

Sacred Heart Church



260 High Street, Mount Holly, NJ 08060-1404

Telephone: 609-267-0209 • FAX: 609-267-9293 • Website: www.parishofsacredheart.org

Office Hours: Mon. - Sat. 9:00am - 5:00pm (Closed for Lunch 12:00pm-1:00pm)

Evening Office Hours: Mon. - Fri. 6:00pm - 9:00pm • Sunday 8:30am - 1:00pm

Mass Schedule

Saturday: 4:30pm (Vigil)

Sunday: 7:30am, 9:30am, 11:30am & 7:00pm

Weekday: Mon.-Fri. 7:00am & 8:30am

Saturday: 8:30am

Confessions

Saturday: 3:30pm - 4:00pm

(Reconciliation Rooms are to the right of the Eucharistic Chapel)

Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. John P. Czahur ext. 308

Parochial Vicar: Rev. Roberto Padilla

Residence: Christ The Redeemer Church
113 South Avenue, Mt. Holly
(609) 261-0181

Deacons: Deacon Jim Casa
fisherking13@comcast.net
Deacon John Hoefling
Deacon Stan Orkis
Deacon William Rowley

Parish Secretary: Mrs. Michele O'Toole ext. 301

secretary@parishofsacredheart.org

Business Manager: Mrs. Deneen Thomas ext. 303

accountant@parishofsacredheart.org

Cemetery Manager: Mrs. Paula Pietrow ext. 304

cemeterymgr@parishofsacredheart.org

Coord. of Ministries: Ms. Merry Marcellino ext. 305

ministry@parishofsacredheart.org

Parish Maintenance Mr. Jason D'Entremont ext. 319

jasonmd@parishofsacredheart.org

Sacred Heart School

250 High Street, Mount Holly, NJ 08060

Telephone: 609-267-1728

Email: schooloffice@sacred-heart-school.org

Website: www.sacred-heart-school.org

Principal: Ms. Kathryn Besheer ext. 340

Admin. Assist. Margo Lihvarcik ext. 316

Sacred Heart Religious Education

Telephone: 609-267-6319

Email: rel.ed@parishofsacredheart.org

Director of Rel. Ed: Mrs. Jessica Donohue ext. 307

Admin. Assistant: Mrs. Amy Raimondi ext. 324

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs. 9:00am – 2:00pm

Fall Program Class Times

Grades 1st - 8th Tuesday: 5:30pm to 6:45pm

Grades 1st - 8th Wednesday: 5:30pm to 6:45pm

September 23 – September 24 2017
TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Parish Registration

Our Parish family warmly welcomes new members. Please register at your earliest convenience by stopping by the Parish House during the office hours.

The Sacrament of Baptism

We welcome new life into the Church through the sacramental sign of Baptism which is celebrated **every Sunday of the month at 1:00pm** with the exception of Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. We encourage parents who wish to have their child baptized to call the Parish Secretary, Michele O'Toole, at 609-702-1848 ext. 301 or stop in and pick up a Baptism packet.

Once the Baptismal Preparation class is attended, the form completed and the Godparent Eligibility Certificates are turned in then a date for your child's Baptism will be set.

Baptismal Preparation

Catholic Godparents are required to complete an Eligibility Certificate and have the certificates signed by the pastor of the parish where they are currently registered and practicing their faith.

We offer a Baptismal Prep Class for parents as a way of preparing them for their child's journey of faith. Classes are scheduled for the first Wednesday of every month at 7:30pm. Please contact the Parish Secretary to register.

Sacramental Sponsorship Letter

This is a form required to be a Godparent or Sponsor for Baptism or Confirmation. To receive this form the following requirements must be met:

- If married, be in a valid marriage according to the laws of the Catholic Church.
- Be at least 16 years of age.
- Completed the Sacraments of Initiation; Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation
- Be a registered, active participant of a Parish.

The Sacrament of Marriage

Couples wishing to celebrate and consecrate their love in the Sacrament of Marriage are asked to call the Parish Secretary, Michele O'Toole at 609-702-1848 ext. 301.

Arrangements are to be made with the Pastor a year in advance of the requested date. At least one person should be a registered member of the parish. All couples are required to attend preparation sessions.

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

Any Catholic who is seriously ill, advanced in age, or who feels the need for the comforting presence of the Church's sacramental prayer life may be anointed. Please contact the Parish Office at 609-702-1848 ext. 301 during office hours. In the case of an emergency, please call and follow the instructions listed on our telephone message.

Funerals

In all cases, the family of the deceased parishioner should contact the funeral home directly. They will contact the Church to make further arrangements. For information regarding our Parish Cemetery, please call the Cemetery Office at 609-702-1848 ext 304

Care of the Sick, Homebound and Elderly:

The sick, the homebound and the elderly are valued members of our parish. Please call the Parish House at 609-267-0209 ext. 305 for a visit.

Bulletin Articles

Articles for the Bulletin need to be submitted **No Later than Friday** to appear the next weekend (**9 days prior**). Articles can be emailed to

bulletins@parishofsacredheart.org

September 23 – September 24 2017
TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MASSES FOR THE WEEK
September 25th - October 1st

MONDAY

7:00am **Irene Battiato** Req. By Kathy & Bob
Rupinski
8:30am **Angelo Matrisciano** Req. By His Wife
Theresa

TUESDAY

7:00am **Andrew Skislak** Req. By Chuck &
Kathy Garrett
8:30am **Vito Chiamonte** Req. By Jean Dow

WEDNESDAY

7:00am **Maritza Villaba** Req. By Frances
Dutton
8:30am **Adriana Flores** Req. By The Solomon
Family

THURSDAY

7:00am **Alexander Masluk** Req. By Susan
Positano
8:30am **The Special Intentions of Diosdado
Abrencillo** Req. By His Sister

FRIDAY

7:00am **Stanley & Alfreda Kwoka** Req. By
The Redder Family
8:30am **Gisela Harrell** Req. By Bill & Karen
Hosbach

SATURDAY

8:30AM **Mary Skulsky** Req. By Wilma
Peterson
Dottie Bodine Req. By Patty/Fahn &
Hernandez Family
4:30PM **The People of the Parish & Carmine
Laraia** Req. By His Wife & Family

SUNDAY

7:30am **The Special Intentions of Jim & Ann
Putnam** Req. By Jeff & Teresa Redder
9:30am **The Deceased Members of the
Fratano Family** Req. By The Davitt
Family
11:30am **Juan Ramon Corraera** Req. By The
Fahn Family
7:00pm **Stanley Kiczek** Req. By Czeslawa
Walawko
Wilson Valle Req. By His Wife &
Children

*The Devotional Candle in the
Chapel of the Two Hearts*



*Will Burn In Loving Memory of
Angelo Matrisciano*

Eucharistic Adoration – Come and spend
time in the quiet with Our Lord in the Chapel of
the Two Hearts located next to the Parish
House.

Our Chapel is open for you and Jesus to spend
some time during the following hours:
Monday through Friday 9:00am to 8:30pm
Saturday 9:00am to noon.

Readings for the Week

Monday: Ezr 1:1-6; Lk 8:16-18
Tuesday: Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20; Lk 8:19-21
Wednesday: Ezr 9:5-9; Lk 9:1-6
Thursday: Hg 1:1-8; Lk 9:7-9
Friday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a;
Jn 1:47-51
Saturday: Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a; Lk 9:43b-45
Sunday: Ez 18:25-28; Phil 2:1-11 [1-5];
Mt 21:28-32

Wedding Banns



III Christopher Good & Kristin Mayes



HEALING MASS

You are invited to attend the Healing Mass
every First Friday of the month at
Sacred Heart Church. **The next Healing
Mass will be held Friday October 6th in the
Church. 7:30PM** – Healing Mass, and praying
over the sick. For more information please
contact Lina Sumanga at 261-2674

September 23 – September 24 2017
TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Please remember in your prayers:

Connie Vazquez, Vinnie Vazquez-Garcia,
Vickie Robles, Yolanda Bonanno,
Nicholas Gonzalez, Dawn Vota, Betty Doviak,
Pete Giambalvo, Ed Ciletti, Karen Tusim,
Sue Ringenary, Michael Dow, Don McGhee,
Marie Chierico, Karen McDonald, Melissa Currie,
Janice Staff, Christine Taintor, Pat Adornetto,
Nadia Nieves, Trey Nieves, Edward Stewart,
Talia Rosko, Megan Dezur, Bobby Sumanga,
Garrett Schwab, Frank Anton, Christopher Pierce,
Renate Conners, Freddie J. Faber, III,
Arleen Bishop, Maria Wolfe, Matthew Ottenwess,
Tracy & Erica Schwab, Matthew McDonald,
Lenore Scatuorchio, Kristal Faber, Alice Farkas,
Justin Beckett, Robert Lally, Tonya DeMaio,
Olga Aponte, McKenzie Hunter, Gail Reilly,
Alva Marino, Wayne Potts, Stephanie Martin,
Corey Kaiser, Stella Grundahl, Daniel DeMaio,
Matthew Wernoch, Kay Weiss, Casey Davitt,
Fredrick Naphys, Margaret Brock, Clara Hynes
Herbert Cucuini, Daniel Toussaint, Zoey Reed,
Mason Damico, David McCoy, Lois Pedrick,
John Rubino, George Sampson, Evan Martinez,
Sabrina Kaiser, Camila Doris Perez, Celeste Bunn,
Annabelle Ochipinti, Arthur Netti, Loretta Minakee,
Christine, Patricia Parker, Wilma Peterson,
Doris Gallo, Morgan Ackerman, Raymond Bishop,
Jenny Hand, Patricia O'Connor, George Schneider,
Marie Donahue, Peggy Stewart, Dylan Crespo,
Sharon Carroll, Don Hartman,
Mary Hartman, Michelle Schafle Reed

As a parish family we remember all who are struggling or suffering in mind, body, or spirit, especially those who have requested our prayers.

Please pray for the men and women now serving in the military, especially the loved ones of our parishioners who are serving overseas:

TSgt. Paul J. Stoshak U.S.A.F.
L.Cpl. Noah Stimiloski U.S.M.C.
Capt. Robert J. Boccio, U.S.A.F.
Michael Bakker, Isaac Paredez
Douglas Schwenck, Army Reserve
Richard DeLorge U.S.M.C.
Peter Liedman, Dorinia Dibuono
Capt. James Rankin U.S.M.C.
SSgt Daniel E. Naro, Sgt. Alison Lyport
Sgt. Stephanie Robertson, U.S. Army
Sgt. Russell Norton, NG Army
Cpl. Marshall Norton, U.S.M.C.
Corporal Maxwell Hughes, U.S.M.C.
Lt. Matthew Carr, U.S.M.C.
Lt. Victoria Holbert, U.S.M.C.

**Training for
Altar Servers**

Would you like to be an Altar Server?

If you are in at least fourth grade, please attend the Altar Server Training that will be held in the Church at **6:30pm on Monday, October 30, 2017**. Anyone in the fourth grade or higher is welcome to join this ministry. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Patrice Tolmayer at 609-267-2582 or ptolmayer@aol.com



On the weekend of September 30, 2017 and October 1, 2017; the Knights of Columbus will be holding their annual Right to Life Baby Shower. Donations to the Baby Shower will help area centers who assist women who are pregnant, mothers of newborn babies and those with toddlers.

Donations of diapers, formula, clothing, toilet articles, and monetary gifts are gratefully accepted.

Members of the Knights will be at the scheduled weekend Masses to accept donations before and after services.

The Knights of the Santa Maria Council Thank You.

Ministry Fair

"The harvest is plentiful but the laborers are few".

Are you looking for a rewarding way of helping the parish to grow?

Are you looking for an opportunity to plant the seeds of your faith in our parish?

Are you looking for a chance to reap the benefits of sharing your talents for the glory of God?

Then come to the
PARISH MINISTRY FAIR
Sunday, October 15, 2017
10:00 to 1:00

Sacred Heart Auditorium
Sponsored by the Columbiettes, Santa Maria
Auxiliary 1179

September 23 – September 24 2017
TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SERRA VOCATION PRAYER CHALICE
Prayer for Vocations



Father, we're your people, the work of your hands. So precious are we in your sight that you sent your Son, Jesus. Jesus calls us to heal the broken-hearted, to dry the tears of those who mourn, to give hope to those who despair, and to rejoice in your steadfast love. We, the baptized, realize our call to serve. Help us to know how.

Call forth from among us priests, sisters, brothers and lay ministers. With our hearts you continue to love your people.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever.
Amen

***Thank you
for praying for vocations.***

To learn more about the Vocation Prayer Chalice, please call Ann (609)-267-5836



FEAST OF THE HOLY ROSARY

Come Pray With Us!

Wednesday October 4, 2017 7:00PM–8:00PM

Sacred Heart Church Riverton, NJ

Presiding: Father Christopher Picollo,
Pastor St. Katherine Drexel Parish



COME ONE! COME ALL!

Have you or someone you love been thinking about checking out the Catholic faith? So many of our family members are married to people of other faiths but they are not going to their churches. Why not invite them to check out the Catholic faith with all of its rich traditions and wonderful sacraments. Our parish is a very welcoming family and we will be starting our RCIA program which will lead our candidates to their sacraments in 2018. Why not offer your family member or friend a chance to come to know the faith. Give Mary Verme a call at 609-707-8882 or email mverme@msn.com. Call or email to find out more. All are welcome!

Sacred Heart Altar Rosary News

Join the Sacred Heart Altar Rosary
To experience The Christmas Spectacular
Show at Sight and Sound in
Beautiful Lancaster County Pa.
November 16, 2017

Experience a performance as only Sight and
Sound can deliver

Start the Christmas Season Right!

The trip includes:

- ★ Buffet Meal at *Shady Maple Restaurant*
- ★ Round Trip Motor coach Transportation
- ★ All Taxes and Gratuities (*Except Driver*)
- ★ Cost: \$105.00

*Make your Reservation today for this most
popular show!*

For Reservations and more information

Call: Terry Rensman
609-284-2517



Mirroring God's Generosity

Generosity is the theme in this long Gospel narrative presented by Jesus to His disciples in the form of a parable. When latecomers earn the same as others earn from dawn to dusk, one begins to see how God works.

Having experienced Jesus' generous love for us, may we be moved to be generous in our love for the poor. God loves to see us care for the poor not just because we are meeting their needs, but because it is one of the most direct ways that we can take on the heart of Jesus.

"Lord, help us to be more like you every day. May we come to mirror your generosity. Teach us to forgive and give just as You have done."

The SVDP Pantry is in need of the following:

Peanut Butter, Spaghetti Sauce, Jelly, Meals in a Can, Canned Soup, Canned Fruit, Tuna, Baked Beans, and Canned Vegetables.

If you would like to make a monetary donation please make checks payable to:

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT de PAUL

Thank you!

Saint Vincent de Paul Society The Friends of the Poor Walk/Run

When you help the poor you are lending to the Lord – and he pays wonderful interest on your loan!

Based on Prov 19:17

The Friends of the Poor Walk/Run began as a national program with the purpose of providing local Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SVdP) Conferences and Councils the additional funds to help support their special works projects. Today, that philosophy continues, with Conferences and councils using the funds from this event to help local people living in poverty.

In past years, The Friends of the Poor Walk/Run attracted over 28,000 walkers, raised over \$2.9 million, and had events at 240 different locations across the United States.

Thank you to everyone who has supported the Friends of the Poor Walk/Run, including every walker and donor. To help make a difference for those living in poverty, please register to participate in the 2017 event to participate in our 8th annual Friends of the Poor Walk/Run on Saturday, October 7, from 9:00 – 11:00 AM (rain or shine) on the Hainesport Township Walking Path on Marne Highway. 100% of the funds raised will be used to assist the needy of our local communities.

To register online as a walker or to pledge your support to a walker, go <https://www.svdpusa.net/fop/>. Click on the "REGISTER TO WALK AT AN EVENT NEAR YOU" or "FIND A WALKER" link. Sponsor and waiver forms are available from the website. You also have the opportunity to simply come to the Hainesport Walking Path and sign up right at the event on October 7.

Please contact Kathy Weilbacker at 609-847-9885, email kweilbac@yahoo.com for more information. We invite you to join us.

September 23 – September 24 2017
TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



The Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary gave service to our school for many, many years. The sisters are now inviting us to assist them by contributing \$25.00 and purchasing a chance to be entered in many drawings from October 2017 through June 2018, 300 drawings \$50 to \$1000. You will also be remembered in a monthly Mass for benefactors and in the prayers of the IHM Sisters.

Barb Stellwag, one of the faithful members of the Silver Circle, will be selling tickets from **now until October 1st**. Proceeds Benefit the Sister's Retirement Fund.

Please call Barb if you would like to support this cause. Barb's phone number is **609-702-1146**. *Thank you for your kind support of the IHM Sisters!*

OUR PROMISE TO PROTECT The Diocese of Trenton is committed to the initiatives outlined in the U.S. Bishops' Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People in regard to the reporting and investigation of sexual abuse allegations involving minors. If you have been sexually abused as a minor by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church, or if you know of someone who was, you can report that abuse through the diocesan Abuse Hotline: 1-888-296-2965 or via e-mail at abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org The Diocese of Trenton reports any allegations of sexual abuse to the appropriate law enforcement agencies. Anyone with an allegation is also encouraged to provide that information to local law enforcement authorities.

Offerings at Francis House of Prayer

Trenton Diocesan Spiritual Center

Box 392 • Rancocas, NJ 08073

609-877-0509 or FHOP@verizon.net

Please check www.FHOP.org for directions and for our other offerings!

CHOOSING HOPE IN TROUBLED TIMES

Saturday, September 30 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM

Do you believe that hope is both a gift to ask for and a virtue to practice? If you do, please come. St. Ignatius of Loyola offers us many tools for living peacefully within while trouble prevails around us. We will use his Rules for Discernment coupled with a daily discernment practice to help us choose and safeguard hope within us during these troubled times. Can you give a Saturday for your own growth in peace and hope? Donation: \$25, includes lunch and materials.

THE LOVING-KINDNESS PRAYER, CENTERING PRAYER AND THE LABYRINTH

Sunday, October 1 9:30AM–12:30 PM

My hopes for this morning, which happens to be the feast of St. Thérèse of Lisieux, are many. I want to introduce you to the loving-kindness prayer, which fills us with compassion for ourselves and others. We will have two 20-minute centering prayer sessions, and walk the labyrinth, too. We will practice the loving-kindness prayer often throughout the day, so it can become part of you, and you can readily use it in the car, while taking a walk, or even while falling asleep at night. This will be a wonderful Sabbath time for you. Donation: Love Offering

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BECOME AN SSJ ASSOCIATE?

Sunday, October 1 2:00 – 4:00 PM

This session is for those interested in becoming Associates of the Sisters of St. Joseph. You are welcome to attend this afternoon as a “come and see” experience, while you discern if God is calling you to join us in our charism of unity and reconciliation and in our mission to serve “the dear neighbor” with the same cordial charity with which St. Joseph served Jesus and Mary. I hope you can come. Remember that to be an SSJ Associate simply means to live out our charism and mission that “all may be one” wherever you are in whatever you do.

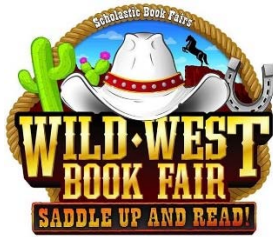
ART JOURNALING

Wednesday, October 4 7:00 – 8:30 PM

This evening retreat will help you express the content of your prayer in color. You will be surprised as you journal with art, rather than words. God is the greatest artist who expresses his loving creation in color. Learn a new way to express your experience of God. Donation: \$20, materials included.

To register, call 609-877-0509. Please check www.FHOP.org for our other offerings!

Sacred Heart PTA News



The Fall Scholastic Book Fair will be held in the library from **October 2nd - October 6th**. The Fair will be open on **Tuesday the 3rd for our family night from 2:30-8:00pm**. All parish members are welcome to stop by and join us! Time will also be made available after school on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 2:30-4:00pm.



October 28, 2017

7:30 am - Pick up packets

8:00 am - 1 Mile Fun run start

8:30 am - 5K Walk/Run start

Cost:

\$20 - [1 Mile Fun Run](#)

\$25 - [5K Walk](#)

\$30 - [5K Run](#)

Online registration ends on:

Fri, Oct 27, 2017 6:00 PM EDT

Come join us for the 4th annual Sacred Heart School Halloween Hustle 5k run/walk and 1 mile fun run!

Enjoy a run or walk through beautiful historic Mount Holly.

All proceeds will be used to fund scholarships, educational programs and technology upgrades.

Thank you for your support!

Please use the following link to register for this event: <https://www.shshalloweenhustle.com/>



Transitus of St. Francis of Assisi

Please join us in a prayer service to celebrate the passage of St. Francis from death into eternal life—a great spiritual start to the month of October:

When: **Tuesday – October 3, 2017**

Time: **7:00 PM in Sacred Heart Church**

Light refreshments to follow in Sacred Heart Parish House Meeting Room.

PLEASE JOIN US AT GOOD COUNSEL'S BANQUET



THURSDAY, October 26, 6:00-9:00pm

THE MERION, 1901 US ROUTE 130, CINNAMINSON

YOU are invited to attend Good Counsel's Eleventh Annual Fund Raising Banquet to benefit the homeless, pregnant mothers of our Riverside home. Our key note speaker is Father Andrew Apostoli, CFR, Founding Father of Franciscan Friars of The Renewal. Come and hear one of the many success stories of one of Good Counsel's moms and how, through your financial support, she now has hope for her future. Reservations are required. Please contact Mary Ann Lorimer for information:

215-989-0021 or lorimerma@aol.com. Ask friends to join you and we will reserve a table of 10 just for you! A free will offering will be taken during the dinner. Celebrate the miracles of our Riverside home with us. We look forward to seeing you.

September 23 – September 24 2017
TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Living the Good News Today

“For to me life is Christ and death is gain.”

In November, my husband Jeff and I will celebrate the 25th anniversary of our profession as Secular Franciscans, laypersons who follow the Rule of St. Francis and live the Gospel (Good News) life. We were young parents of four growing children when we felt the call to this vocation. During our spiritual formation, we were always delighted by the simple and joyful ways that St. Francis would “*seek the Lord while He may be found*” (Isaiah). Living the Gospel life for St. Francis was a passionate commitment to ongoing conversion of mind and heart to conform to the crucified Christ. He preached that by his actions.

This weekend’s readings remind us that we are earthly pilgrims on a spiritual journey. It doesn’t matter what time in our life that our true conversion happened—God does not measure how long we have been faithful to the Gospel. Genuine fidelity to the Gospel leads us to know God’s desire for all to join Him in the Kingdom. There should always be great rejoicing in the community when someone new, through the gift of faith and God’s grace, joins us on our pilgrim’s journey. Conversion is an ongoing transformation in the Holy Spirit! We are never alone on the pilgrimage.

The Franciscan family celebrates the feast day of St. Francis (October 4th) with a vigil service called the *Transitus*, marking his passing from death into eternal life. In *The Life of St. Francis*, St. Bonaventure (a Franciscan Doctor of the Church), tells us that in the year 1205, St. Francis was inspired by the Spirit to pray in a church (San Damiano) that was about to collapse. There, before an image of the Crucified, he heard a voice tell him three times: “*Francis, go and repair My house, which, as you see, is falling completely into ruin.*”

At first, St. Francis took these words literally and proceeded to repair the churches of San Damiano, St. Peter’s (some distance from Assisi), and Our Lady of the Angels (*Porziuncola*, meaning “Little Portion”). He loved this last church more than any other in the world because he thought it most dear to the Virgin Mary.

When advisers instruct people on estate planning, one of the important documents that a person is counseled to prepare is the last will and testament. This document not only divides personal property and assets, but it also expresses particular wishes of the deceased. After enduring his final illness in the fall of 1226, St. Francis dictated his final Testament as a reminder, admonition, and exhortation to his followers. In this Testament, he bequeathed only his spiritual focus regarding the holy Gospel, reminding them:

*“When God gave me some friars, there was no one to tell me what I should do; but the Most High Himself made it clear to me that **I must live the life of the Gospel**. I had this written down briefly and simply and his holiness the Pope [Innocent III] confirmed it for me. Those who embraced this life gave everything they had to the poor. They were satisfied with one habit which was patched inside and outside, and accord, and trousers. We refused to have anything more.”*

A signature legacy of St. Francis is his *Canticle of the Creatures*. In both his Testament and the canticle, he showed his appreciation for the words of St. Paul, “*For to me, life is Christ and death is gain.*” He composed this beautiful ode of praise to God in three parts, all written from his personal suffering:

- While being nursed by the Poor Clares at San Damiano’s convent during his illness in the spring of 1225, he wrote the first part as a praise of God’s creatures (sun, moon, stars, wind, water, fire, and earth);
- When he was in his final illness in September 1226 and staying at the bishop’s residence in Assisi, he added the second part for those who forgive for the love of God;
- As St. Francis knew that death was near, he asked to be moved to his beloved *Porziuncola*, where he added the intimately loving praise of Sister Death:
*Praised be You, my Lord,
through our Sister Bodily Death,
from whom no one living can escape.
Woe to those who die in mortal sin.
Blessed are those
whom death will find in Your most holy will,
for the second death shall do them no harm.
Praise and bless my Lord and give Him thanks
and serve Him with great humility.*

On Tuesday, October 3rd, we will observe the *Transitus* of St. Francis here at Sacred Heart Parish at 7:00 PM in the church. All over the world, Franciscan communities will be doing the same remembrance of the little poor man from Assisi, who truly embraced the same experience of Christ that St. Paul described to the Philippians in his epistle.

For both young and old, children and adults, families and single people, participation in the celebration of the *Transitus* can inspire us to a renewed commitment as Christians. Just as St. Francis put these words of St. Paul into practice, so can we:

*“Conduct yourselves in a way
worthy of the Gospel of Christ.”*

Teresa S. Redder, OFS

September 23 – September 24 2017
TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

WEEKLY PLANNER

SUNDAY September 24th
 The Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 Columbiettes Bake Sale in SVDP Pantry
 Mass Music Practice 6:30pm

MONDAY September 25th
 Bible Study 9:30am -11:00am PHCR
 Cub Scouts 5:00pm to 8:00pm PHMR
 Basketball 6:30pm AUD

TUESDAY September 26th
 Religious Ed. Fall Program 5:30pm - 6:45pm
 Basketball 6:30pm AUD
 Legion of Mary 7:00pm PHMO
 SVDP 7:00pm Center

WEDNESDAY September 27th
 Religious Ed. Fall Program 5:30pm - 6:45pm
 Basketball 6:30pm AUD
 OLPH 7:15pm Chapel
 Bible Study 7:30pm LIB

THURSDAY September 28th
 Music Practice 6:00pm Church
 Boy Scouts 7:00pm
 Adult Choir Practice 7:30pm Church
 Catholic HS Fair 7:00pm AUD

SATURDAY September 30th
 Basketball 8:30am AUD
 Knights of Columbus Right to Life Baby
 Shower
 Mass Music Practice 3:30pm

SATURDAY September 30th
 Basketball 8:30am AUD
 Knights of Columbus Right to Life Baby
 Shower
 Mass Music Practice 3:30pm

GATHERING LOCATION KEY

AUD- Auditorium/Gym

LIB- Library

PHCR- Parish House Conference Room (Between the Library and the Chapel)

PHMO- Parish House Ministry Office (Merry's office)

PHMR- Parish House Meeting Room (Under the Library)

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY October 1st
 The Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 Rite of Acceptance 9:30am Mass
 Knights of Columbus Right to Live Baby
 Shower
 Mass Music Practice 6:30pm

MONDAY October 2nd
 Scholastic Book Fair Library
 Bible Study 9:30am -11:00am PHCR
 Cub Scouts 5:00pm to 8:00pm PHMR
 Stress Reduction Seminar 7:00pm AUD

TUESDAY October 3rd
 Religious Ed. Fall Program 5:30pm - 6:45pm
 Scholastic Book Fair Family Night 2:30 to 8pm
 Library and PHCR
 Transition of St. Francis 6:30pm Church/ PHMR
 High School Youth Group 7:00pm AUD
 Legion of Mary 7:00pm PHMO
 SVDP 7:00pm Center

WEDNESDAY October 4th
 Religious Ed. Fall Program 5:30pm - 6:45pm
 Scholastic Book Fair 2:30pm to 4:00pm LIB
 Basketball 6:30pm AUD
 OLPH 7:15pm Chapel
 Bible Study 7:30pm PHMR
 Baptism Prep Class 7:30pm Church

THURSDAY October 5th
 Scholastic Book Fair LIB
 Music Practice 6:00pm Church
 Boy Scouts 7:00pm
 Adult Choir Practice 7:30pm Church
 Basketball 6:30pm AUD

FRIDAY October 6th
 Basketball 6:30pm AUD
 Healing Mass 7:30pm in the Church

SATURDAY October 7th
 The Blessing of Animals after the 8:30am Mass
 Basketball 8:30am AUD
 Mass Music Practice 3:30pm