

WEEK AT A GLANCE
December 31st - January 8th

Sat.	4:30 p.m.	Mass – Sacred Heart (John Wolf†)
	5:30 p.m.	New Year's Eve Prime Rib Dinner
Sun.	8:15 a.m.	Mass – St. Anne (Sacred Heart Parishioners)
	10:00 a.m.	Mass – Sacred Heart (John DeJong†)
	12:00 p.m.	Misa en Español
Mon.	PARISH OFFICE CLOSED	
	8:00 a.m.	Mass
	9:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	7:00 p.m.	RCIA
Tue.	11:00 a.m.	Rosary at Rosie DelaTorre's home
	6:00 p.m.	Rito de Iniciación Cristiana para Adultos
	7:00 p.m.	Baptism Preparation Class (English)
Wed.	8:00 a.m.	Mass
	9:00 a.m.	Minister's of Care Meeting
	9:00 a.m.	Hospitality in the Parish Hall
	6:00 p.m.	Faith Formation Classes (Grades 1 st – 8 th)
	6:00 p.m.	Bible Study
Thu.	PARISH OFFICE CLOSED	
	8:00 a.m.	Mass
Fri.	PARISH OFFICE CLOSED	
	8:00 a.m.	Mass
	11:00 a.m.	Rosary at Oak River Rehab
Sat.	10:00 a.m.	Confessions
	4:30 p.m.	Mass – Sacred Heart
Sun.	8:15 a.m.	Mass – St. Anne (Sacred Heart Parishioners)
	10:00 a.m.	Mass – Sacred Heart
	10:00 a.m.	Formación de Fe de los niños
	11:30 a.m.	Choir Practice
	12:00 p.m.	Misa en Español

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Mon.** 1 John 2:22-28; John 1:19-28
(St. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen – Memorial)
- Tue.** 1 John 2:29—3:6; John 1:29-34
- Wed.** 1 John 3:7-10; John 1:35-42
(St. Elizabeth Ann Seton – Memorial)
- Thu.** 1 John 3:11-21; John 1:43-51
- Fri.** 1 John 5:5-13; Mark 1:7-11
- Sat.** 1 John 5:14-21; John 2:1-11
- Sun.** Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6; Matthew 2:1-12

PRAYER CONCERNS

Paul Borda, Frank Quinn, Ann Whitmore, Clementine Mills, Anita Walsh, Joy Giles, Mary Jarvis, Ross Clark, Francisco Flores, Ben Bowers, David Jacobs, Dee Long, Jay Burns, Jorge Ortiz, Delaney Valles, Bill Thurman, Ilene Duval, Tom and Lorraine Cummings, Stan MacIsaac.

SACRED HEART THRIFT STORE

Sacred Heart Parish is in the process of hiring a new manager for our Thrift Store. This is a full time position and includes health benefits. All Catholic Church and School employees must be practicing Catholics in good standing with the Church. For more information and an application, please call Father Wells at the parish office, 365-8573.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Collection Summary

December 8:	\$1,404
December 11/12:	\$4,864
December 17/18:	\$5,072
December 24/25:	\$8,040

For fiscal year 2016–2017

Budgeted for Collections: **\$280,000**
Total for 26 weeks: \$139,971 weekly Goal: \$5,385
 Average Weekly Collection: **\$5,384**

Second Collection

Our Second Collection this weekend is for our Maintenance and Improvement Fund. This collection helps keep our parish buildings and grounds in good working order and looking so good. Thank you for your generosity.

ELECTRONIC GIVING

Sacred Heart Parish would like you to consider participating in a new program designed to simplify weekly giving in our congregation.

Electronic giving will enable every household or individual to make their church offering using electronic funds transfer or credit card. You may already be using online bill pay for your mortgage, car payment, or insurance premium through an automatic withdrawal from your checking or savings account. Many of you also have used your credit cards to purchase goods online through Amazon, Ebay, or a number of other sites.

We have teamed up with *myEoffering* to enable you to use the same process to give your offering electronically from your bank account, credit or debit card. There is no cost to you for this new giving option. If you are currently giving on a weekly basis, you will no longer need to write out 52 checks a year or prepare 52 envelopes. And when have an illness, are travelling, or there are any other circumstances that prevent you from attending Mass, this program will allow your weekly contribution to continue uninterrupted.

You can begin participating in the new electronic giving program immediately. Just visit our church website: www.sacredheartparish.com and look for the “Donate Now” button. Thank you for considering this new giving opportunity.

WEEKLY REFLECTION

Liturgy of the Word

The sacred scriptures we hear proclaimed today continue our celebration of the Christmas season. We still have shepherds, Mary, Joseph, and Jesus at the manger in Bethlehem. The first reading recounts a very beautiful blessing from our ancient tradition, and Saint Paul proclaims that we are adopted children of God through Jesus Christ. Let us ponder these readings today, reflecting on them in our heart.

HOLY FAMILIES

The lovely gospel accounts that we revel in during these days of Christmastime hold up for us the image of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, the Holy Family of Nazareth. And so we celebrate the Holy Family on the Sunday after Christmas Day. It's easy to gaze on the images in the Christmas crib and recognize the holiness of the newborn Jesus, his mother and his guardian. It may be harder to look at your own children or parents or brothers and sisters and see reflections of that same holiness in them. After all, living together, you see each other's bad sides as well as the good.

But if we truly believe in what we are celebrating, the incarnation of God in the flesh, and the fact that Jesus saved us by his death and resurrection into which we are baptized, then we must cultivate the ability to see a reflection of the baby Jesus' holiness in each child in our own families, to see the holiness of Mary and of Joseph reflected in ourselves as parents and in our own parents.

Maybe it will help to remember not just the gurgling baby Jesus in the crib, but also the toddler Jesus at age two – in his own version of the “terrible twos.” Or to meditate on Mary and Joseph changing diapers and picking up the ancient Palestinian version of Cheerios from the kitchen floor, and the living room floor, and... The gospels are silent about Jesus' childhood, but truly human as well as truly God, Jesus no doubt had nosebleeds and skinned knees, tried dangerous stunts, didn't get enough sleep sometimes and so was cranky. Maybe there were even battles over homework. (He would have studied Hebrew and the scriptures.)

And think of Jesus as a teenager. We get a glimpse of him in the gospel of Matthew at age twelve, wandering off in Jerusalem, causing Mary and Joseph to panic. Of course he didn't have the opportunity to take driver's ed or ask for the car keys, but there were a myriad of other but similar parent-teen encounters, to be sure.

Some may find such speculation to be sacrilegious. “Jesus is perfect,” they'll object. “Jesus is God!” How very true. And Jesus was a baby, a teenager, a young adult, too. True God, true man. And maybe, just maybe, one of the delights of this Christmas season is that some of the small quirky things about us as human beings – terrible twos, teenage struggle for independence, parents' angst about their child – maybe all of these are holy and part of what it means to grow toward perfection.

Glory in heaven and peace on earth, now and forever!

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Don't throw away your Christmas cards. St. Jude's Ranch for Children recycles the cards and sells them as a fundraiser. Tear off the front cover and mail them to: St. Jude's Ranch for Children, 100 St. Jude Street, Boulder City, NV 89005.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our Parish Thrift Store is in need of *volunteers on Wednesdays and Saturdays*. Volunteer responsibilities include: sorting, pricing and selling items and helping customers with purchases. If you can help, please call the Thrift Store at 365-5853.

VACATION BIBLE CAMP

Our parish is looking for a new coordinator for our summer *Vacation Bible Camp*. Johanna Trenerry, who has coordinated this program for many years, is stepping down. If you would be interested in coordinating this important ministry to our children, please call the parish office. Johanna has graciously offered to advise and give guidance to the new coordinator.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Win a week at Camp Pendola: Enter to win a free week at Camp Pendola! Camp Pendola invites all 4th - 8th grade students to Celebrate God's Creation by entering the Summer 2017 Camp Pendola Essay Contest. Using the quote from Pope Francis' Encyclical *Laudato Si'*, 228, write a 500-word essay about where you have experienced God in nature. All entries are due by February 8th. Go to www.pendola.org or call (530) 389-2780 for more information.

Rachel's Vineyard Healing Retreat, February 17 – 19: Those who choose abortion are our daughters, sons, husbands, wives, sisters, brothers, relatives, friends & members of our parish communities. The impact and pain of abortion hurts - even years after the experience. If you or a loved one has been hurt by abortion, this weekend is for you! Come and experience God's healing love and forgiveness in a safe, nonjudgmental environment. Open to men and women. The cost is \$175 per person and financial assistance is available to anyone who needs it. Call Paula Segno or send an email for more information. (916) 733-0161 or projectrachel@scd.org. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

“Source and Summit of the Christian Life: The Mass Explained, Saturday, January 7th: In this one day workshop we will explore the Jewish roots of the Mass, as well as the underlying, spiritual meaning of each part of the Mass from entrance to dismissal. We'll also discuss sacred music and the special role that music plays in our worship of God. This is part three of a five-part series on the sacred liturgy. Participants need not have taken previous workshops. Contact the Office of Worship to register: 916-733-0221 or jcavanagh@scd.org. \$45 (includes lunch). Location: St. Anthony Church, 660 Florin Road, Sacramento.

“Let Us Pray: Introduction to Catholic Worship”, Wednesday, January 11 & 18: The last two sessions of “Let Us Pray: an introduction to liturgy, worship & prayer” will take place Wednesday January 11 & 18 @ 7:00 p.m. at St Joseph's Church in Auburn. The next session will be: “Sacred Music: a treasure of inestimable value” and the last session: “Mass & Mission: living a sacramental life in a secular world.” St Joseph Catholic Church is located at 1162 Lincoln Way, Auburn.

Mark Your Calendar
Our Annual Crab and
Prime Rib Feed will be held on
Saturday, February 11th.