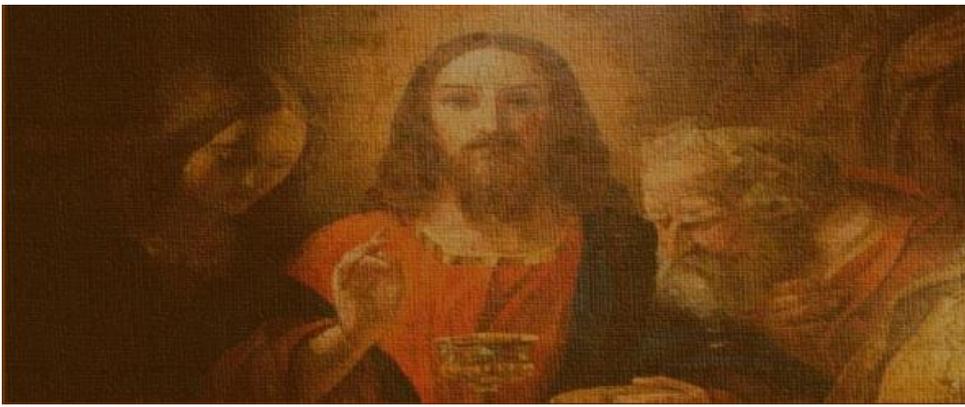
The sins of my youth and my frailties
Remember not;
in your kindness remember me,
because of your goodness,
O Lord. **R.**

- ▶ Good and upright is the LORD;
thus he shows sinners the way.
He guides the humble to justice,
and teaches the humble his way. **R.**

Reading 2: [Philippians 2:1-11 or 2:1-5](#)

(Includes the bracketed text for the long form)

Brothers and sisters: If there is any encouragement in Christ, any solace in love, any participation in the Spirit, any compassion and mercy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, with the same love, united in heart, thinking one thing. Do nothing out of selfishness or out of vainglory; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves, each looking out not for his own interests, but also for those of others.



Sunday Mass Readings

Have in you the same attitude that is also in Christ Jesus,

[Who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.]

Alleluia

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord;
I know them, and they follow me.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel: [John 10:27](#)

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: “What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He came to the first and said, ‘Son, go out and work in the vineyard today.’ He said in reply, ‘I will not,’ but afterwards changed his mind and went. The man came to the other son and gave the same order. He said in reply, ‘Yes, sir,’ but did not go. Which of the two did his father’s will?” They answered, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Amen I say to you, tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you. When John came to you in the way of righteousness, you did not believe him; but tax minds and believe him.”



**HE GAVE
IS BLOOD
FOR US**



**WE GIVE
OURS FOR
OTHERS**

** For a limited time, the American Red Cross will test ALL blood, platelets, and plasma donations for COVID-19 antibodies as an additional health service for our donors. **

"We're All IN This Together"

**Our Lady of the Sacred Heart
American Red Cross Blood Drive**

Monday, October 5th
2:00 – 7:00 PM

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Gymnasium
To Schedule an Appointment: redcross.org
and type Sponsor Code = sacred heart

OLSH Blood Drive Coordinators:

Sandy Lyle: slyle@comcast.net
Judi Gerhart: jagstar54@yahoo.com



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:

- Sugar
- Coffee/Coffee Filters
- Green Beans
- Snacks
- Juice
- Oil
- Cranberry Sauce
- Stuffing
- Instant Potatoes/Scalloped Potatoes
- Cream of Mushroom Soups
- Paper Towels/Napkins
- Alum. Foil/Plastic Wrap

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.