

Sacred Heart Catholic Church

My dear friends in Christ,

When we were in Rome attending the general audience of the Holy Father, he addressed the crowd with a great talk on the communion of the saints. I believe in the communion of saints as we all do, and that binds us together as one body of Christ. I experienced the communion of saints personally when I celebrated masses in those Major Basilicas of Rome: St. Paul outside the Wall, St. Peter, St. John's the Lateran and Mary the Major. I would love to elaborate little more on this communion of saints as I experienced through my visit to so many shrines in ten days.

We visited the Catacomb of St. Sebastian. This was the underground burial ground of those Christians who died in the early century of Christian persecution. Other Christians came to visit this place and celebrated the Eucharist over the tombs of the martyrs. When they did that, they celebrated the life in Christ and gained courage to be true witnesses to Christ in the midst of persecution. They were not hiding in the undergrounds of the catacomb; rather they went there to re-energize themselves through the intercessions of the martyrs. When I celebrated Mass in the place where St. Paul was beheaded as a martyr, it made me think of the great conviction of St. Paul: "It is not I who live but Christ who lives in me." This is the connection that we get when we seek the intercession of a saint. Entering the town of Assisi, you experience the tranquility and peace that St. Francis lived and witnessed to. When I touched his tomb and prayed there, of course for all of you, I felt in touch with that great saint who witnessed to the poverty and love of Christ. This is the communion we are talking about: A way of living our lives that brings us in close connection with all the holy people who lived before us in communion with God and who continue to enjoy total communion with the Lord.

Every time when we imitate the virtue and quality of a saint, we are connecting our lives with the communion that the saints enjoy in heaven. When the saint perceives our efforts to be holy, then they help us through their intercession to be better persons in Christ. They are so happy that someone makes similar efforts like theirs and is striving to be a better person everyday as he/she struggles on this earth. Our joys and sorrows, our struggles and victories, our stumbling and rising up connect us with those saints if we intentionally desire to be connected with them. We are never alone in our struggles and efforts to be holy people of God. This communion of saints offers us great hope and consolation in our journey to eternal life. Let us be thankful to God for every blessing he has bestowed on us and continue to pray every day. I wish each and every one of you a HAPPY THANKSGIVING.

Your brother in Christ,
Fr. Xavier Ilango

Christian Mothers will have a "Brunch and Basket Event" on Sunday, Dec. 08, 2013, from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. Brunch (baked egg dish, ham, fruit and rolls) and baskets (silent auction). The cost for the brunch is \$6.00, children 5 and under \$3.00. For more information pick up a flyer in the back of the church. Thank you.

On December 15 & 15, there will be a parish Bake Sale after each of the Masses.

Weekday Mass Schedule Nov 25-30

Mon. 5:30 p.m. +Barney Furey
Tues. 9:00 a.m. +Chad Jutz
Wed: 9:00 a.m. +Linda Franzen
Thurs: 9:00 a.m. Arlene Morisette Family
Fri. 7:30 a.m. No Mass
Sat: 5:30 p.m. +Harriet Leone
Sun. 8:30 a.m. Pro Popolo

PASTOR Father Xavier Ilango

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Office Hours:
Tuesday/Wednesday
8:00 am—12:00 pm

Youth Ministry/DRE:
Cheryl Stegmaier
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Music Director:
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**Diocesan Victim
Assistance Coordinator:**
Louann McGlynn
Confidential Line:
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Mass Times
Monday 5:30 pm
Tuesday-Thursday
9:00 am
Friday 7:30 AM
(Care Center)
Saturday 5:30 pm
Sunday 8:30AM

CONFESSIONS:
Saturday 4:30PM
ADORATION:
Tuesdays: 9:30AM-6 PM

If you had your picture taken for our upcoming directory, your 8 x 10 will be mailed here to the church. They will be available for you to pick up on the table in the gathering hall.

Adult Choir Rehearsals and Masses:
November 23rd and 24th: Sing for Mass
December 4th: 6:30 pm rehearsal
December 8th: Sing for Mass

At its November 12 meeting, the Pastoral Council unanimously voted to select the name **Hall of Saints** for our new gathering space. Soon, we will be ordering a plaque to bless and place in the Hall.

Please join the Christian Mothers at the next meeting on Dec. 2, 2013. Donna U. and Angie J. will serve a light lunch. We will be writing Christmas Cards to all the residents at the Frazee Care Center.

The *Little Blue Book for Advent and Christmas* is in the vestibule. Take one while the supply lasts.

Next weekend is the Diocesan St. Mary's Mission Appeal. Envelopes for this Special Collection and prayer requests forms are available at the ends of each pew. You may return them in the collection basket next week or mail them directly to

Parishioners' Prayer Requests

Parish families have asked us to keep in our prayers their loved ones who are ill
Please pray for:
-Barbara Hanson -Emily Martin
-Luella Baumgart -Sue Turnbull
-Casey Courneya -Carol Lormis
-Dave Goebel -Diane Quiram
-Tammy Soyering -Henry Schreiner
-Ken Jacobson -Debbie Kasowski Ehler
-Norman Buseth -Kylee Jean Miller
-Harry Schurmann -Dan Hodgson
-Cecil Cook

Collections Nov 17, 2013

Collection Basket	Attendance:	Needed per Week to Reach Budget:
Adult \$ 2,359.00	305	\$4202.29—This figure includes all sources of parish income (i.e., funerals, flower collections, fall dinner, etc), not just the Sunday collections.
Loose 433.51		This week's Total:
Children 4.00		\$ 2,796.51
Total: \$2,796.51		200.75

Other Budgeted Income

Vigil Lights	\$ 5.75
Cemetery Fund	75.00
Building Fund	120.00
Total	\$ 200.75

Other Parish Fund Raisers

FACC—\$30

Non-Parish Collections: Scholarship

UPCOMING:

Nov 25: Circle Chairs brief meeting after 5:30 pm Mass
Nov 30: Robert Barron's **The New Evangelization** after 5:30 pm Mass
Dec 2: **Christian Mothers meeting: Mass @ 5:30 pm, Rosary, light supper, meeting @ 7:00 pm**
Dec 3: **Finance Council meeting @ 7:00 pm at Church**
Dec 10: **Pastoral Council meeting @ 7:00 pm at Church**
Dec 7: **Maryology: Rosary at 8:30 am; Mass at 9:00 am**
Dec 8: **Christian Mothers Brunch and Basket Event**
Dec 14/15: **Bake Sale after each of the Masses**
Dec 15: **KC Christmas Potluck; Social @ 5:00 pm, Dinner @ 6:00 pm**

Ministry Schedule for Dec 1, 2013

	5:30 PM	8:30 PM
FCC— Paul and Sharon Guck and Mark Byer		
Ministers	Jeanne Riley	Nancy Christensen
Of Holy Communion	Nancy Dashner	Barb Rice
	Jill Mickelson	Christine Daggett
		Bev Roberts
		Heather Mitchell
Lectors	Russell and Mary Ann Karasch	Kathy Stenger
Ushers	John Mack	Bud Hensel
Servers	Mike Hiemenz	Bruce Hofer
	Byron Byer	Madison Ketter
	Ethan Byer	Wesley Kropuenske
	Isaac Courneya	Patrick Vacek
	Hayley Courneya	Cecilia George

Circle 5 is in charge of donuts in November
Circle 6 will be in charge of donuts in December

November 2nd Collections: Campaign for Human Development — 24th.

Youth

November Religious Education Schedule:

- Grades 1-6: Regular Classes—27th
- Grades 7-11: No class on the 27th

Children's Bibles for Sale:

Grades 1-4: **The Catholics Children's Bible** \$30 Soft cover, \$38 Hardcover.
Grades 5-8 **Breakthrough the Bible for Young Catholics:** \$25 soft cover and \$32 hard cover.

See Cheryl to see examples of these wonderful Bibles. Order by December 11, 2013. They make Great Christmas presents!

Pilgrimage to the **National March for Life** in Washington DC, January 17-23 2014. Sign up by November 27, 2013. Cost, \$435, with \$120. deposit due with registration. See bulletin board for more information and registration form.

Thank you to all that supported and bought a chance on the Hunters Dream quilt. The winner was Kathy Dretsch.

Knight's of Columbus

The Knights will have their annual **Christmas Dinner** on December 15. The social hour at 5:00 pm, with dinner at 6:00 pm. If you have any questions, please contact Mark Byer.

October's Knight of the Month is Dallas Flynn. Dallas is an asset to the Knights and to our parish and community. He donates garden vegetables to raise money for the Building Fund and was instrumental in getting the First Aid bag for our church. He was also instrumental in researching, procuring, and financing a defibrillator for the church. At a future date, Dallas and his wife Mary will provide needed instruction for appropriate use of the defibrillator.

November's Knight of the Month is Lyle Dodes. We thank Lyle for all his hard work for the KC's and for the church. Lyle puts in many hours of hard work at church. Any wood work you see at church is most likely Lyle's work. He is an asset to the Knights, to the Sacred Heart Church, and to our community.