



### THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

FIRST READING: Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15 (30C)

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12 GOSPEL: Luke 13:1-9

Q: The following question actually came to me in the form of a short essay but the summarized points made are as follows: Recently a parishioner was scandalized by encountering one of our priests wearing civilian clothes while shopping in a store. They ask why a priest would ever strive to “blend in” or go incognito in “civvies” around town or in their free time in this current age where signs and prophetic actions are so needed. Is this not a counter-sign or missed opportunity? What are seminaries today teaching in this regard? Also included with this inquiry was an article written by an investigative journalist who ran his own personal experiment by dressing up in various well defined work uniforms in order to record the general response people had to them. According to him, Catholic priestly clerics received the most positive public response and so the journalist made the rather unscientific determination that clerics exemplify a positive sign in our culture today.

A: The Church has supplied us with some helpful information on this topic. However, I would advise that although, upon first reading, the answer may seem an open and shut case, the actual lived reality is less clear and room must be left for moderation and common sense to reign, in my opinion. That being said, what does the Church have to say on the general matter of clerical dress code? Canon #284 states that, “Clerics are to wear suitable ecclesiastical garb according to the norms issued by the conference of bishops and according to legitimate local custom.” Now what does that mean? Well, the bishops’ view on clerical dress code seems to be best expressed in a document that the Congregation for the Clergy produced in 1994 entitled The Directory for the Ministry and Life of Priests. In it we read, “In a secularized...materialistic society, where even the external signs of sacred and supernatural realities tend to be disappearing, the necessity is particularly felt that the priest – man of God, dispenser of His mysteries – should be recognizable in the sight of the community, even through the clothing he wears, as an unmistakable sign of his dedication and of his identity as a recipient of a public ministry. The priest should be recognizable above all through his behavior, but also through his dressing in a way that renders immediately perceptible to all the faithful...his identity and his belonging to God and the Church.” In 1998, the USCCB (US Conference of Bishops) further defined that, in the US, “outside liturgical functions, a black suit and Roman collar are the usual attire for priests. (The use of the cassock is at the discretion of the cleric).” Here is where many readers will say, “End of discussion. This could not be clearer.” However, in my view and in the view of most priests I know, this directive should be

accompanied by a healthy dose of common sense and moderation. We do not exercise in clerics or sleep or bath in clerics and when engaged in dirty manual labor, for instance, we do not wear clerics either. When not in the public eye, most priests wear comfortable “civvies” and sometimes that extends to days off. Does this, strictly speaking, conform to Church documents? Well, nowhere in the documents do we see the word “always” though some might argue that the documents imply such. I am not comfortable applying some kind of test of orthodoxy in measuring the frequency with which priests wear their clerics. Here are a few things I am comfortable observing: 1) When a priest never or rarely wears clerics, this is a troubling sign that the priest may have “a weak sense of his own identity” and I do not think this is good. 2) Mt. Angel Seminary and every other seminary I am familiar with requires the wearing of clerics on campus, among seminarians who are graduate students of theology as mandatory because of the way in which this helps to reinforce priestly identity within the candidate who is busy discerning this call. 3) Yes, I do think, on some level, that a priest not wearing clerics publically may constitute a missed evangelization opportunity. Wearing clerics may also serve to protect the priest from compromising circumstances (like getting hit on) or help to remind their conscience to avoid inappropriate locations and circumstances but one’s wardrobe does not entirely dictate evangelization. In fact, there are many who wear Christian jewelry or who have “Christian” tattoos (e.g. various rock stars and sports stars) who do not appear to be living a Christian life while other unadorned people who are incognito are powerful signs of Christ’s presence because of the lives that they lead. 4) Some mercy must be granted to priests, I think. For instance, most priests work long hours and only get one full day free from work to recover. I can attest that when I have traveled publically (in airports, for example) or run errands around town on my “day off” in clerics I have ended up working. Also contrary to the journalist’s opinion cited, I know of a number of priests who have been spit upon because they were wearing clerics. The reality of the cross is that the spirit of the world hates the Catholic Church and one of the clearest outward signs of that Church is a priest in clerics. Just keep in mind that priests are people too and are “earthen vessels”. Please pray for us and try not to get too easily scandalized.

*Note: All questions come from parishioners of Sacred Heart Parish or St. Joseph Mission and are presented anonymously. I hope this is a useful learning opportunity. If you have questions that need answers please let me know in person or email them to [hearttoheart.ks@gmail.com](mailto:hearttoheart.ks@gmail.com)*

**Ave Maria Concert  
THIS THURSDAY, March 3 at 7 p.m.**

**Come and enjoy the beautiful Hail Mary Prayer  
Given for you by Pauline Sullivan, soprano  
and Jennifer Schloming, piano/organ  
Here, in our Church  
Find your quiet heart in the music**



**SALE OF OLIVEWOOD PRODUCTS  
FROM THE HOLY LAND -- this week-  
end in the Hall after all Masses.**

**LENTEEN RICE BOWL**

**HUNGERING FOR A HEALTHY START** The next stop on our CRS Rice Bowl journey is the African nation of Rwanda, where we're reminded to care for the unborn. This week we pray for pregnant mothers, that they may have the medical and nutritional support they need to raise healthy thriving children. Visit [crsricebowl.org](http://crsricebowl.org) for more.



**ST. PATRICK DINNER SATURDAY, MARCH 12**

**Tickets for baskets on sale this Sunday.**

Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00 with a variety of baskets to choose from. Need not be present to win/drawing will be at the dinner. **Dinner Tickets are \$15.00 adult / \$10.00 12 and under.**

Dinner of corned beef and cabbage - beer and wine for sale.

A special event this year **DESSERT AUCTION!!**

A fun time for all with singing, wearing of the green and Irish dancers. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

This is a fundraiser for St. Vincent de Paul & Magdalene Home sponsored by Catholic Daughters and Knights of Columbus

For information call Regent, Connie Moyer 541-773-8736.



**LENTEEN SERVICES**

**Stations of the Cross** every Friday  
5:30 in English, 7PM in Spanish  
**Soup Supper** in Hall at 6PM

**Confessions** Saturdays 3:00 to 5:15

**Remaining Reconciliation Services:**

7PM Tuesday, March 1 at St. Anne's  
in Grants Pass

7PM Thursday, March 3 at St. Joseph,  
in Roseburg

**All Fridays** of Lent are days of **abstinence**, refrain from eating meat by all Catholics ages 14 and older.

**ACTS OF KINDNESS**

Ministers to the Homebound wish to thank Sacred Heart School Students and Sacred Heart Home School Students for the valentines made for those who are unable to attend Mass.

These cards brought the home bound so much joy. Thank you and God bless you!



“Stop and give thanks to God before and after meals.” Doing so “reminds us of our dependence on God for life; it strengthens our feeling of gratitude for the gifts of creation; it acknowledges those who by their labors provide us with these goods; and it reaffirms our solidarity with those in greatest need.”

~ Pope Francis

**7:00 a.m. DAILY MASS INTENTIONS**

M. Feb. 29: +Janice Gnos  
T. Mar. 1: Catholic Daughters  
W. Mar. 2: +Paul Dellapenta  
Th. Mar. 3: +John Collard  
F. Mar. 4: Oliver Wright

**8:30 a.m. DAILY MASS INTENTIONS**

M. Feb. 29: Shawna & Family  
T. Mar. 1: The Batzer Family  
W. Mar. 2: +Sue Caswell  
Th. Mar. 3: +Paul Dellapenta  
F. Mar. 4: +Paul Dellapenta  
Sat. Mar. 5: Imelda Vincent

**PLEASE PRAY for the sick of our parish** especially:

Bill Gaddis, Caroline Kopico, Kathleen Motter, Mary Gulrich, Ronna Hetzel Baltz, Ginny Spechtenhauser, Kathy Kim, Ruth Frisbee, Teri Gieg, Reese Baker, Diane Williams, Gladys Schibusch, Bill Reifers, Frances Maltoni, Randy Gale, Judith Rosario, Peg Morgan, Joyce Farrell, Joanne Hafner, Evelyn Bocast, Patty Wittenbock, Bill & Rosemary Schueller, Cynthia Sugiura, Ramona Rosales, Trudy Omann, Kathy Steiner, John Kuchler, Marie Casilio, Shizuka McCue, Eileen Van Dyck, Beverly & Dick Handley, Paul & John Zeleznik, and Don & Jean Palese.

**Please pray for the deceased of our parish:**

+Sister Gretchen Jumbeck

**ALTAR SOCIETY NEWS!**

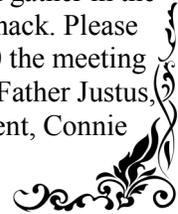
Next meeting, Monday, March 14, with our new format! Come, check us out. We begin with Rosary in the Church at, 8:00 a.m., followed with Mass at 8:30. Then to the Hall for Continental type breakfast. A short meeting will follow and then BUNCO.

Need not be a "dues paying member" to attend. ALL are welcome!!  
For the Breakfast, bring a food to share. Coffee and tea will be provided.



**CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF AMERICA  
MARCH 2ND MEETING**

All Catholic women are invited to join us Tuesday, March 2nd. We begin in the church at 8:00am with the rosary followed by Mass. We then gather in the parish hall for fellowship and a light snack. Please bring something to share. Then at 9:30 the meeting will begin. Our guest speaker will be Father Justus, our Chaplin. For information call Regent, Connie Moyer 541-773-8736



**HOCKEY ANYONE?**

**SACRED HEART SCHOOL FUNDRAISER**

This June, the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders at Sacred Heart School will be taking a trip to Washington DC.

We have an **upcoming fundraiser** that will be **FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!**

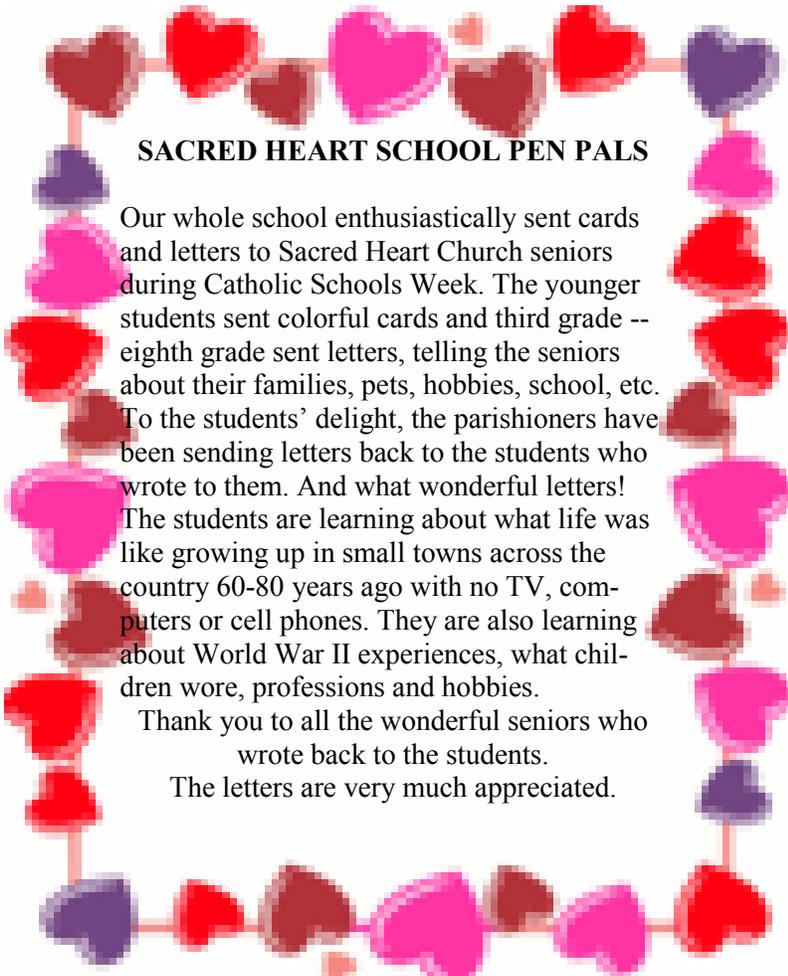
The **Spartans Hockey Team** has offered us **coupons** to purchase **\$5.00 admission tickets** (a \$10.00 value) and the **school will receive \$2.00 for each ticket.**

**It's a WIN WIN!**

The **date** of the game is **Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 PM at the RRRink .**

**Coupons** can be picked up in the **back of the church.**

**You only need one coupon per family. Pick one up for a friend!**



**SACRED HEART SCHOOL PEN PALS**

Our whole school enthusiastically sent cards and letters to Sacred Heart Church seniors during Catholic Schools Week. The younger students sent colorful cards and third grade -- eighth grade sent letters, telling the seniors about their families, pets, hobbies, school, etc. To the students' delight, the parishioners have been sending letters back to the students who wrote to them. And what wonderful letters! The students are learning about what life was like growing up in small towns across the country 60-80 years ago with no TV, computers or cell phones. They are also learning about World War II experiences, what children wore, professions and hobbies.

Thank you to all the wonderful seniors who wrote back to the students.

The letters are very much appreciated.

**HAPPY LEAP YEAR!  
TECH TIP**

Bishop Robert Barron is founder of Word on Fire Catholic Ministries. We suggest you take a look at his website if you are trying to find one that is fun, informative and easy to navigate. It contains links for accessing a wealth of information on every aspect of Catholic life and current events in the Church, especially in this Year of Mercy. You will find homilies, blogs, DVD's, clear and concise videos and even reviews of some of the latest movies. this is a gem and well worth your while!

Go to [wordonfire.org](http://wordonfire.org).

**Thank you  
Advertiser of the Week  
ST. MARY'S SCHOOL**

*Please thank our Advertisers  
with your patronage.*



**SACRED HEART CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS**  
Celebrating 150 years of excellence... with heart

**SACRED HEART ATHLETES ARE SPECIAL KIDS!**

Congratulations to our Middle School girls and boys varsity basketball teams who traveled to Eugene this month to participate in 2 1/2 days of grueling basketball games at Marist High School for the St. Paul's Tournament. Here are some of the highlights:

- ~Our GIRLS won the SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD. Sacred Heart Boys or Girls have won this award 7 of the last 10 years. We are so proud of them!
  - ~Sean Snyder won second place in the 3pt contest
  - ~Grace Johnson won first place in free throw contest
  - ~Emma Schmerbach and Matthew Shenk were selected to the all tournament team.
  - ~Daniel Shenk (2015 SH Grad) won the half time free throw contest
- Thanks to Curt Shenk and Lori O'Conner who coached the boys and girls teams this year.

**ENROLLMENT**

Returning students re-enrollment information is due by February 29. Consider a Catholic education for your kids. Please call the school, arrange a tour, and see what's special about Sacred Heart! 541-772-4105

**SACRAMENTS**

Please pray for the 2nd and 3rd graders at our school and in the RE program who are preparing for their First Holy Communion in May. This is a special time in their lives, and they need your prayers.

**AUCTION NEWS**

The ROARING TWENTIES auction is coming up on Saturday, March 5. It's still not too late to get involved - we need many hands to make this a successful event for our school! Contact LeeAnn Loftin, SHCS Events Coordinator, for more information at 541-772-4105 ext. 119.

**Can you Help our school by purchasing gift cards?**

You can help support Sacred Heart School at NO COST TO YOU by buying gift cards (also called "scrip"). When you use gift cards that are purchased from Sacred Heart school, those merchants pay us anywhere from 1-20% of the value of your card. For example, when you buy a \$100 gift card from the school, you still get a card worth \$100 but Sacred Heart school earns anywhere from \$1-\$20 from the sale of that gift card. It's an easy way to support Catholic education. **You can buy gift cards (scrip) March 6, after the 7 and 8:30 Masses.**

**COORDINATOR OF YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY WANTED**

St. Anne's in Grants Pass is looking for a minister to coordinator recruits, lead, and train Core Teams of adults and teens for our High School, Middle School, RCIT, Confirmation, and Young Adult programs.

This person reports to pastor, Fr. Bill Holtzinger, and meets with him on a weekly basis. This person must be a practicing Catholic. This ministry is done primarily in English/Spanish considered a plus. More details can be found at [catholicjobs.com](http://catholicjobs.com)

To apply, please email resume and cover letter to [SearchCommittee@stannegp.com](mailto:SearchCommittee@stannegp.com)

Deadline for applications: March 7, 2016  
Position = FULL TIME + benefits  
Expected Start Date: July 1, 2016

**ATTENTION: SINGLES**

Our dinner party at McGraths was enjoyable... we welcomed 4 new people to the group... if you haven't come yet, come to our next adventure. We will be meeting at Shepherd of the Valley Church parking lot on Sunday March 13 @ 6:00pm and heading out to a super dinner. Call Eileen @ 541 535-3973 for information and to make a reservation.

**BEAUTIFY CHURCH GROUNDS**

Easter will soon be here which means it is time for the Wednesday Weeders to start cleaning up the grounds around the church. We will begin meeting weekly, 9:30-10:30 on Wednesday, March 2nd. Please join us and bring your own hand tools and gloves. For information call BJ Buxton at 772-8292.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Religious Education Classes are open to any child from Preschool -- 5<sup>th</sup> grade offered every Sunday 9:50am - 11:15am at Sacred Heart School.

NO CLASS on Sunday February 28<sup>th</sup> - ( many of our dedicated Catechists and I are attending the Religious Education Conference in Los Angeles Feb 26 - 28) Classes resume as usual March 6<sup>th</sup> .

Lent is a time to deepen our relationship with the Lord through prayer. The Scriptures enable us to put into action the biblical command: "Pray without ceasing" (Thessalonians 5:17). Here are 3 ideas for promoting scriptural prayer during this special time of preparation for Easter.

Explain that the Liturgy of the Hours is the official, public, daily prayer of the Church. Have your child memorize the first line of Psalm 51 "Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness". Encourage your

child to recite it at home each morning and in the evening before bed.

Read the weekly Lenten Sunday Gospel at the home early during that week. Perhaps have your child choose one line they want to remember and post it on an index card on the fridge or in place at home so they are reminded of God's Word.

During Lent go to the website address for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) [USCCB.org](http://USCCB.org). Visit the site each day during Lent and click on the "Bible" tab. Choose "Today's Reading" from the dropdown menu. As a family take turns reading aloud the Gospel for the day. As a family prayerfully discuss the message and meaning of the Gospel.

### *Pray Fast Give*

For further information or questions contact Mary Stallard 541-779-4661 ext: 107



## SACRED HEART YOUTH MINISTRY

Contact Whitney Godfrey, Youth Minister: [wgodfrey@archdpdx.org](mailto:wgodfrey@archdpdx.org)

Please e-mail Whitney for her PHONE NUMBER

**YOUNG ADULTS AGE 18-35:** To receive our e-mail contact Whitney at [wgodfrey@archdpdx.org](mailto:wgodfrey@archdpdx.org).

**CONFIRMATION CLASS!** Wednesday March 2<sup>nd</sup> 2016. Don't forget your books and please arrive between 5:45 and 5:55 doors close and class starts promptly at 6:00pm!

### **YOUTH GROUP:**

February 28 **THIS WEEK: NO EDGE** (Canceled due to Pascua Juvenil – Hispanic Retreat)

Next week: Lead Me – An EDGE morning on the Sacrament of the Eucharist!

February 28 **THIS WEEK: NO LIFE NIGHT** (Canceled due to Pascua Juvenil – Hispanic Retreat) : Note if you are a Confirmation Youth and you attend Pascua you do not need to attend youth Mass the evening of February 28<sup>th</sup>

Next week: High School Youth will continue a 4 part series on Mercy!

### **EDGE RETREAT DATE:**

Parents of middle school youth! We are excited to announce the dates for our upcoming (overnight) middle school retreat! We will be joining OLM, SOV, and SAGP for a middle school retreat in Klamath Falls OR on April 22- April 23<sup>rd</sup>! More information coming soon!

### **ADOPT A CONFIRMANDI – We still need Prayer Warriors!!!**

Our Confirmation Youth have begun their classes. If you adopt a Confirmandi you will be committing to personal prayer for the youth you are assigned as they go through confirmation preparation classes. If you would like to adopt a Confirmandi and pray for that teen throughout the year please contact Whitney at [wgodfrey@archdpdx.org](mailto:wgodfrey@archdpdx.org) with a simple message that says; "I'd like to Adopt a Confirmandi!"

**XLT ADORATION:** NEXT Month exalt will be held at Sacred Heart on March 13. The Vocations Committee for the diocese will be joining us!

### **STEUBENVILLE San Diego:**

Exciting NEWS! We will be going to Steubenville San Diego this year! This year we are excited to be taking 10 youth 3 chaperones and Whitney Godfrey as the group leader. Applications are available via e-mail, in the parish office or grab one from Whitney the next time you see her! Applications are due March 7<sup>th</sup> and accepted youth will be notified by March 16<sup>th</sup> 2016. Fundraising and Scholarships are available! Dates of SSD July 27<sup>th</sup> – Aug. 1<sup>st</sup> 2016!

**ROSARY SALE ~ 8 – 2PM**

Come see all the varieties and colors of rosaries, over 100 to choose from, made by the Rosary Guild. These are wonderful Easter gifts. All proceeds benefit the making of rosaries for the missions and the military. Sale is Sunday, March 13, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall.



**MEDIA KIOSK FOCUS OF THE WEEK**

**Changed Forever:  
The Sacrament of Baptism**

Father Mike Schmitz explains how Christians truly become sons and daughters of God the Father for all eternity through the sacrament of Baptism.

Cost: Books \$4 CDs \$3 Booklets \$2 Pamphlets 50c  
Place payment in slot on lower right side of the kiosk

**HEALING FROM ABORTION**

For some, it may seem like their abortion is an event totally left in the past, yet vast evidence shows that abortion has long-lasting, life-altering affects in the lives of women and men who have experienced it. To feel, deal, and heal from abortion(s), attend a life-changing Rachel's Vineyard Retreat. Contact Project Aurora for information about the April 8-10, 2016 retreat near Medford: 541-942-2861 or email [projectaurora@aol.com](mailto:projectaurora@aol.com). *Para Espanol ilamada a Araceli 541-621-7047.* [www.project-aurora.org](http://www.project-aurora.org)

**COFFEE & DONUTS SCHEDULE**

- Feb. 28 7 & 8:30** - Debbie Peerenboom
- Mar. 6 7 & 8:30** - Sacred Heart School
- Mar. 13 7:00** - Debbie Peerenboom
- 8:30** - Emilda Vincent & Chato Snow



Come over and enjoy a hot cup of coffee and a yummy donut.

**SAFETY REMINDER FOR CHILDREN**

**When children leave Mass**, or coffee and donuts to go to the Hall bathrooms **an adult should accompany them**. Our buildings are open to all people and we cannot control who may be around when children are. **Keep them safe by watching out for them**. Please go to the Hall with them even if they seem old enough to be off alone. Thank you.

**You are invited to come,  
pray the rosary at  
8:00 a.m. Monday - Saturday.**

**Or you are welcome to pray  
the Divine Mercy Chaplet  
after morning Mass.  
Pray before, after, or both!**

"Mercy will always be greater than any sin, and no one can place limits on the love of God who is ever ready to forgive."  
~~ Pope Francis

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

The St Vincent de Paul Dining room serves hot meals Monday through Saturday year round. In 2014 over 500 volunteers working over 10,000 hours faithfully served almost 60,000 meals to all those who came to us in Jackson County. We are always in need of volunteers in the kitchen. We can also use volunteers in our thrift store, shower and laundry facility, home visitations and many other areas. Please help serve those in need. Please call [541-772-3828](tel:541-772-3828) Ext 7. We need you."

**Financial Report**

	2/14/2016	2/15/2015
Weekly Budgeted Amount	\$17,884.62	\$18,144.23
Offertory received current week	\$19,304.08	\$13,032.73
Offertory Received -Year to Date	\$597,316.95	\$582,017.05
Needed for Budget	\$590,192.44	\$598,759.60
Over (under) Budget	\$7,124.51	(\$16,742.55)
% Over (Under) Budget	1.21%	-2.80%

Thank you to parishioners who are using on-line giving. Our on-line giving program works great if you are out of town. Please see <https://sacredheartmedford.weshareonline.org> if you are interested in using the program.