Pastor:
Rev. J. Michael Rafferty, OAR

Assistant:
Rev. John Gruben, OAR

Weekend Assistants:
The Salesians of Don Bosco

Sexton:
Henry Antonucci

Rectory Office Manager:
Mrs. Christine D. Schnabel

School Principal:
Mrs. Kathleen Grande

Religious Education Department:
Janis Batewell, Coordinator

Music Coordinator:
Mrs. Mary Peden

Trustees: Mr. Richard Ellsworth and Mr. Gerard Reilly

Parish Council Chairman:
Mr. Scott Bisig

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MASSES:
Daily: 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. / Saturday 9:00 a.m. only
Saturday Vigil Mass (for Sunday) 5:30 p.m.
Sunday 7:00 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 10:00 am, 11:30 a.m., 1:00 p.m. & 5:30 p.m.
Holy Days: schedule will be announced in the bulletin
First Friday: 7:00 a.m. & 9:00 a.m.
Misa en Espanol al Monasterio Tagaste a las 10:30am-Domingo

SACRAMENT OF PENCE (CONFESSIONS):
Saturday: 4:00 p.m. till 5:00 p.m.
Eve of a Holy Day: 4:30 p.m.

DEVOTIONS:
Monday: Miraculous Medal Novena and Benediction begin at 7:15 p.m.
First Friday: Eucharistic Adoration 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Holy Hour 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
First Saturday Devotion: 4:00pm to 5:00pm
Adoration/Rosary

HOSPITAL VISITATION:
Please be sure to inform Good Samaritan Hospital that you are a Catholic. The Hospital Chaplains are available to see each patient. If you would like to see a priest from Sacred Heart Parish, please call the Church Office.

OFFICE HOURS:
Church Office: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. - for your convenience, if you wish to see a priest, please call the Church Office for an appointment. The front desk is open for Mass Cards until 7:00 p.m. Monday thru Saturday, 5:30 p.m. on Sunday
School Office: 7:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Religious Education Office: - Please leave a message.

HOMEBOUND:
When homebound or seriously ill parishioners cannot attend Mass, we will be pleased to bring Holy Communion on a regular basis. Telephone the Church Office.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:
Most Sundays at 2:00 p.m. (by appointment only). Parents should contact the Rectory well before desired date. Parents who have not previously attended Baptismal instruction must attend a class prior to the day of the Baptism. Please call the Church Office for registration and times of classes. Godparents must be at least 14 years old and have received the sacrament of Confirmation. (If married, married in the Church).

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY:
Those wishing to marry should contact the Pastor at least 6 MONTHS before the desired date of the Wedding. One of our priests will help the couple to fulfill all the requirements of marriage preparation. No arrangements should be made before speaking with the Pastor.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK:
Available to those who are seriously ill, infirm or scheduled for surgery. Please contact the Church Office.

CHURCH REGISTRATION:
We invite all Catholics, 18 years or older, to register as a member of the parish. Unless a person is registered, we cannot give sponsor certificates or schedule Weddings or Baptisms. Without church envelope use, year-end contribution statements cannot be provided. Please call the Church Office during office hours to register or notify about change of address.
From the priests’ desks:
Dear Brothers and Sisters of Sacred Heart:

The first thing that jumps out at me in today’s Gospel is that a woman was calling out to Jesus with these words: Lord, have pity on me and Jesus did not say a word in answer to her! Then the disciples also chimed in with: Send her away! Why did they want her sent away? Because she was “not one of them”. She was from the land of Canaan. She was of no importance to the disciples’ “circle”. Jesus himself finally spoke to her and said: “I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel”. She persisted. Jesus remarkably scolds her with: It is not right to take the food of the (Israeli) children and throw it to the dogs! TO THE DOGS!! Our Lord referring to her and her people as dogs!! But soon Our Lord’s message was apparent for he was teaching the disciples a lesson that now is the time to be loving and accepting of EVERYONE! Look at today’s current events! News is filled with messages of tolerance and peace and the recognition that all people are to be loved and respected for each and every one of us is indeed the image and likeness of Almighty God!

Fr. J. Michael Rafferty, OAR, Pastor

Loyola Press

Today we move ahead in our reading of Matthew’s Gospel. Last week we read about Jesus walking on the water and the disciples’ confession of faith that Jesus is the Son of God. If we were reading Matthew’s entire Gospel, we would have read about Jesus’ debate with the Pharisees about Jewish purity laws. Jesus argues that it is not what goes into us that makes us unclean; he is referring to the strict Jewish dietary rules. Instead our words and our actions—what comes out of us—make us unclean because they emerge from a heart that is unclean.

Knowing about Jesus’ debate with the Pharisees helps us to understand today’s Gospel. In fact the story heightens the surprise and shock we feel as we hear Jesus’ exchange with the Canaanite woman. The woman, who is not Jewish, approaches Jesus, requesting that he heal her demon-possessed daughter. At first Jesus ignores her; he says nothing. The disciples ask Jesus to send her away, and Jesus agrees, remarking that he was sent to minister to the Jews alone.

The woman persists, paying homage to Jesus, and yet Jesus denies her request again. He even insults her, using a Jewish word of derision for Gentiles, “dog.” But the woman cleverly turns Jesus’ insult into an affirmation of faith. Only then does Jesus grant her request and heal her daughter.

Jesus’ unresponsiveness to this woman may strike us as uncharacteristic or shocking. Yet in Matthew’s Gospel, Jesus’ ministry is directed primarily to the people of Israel. At only a very few points, such as the one found in today’s Gospel, do we find Jesus anticipating the later Christian ministry to the rest of the world.

Behind Matthew’s text we can hear this early Christian community’s struggle to understand how God’s selection of Israel is consistent with two events: Israel’s rejection of Jesus and the Gentiles’ acceptance of Jesus. Just as Jesus was surprised by the faith expressed by the Canaanite woman, so too the first Christians were surprised that the Gentiles would receive the salvation God offered through Christ. In today’s second reading from Paul’s letter to the Romans, we hear the apostle Paul considering this same concern.

The faith that the Canaanite woman expresses is an affirmation of and confidence in God’s abundant mercy. Yes, salvation comes through Israel, but it overflows for the benefit of all.

August 2020

Dearest Parishioners,

I pray this note reaches you in good health and spirits. I know we are all in agreement that 2020 has been a year of trial and turmoil thus far. Although things are slowly returning to normal, nothing seems quite the same. As you are probably aware our beloved Catholic School has closed its doors, after 110 years. Heartbreaking news for sure. As Christians and Catholics, we know that trials and tribulations are a part of life and that no matter what, our Lord is with us. That being said, He also wants us to move forward.

At Sacred Heart we typically post our weekly donations in our parish bulletin, doing so in the worst of the pandemic proved difficult. Two weeks ago, we posted a monthly comparison for the months that donations were not posted weekly against last year’s figures; this was done on a monthly basis to show the total of the losses. Understandably, the parish revenue is down. Adding, to the loss is our Easter Collection which was less than half of our normal donation amounts. In addition to that and due to the pandemic, we felt it prudent to cancel our yearly $10,000 Raffle, which is currently our largest fundraising event of the year.

After considerable thought we are reinstating the $10,000 Raffle beginning this September. The drawing will be held on the First Sunday of Advent, November 29th at 3:00pm in
our gymnasium. With your help and support which we greatly need, we pray, this will be a financial boon to the potential winners and to the parish.

I hope we can count on your support! The tickets will be on sale beginning September 1! Please drop by the rectory to purchase one (or more!) and we will also be sure to have them available after Masses on a few weekends. Please know that the parish priests and staff have you all in our prayers daily and are here for you if you are in need. God Bless us all!

Yours in Christ,

Fr. J. Michael Rafferty, OAR

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**BOOSTER CLUB WINNERS**

**SPECIAL DRAWING FOR**

**AUGUST 16, 2020**

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

First Prize: $1,000.00 - Mario & Rose Scaglione
Second Prize: $500.00 - Shannon Keane
Third Prize: $250.00 - Susan Conklin
Fourth Prize: $100.00 - Tom & Connie Duffy

Many thanks to all who participated!

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**PARISH CALENDAR**

**Monday, August 17**
Mass at 9am

**Tuesday, August 18**
Mass at 9am

**Wednesday, August 19**
Mass at 9:00am

**Thursday, August 20**
Mass at 9:00am

**Friday, August 21**
Mass at 9:00am

**Saturday, August 22 - Holy Rosary-12pm**

**Sunday, August 23**

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**2021 MASS BOOK**

The 2021 Mass is now open. To begin, no more than 5 Masses per person will be taken at a time. Please send your requests via email to shsuff@gmail.com. Masses will be given out on a first received first given basis. If you wish to come in person, please use the social distancing and mask wearing protocols as directed by the CDC.

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**CARDINAL’S APPEAL 2020**

*Parishes are only as strong as its parishioners.*

As you are aware a church’s resources come only through the generosity of its parish family. Please consider donating today. Bless you all and pray for an end to this virus. To date we have raised $88,737.00 towards our goal of $122,500.

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**RENEW AND REBUILD**

**UPDATE**

As you may remember just a few short years ago in less stressful times the parish embarked on a campaign *Renew and Rebuild* to help our Church properties. At the time it was decided that all the pledges received would go to the preservation and repair of our beautiful Church building. We were, at the time very successful and pledges totaling, $1,807,887 were received. As you may recall 26% percent plus the Cardinal’s Appeal for that year were included in what was raised and would go directly to Archdiocese. They also received their portion first. Presently we are working with the Archdiocese to install bathrooms in the church (with an addition in the library area). As you may recall last summer the new roof promised was completed. In reviewing the status of monies needed for the installation, it became very clear that a number of donors have lapsed over the last two years in payment of their pledges. To date we have a balance owed of $905,444.21 thru total pledge amounts and in lapsed donations of $237,447. The impact of the loss of received payments will of course mean that we will be unable to complete all the projects we were in hopes of accomplishing with the monies. We do realize these are tough times for us all and if possible, we ask that you honor your pledge if at all possible. We also want to keep all informed of where we are in the process of honoring our commitments and accomplish all we are able. Thank you very much.

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**SACRED HEART RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM**

**REGISTRATION**

2020-2021

**Registration**

**Tuesday, August 18th – 5 to 7pm**

**Wednesday, August 19th – 10am-12pm**

***All In Person Registrations Are By APPOINTMENT ONLY***

Please call 357-6044.

If you are uncomfortable about registering under the current pandemic, we do understand and want to make you aware that we will be providing an online course that will mimic in-class work until the current health issue is resolved. A program for children with Special Needs is also available. Please supply us with a copy of your child’s baptismal certificate for registration. Thank you.
SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM
We welcome into the Roman Catholic Church and our Parish Community the following child who was recently baptized at Sacred Heart:

ELLA JAMES CLIFFORD
Daughter of Christopher and Emily


FOR OUR ARMED FORCES & FIRST RESPONDERS
OF ALL KINDS, AND OUR DOCTORS & NURSES
We pray for all the men and women serving our country AND especially the sons and daughters, grandchildren and loved ones of our parishioners.

ALTAR MEMORIALS

AUGUST 16, 2020
Altar Candles In Memory of
BARBARA KOWALSKI
Sanctuary Lamp In Memory of
MARY SPIEGELMAN-LEWIS

Let us pray for our deceased parishioners, and family members and loved ones:
Especially: Mary Ann Intoncic