

## *~From the Administrator~*

Dear Parish Family,

June 13, 2010

This past Tuesday was the Funeral Mass for Florence Ball, a longtime member of St. Joseph the Worker Parish. I had gotten to know Florence through house visits during my time here, and will remember her for her generosity of heart and skills as a conversationalist. Friday, June 18, will be her burial at the cemetery.

Last week also brought another 'pastoral first' - my first 'last day' of school, which was on Wednesday. After Mass we had a cookout, and the school day ended around noon. About an hour and a half later, sitting in my office, I was struck by the 'sounds of silence.' My memory expected to hear the sounds of recess, but summer break had already begun!

Friday was the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus which ends the Holy Year for Priests. What a great blessing to have been ordained during this special year of grace, as well as being able to serve my first year as a priest during the Year for Priests. In his homily that day, the Holy Father Pope Benedict expressed how the Year for Priests was celebrated to ensure:

*"a renewed appreciation of the grandeur and beauty of the priestly ministry. The priest is not a mere office-holder. ... Rather, he does something which no human being can do of his own power: in Christ's name he speaks the words which absolve us of our sins and in this way he changes, starting with God, our entire life. Over the offerings of bread and wine he speaks Christ's words of thanksgiving, ... which open the world to God and unite it to Him. The priesthood, then, is not simply 'office' but Sacrament".*

*"This audacity of God Who entrusts Himself to human beings (Who, conscious of our weaknesses, nonetheless considers men capable of acting and being present in His stead) this audacity of God is the true grandeur concealed in the word 'priesthood'. ... This is what we wanted to reflect upon and appreciate anew over the course of the past year. We wanted to reawaken our joy at how close God is to us, ... we also wanted to demonstrate once again to young people that this vocation, this fellowship of service for God and with God, does exist".*

*"It was to be expected that this new radiance of the priesthood would not be pleasing to the 'enemy'; he would have rather preferred to see it disappear, so that God would ultimately be driven out of the world. And so it happened that, in this very year of joy for the Sacrament of the priesthood, the sins of priests came to light - particularly the abuse of the little ones. ... We too insistently beg forgiveness from God and from the persons involved, while promising to do everything possible to ensure that such abuse will never occur again; and that in admitting men to priestly ministry and in their formation we will do everything we can to weigh the authenticity of their vocation and make every effort to accompany priests along their journey".*

*"Had the Year for Priests been a glorification of our individual human performance, it would have been ruined by these events. But for us what happened was precisely the opposite: we grew in gratitude for God's gift, a gift concealed in 'earthen vessels' which ever anew, even amid human weakness, makes His love concretely present in this world. So let us look upon all that happened as a summons to purification, as a task which we bring to the future and which makes us acknowledge and love all the more the great gift we have received from God. In this way, His gift becomes a commitment to respond to God's courage and humility by our own courage and our own humility".*

There are still some remaining (free) tickets to the July 3 Country Music Show in Harrison. It runs from 3 - 7 pm. If you are interested, please stop by the office.

Please continue to pray for Fr. Patrick Jankowiak, our incoming pastor. Also, please continue to pray for me as well as for each other!

Thank you to everyone who helped me to celebrate my anniversary and my birthday. Your beautiful (and tasty) gifts and cards are very much appreciated. May God bless you for your generosity! Let us pray for each other.

*Fr. David*

# THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

The Sacred Heart of Jesus is one of the a devotion to Jesus' physical heart as the representation of His Divine Love for humanity. It stresses the central Christian concept of loving and adoring Jesus. The origin of this devotion in its modern form is derived from a French nun, Saint Marguerite Marie Alacoque, who learned the devotion from Jesus in visions.

Predecessors to the modern devotion arose unmistakably in the Middle Ages in various facets of Christian mysticism. The Sacred Heart has been closely associated with Acts of Reparation to Jesus Christ. In his encyclical *Miserentissimus Redemptor*, Pope Pius XI stated: "the spirit of expiation or reparation has always had the first and foremost place in the worship given to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus". The *Golden Arrow Prayer* also directly refers to the Sacred Heart.

The Sacred Heart is often depicted in Christian art as a flaming heart shining with divine light,

pierced by the lance-wound, surrounded by a crown of thorns, surmounted by a cross and bleeding. Sometimes the image is over Jesus' body with his wounded hands pointing at the heart. The wounds and crown of thorns allude to the manner of Jesus' death, while the fire represents the transformative power of Divine Love.

The Feast of the Sacred Heart has been a Solemnity in the liturgical calendar since 1856, and is celebrated 19 days after Pentecost. As Pentecost is always celebrated on Sunday, the Feast of the Sacred Heart always falls on a Friday.

***MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS,  
HAVE MERCY ON US!***



# IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

The Immaculate Heart of Mary is a devotion to the interior life of Mary, her joys and sorrows, her virtues and hidden perfections; and above all, her virginal love for God; her maternal love for her Son, Jesus; and her compassionate love for all people.

Traditionally, the heart is pierced with seven wounds or swords, in homage to the Seven Sorrows of Mary. Seven Hail Marys are said daily in honor of this devotion. Also, roses or another type of flower may be wrapped around the heart.

Veneration of the Heart of Mary parallels worship of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. It is, however, necessary to indicate the differences. The Devotion to the Heart of Jesus is especially directed to the "Divine Heart" as overflowing with love for humanity. In the devotion to the Heart of Mary the attraction is the love of her Heart for Jesus and for God. A second difference is the nature of the devotion itself. In devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus there is a sense of

love responding to love. In devotion to the Heart of Mary, example and imitation hold an important place. Love in this case is a response to the Love of God, the object being rather to love God and Jesus better by imitating Mary's response to God's Love.

The Immaculate Heart pierced by a sword, appearing in the apparitions to Saint Catherine Labouré in 1830 which appears on the Miraculous Medal. The Sacred Heart of Jesus also appears on the medal, next to the Immaculate Heart, but is crowned with thorns, rather than being pierced by a sword. The M on the medal signifies the Blessed Virgin at the foot of the Cross when Jesus was being crucified.

***IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY,  
PRAY FOR US!***

