

From The Pastor's Desk

A few years ago, someone in a big city decided to conduct an experiment. He borrowed two cars—one was an old beat up vehicle and looked like an old jalopy. The other car was an expensive chauffeur driven car—a real beauty. First, he put on some old clothes took the old car and drove down one of the major streets. He stopped at a main intersection for a red light, but when the light turned green, he didn't move. He just sat in the car. Very soon all of the cars behind him started honking their horns and shouting at him to get out of the way. After a few minutes of this abuse, he drove on. Then he went home, changed into expensive clothes, and got into the chauffeur driven car. He sat in the back seat and had the driver take him down the same street. They stopped at the same intersection. When the light turned green, he told the driver not to move the car. Then he waited. This time, no one honked their horn or started shouting at them. They just all quietly took their time and drove around him when they could. His conclusion from the experiment was very clear. We treat the rich and influential people much differently than we treat the poor and powerless.

"My brothers and sisters, show no partiality as you adhere to the faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ." (James 2:1)

When we judge others we make distinction between them and ourselves. We create separations and division. We start to break down the unity that is naturally there from the fact that we all share in the same world and are part of the same human race and children of God. Judgment and prejudice are part of the same package, and we know how much devastation prejudice can cause. It has been responsible for more violence and death in our world than probably any other single factor. Even in recent months, we have seen examples of attempted genocide where whole tribes are threatened by other tribes in Sudan, Somalia, Nigeria and Kenya—where people are so full of hatred that they would kill every last member if they could. These are among the most horrible crimes against humanity. And yet it all starts within us. When we accept a false conclusion that others are not as good as we are because of how they look, or live, or talk, or worship, then we have given up our faith in Jesus Christ. This is very serious and must be taken very seriously by us.

We are called upon to look closely at our own hearts and see if we harbor any kind of prejudice towards any people. Then we are called upon to renew our minds and hearts according to the mind and heart of Jesus Christ. Jesus knew no distinctions between people. This is more than clear from even a quick reading of the Gospels. And this is the official stance of our Church. Even if individuals within our church do not always live according to the standards of Christ, that is no excuse for any one of us to do the same.

In our own culture we can see the terrible consequences that have come about because of the way we judge the worth of certain people. The most glaring example is the attitude that our society has to the unborn. These children have become disposable items. They are treated as an inconvenience, worth less than our favorite pet.

Even in our own families we run the risk of giving value to people according to non-Christian standards. If a wife or husband makes the decision to stay home to care for the children, how often do they find themselves being looked down upon. Somehow, being a president of a large corporation has more value than taking care to see that children are raised in a healthy and life-giving way. And don't these judgments seem to happen so easily?

Fr. Joe

Masses, Readings and Activities

Sunday, September 6 Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings *Is 35: 4-7a; Jas 2: 1-5; Mk 7:31-37*
 8:00 am Mass—†Carlota Rosa Mendendez
 9:30 am Mass—Intentions of Robert Rombach
 11:30 am Mass—†Eloise M.P. Stampley
 1:00 pm ACTS Men's Retreat Team
 5:30 pm Mass—People of Holy Spirit

Monday, September 7 Labor Day

Pastoral Office Closed

Readings *Col 1:24—2:3; Lk 6: 6-11;*
 8:30 am Mass—Intentions of Marie Mirr

Tuesday, September 8 Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Readings *Mi 5: 1-4a; Mt 1: 1-16, 18-23*
 8:30 am Mass—Deceased Members Flusche/Schultz Families
 1:00 pm Women's Spirituality
 7:00 pm ACTS Small Church Community
 7:00 pm Outreach Commission Meeting
 7:00 pm ACTS Small Group

Wednesday, September 9 St. Peter

Readings *Col 3: 1-11; Lk 6: 20-26*
 8:30 am Mass—†Ruber Charles Ortiz
 9:00 am Legion of Mary
 9:30 am Low Impact Exercise Class
 10:00 am Craft Workshop
 6:00 pm Family Prayer Group
 6:00 pm Confessions
 6:30 pm Team Spirit
 6:30 pm Liturgy Commission Meeting
 7:00 pm RCIA Session

Thursday, September 10

Readings *Col 3: 12-17; Lk 6: 27-38*
 8:30 am Mass—†Bruce Plasket
 7:00 pm New Day Grief Support
 7:00 pm Zone Board Meeting
 7:30 pm KC 4th Degree Meeting
 7:30 pm Choir Practice

Friday, September 11

Readings *1 Tm 1: 1-2, 12-14; Lk 6: 39-42*
 8:30 am Mass—†Nadine Ash
 9:15 am Holy Hour

Saturday, September 12 The Most Holy Name of Mary, BVM

Readings *1 Tm 1: 15-17; Lk 6:43-39*
 8:30 am Holy Mass—†Toney Riffel
 9:00 am Baptism Preparation Class
 3:30 pm Confessions
 5:30 pm Mass—†Ruban Charles Ortiz

Sunday, September 13 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings *Is 50: 5-9a; Jas 2: 14-18; Mk 8:27-35*
 8:00 am Mass—†Zeb Baird
 8:30 am Brunch for Grandparents
 9:15/11:15 am Children's Faith Formation / Adult Clusters 1,2,3,4
 9:30 am Mass—People of Holy Spirit
 10:45 am Health Fair Volunteer Nurse Training
 11:30 am Mass—†Augustin Perez
 1:30 pm ACTS Men's Retreat Team
 1:30 pm Confirmation Preparation Session
 5:30 pm Mass—†Sergio Omer Mora
 6:30 pm Youth Ministry

Faith Formation—Youth

We do not have Youth Ministry tonight because of Labor Day. Enjoy your long weekend with your family!

Middle School Girls: Join our Endow Girl Genius Group! We meet on Wednesday evenings starting at 6:30 pm. Our first meeting is September 16. E-mail devynbuschow@holyspiritcc.org for more information.

We would like to get a middle school boys group together as well. If you are interested, please contact Devyn Buschow!



The Pastoral Office will be closed for Labor Day, Monday, September 7.



WINNERS FOR RETURNING ALL 15 RAFFLE TICKETS

Charles Wagnon, Diane Minger, Ken Rarick, Angelina & Mark Spillman and Kathy Anderson. These people have won 2 festival T-shirts; 2 food tickets and 1 game ticket. Prizes can be picked up at the front desk during regular business hours.

Your name can be drawn next if you return all 15 raffle tickets. Drawings will continue thru Sunday September 20.

We need Auction items for the Fall Festival. It's time to begin collecting new items, gift certificates for services, unused new gifts you have received, estate-quality items and items from your business or where you work or shop for the silent and live-online auctions. Please bring them to the community center. Fill out a donation form. The forms are available at the front desk. Questions? Call Sandi Ciarochi at 469-222-4747.

The Sanctuary Lamp will burn this week in thanksgiving and celebration of their 49th Wedding Anniversary, requested by Alex & Sylvia Peralta.

“ONLINE AUCTION CANCELLED. Due to circumstances beyond our control, we are cancelling the proposed Fall Festival online auction. We wish to thank Jorge Ruiz for all the time and energy he put into the effort to bring it to fruition. We apologize for any inconvenience. Thank you, the Auction Committee.”

A big thank you to all of our bulletin sponsors for your participation and helping make the bulletin possible. Bill Strait from Trinity will be here working on the new year's sponsors. You can reach him here at the church office at 972-298-4971 or email: straitbill@yahoo.com or cell phone 972-743-3864. Thank you.

Sacramental Preparation

The deadline for Confirmation registration is next Sunday, September 13 and for First Communion, Sunday, September 20. Children registering for sacramental preparation must have completed one year of Faith Formation last year, whether it was at Holy Spirit or another parish. If it was at another parish, a Letter of Verification from that parish must be on file with our office prior to registering for sacramental preparation. Also, if you have a copy of the child's baptismal certificate, that would be awesome! The Sacrament of Confirmation is celebrated in the 8th Grade or older and First Communion in the 2nd Grade. However, attendance for two consecutive years in Faith Formation/Youth Ministry remains a diocesan mandatory requirement for sacramental preparation. We check attendance when you register for sacramental preparation to ensure you meet the two-year requirement and that attendance was satisfactory the year prior. That means six absences or less during the 2014/15 Faith Formation year. You may contact Deborah, Devyn, Lindee or Lisa with any questions regarding sacramental preparation.

Our first required Parent ONLY session (no kiddos!) for the SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION is next Sunday, September 13 from 1:30-3:45 p.m. in the dining room. Parents, you are expected to be there, on time and ready to go, especially since Father Joe will be with us as facilitator. That way, we can leave on time...maybe even a little early! If you need childcare for your little ones, please contact Sharon Bush at 972.298.9460 by Thursday, September 10.

Information and paperwork regarding infant Baptism (ages 6 and under) may be directed to Lisa Estrada. Our next baptismal preparation class for parents and godparents is Saturday, September 12, 2015, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. All completed paperwork must be turned in no later than two weeks prior to the baptism class date, which means it's now PAST due.



The United States flags that are displayed on the church grounds this Labor Day are in recognition of the following military personnel: Herb Linson, **Marine**; Charles R. Bernabo, **Navy**; Jim Kurowski, **Air Force**; †Zeb Baird, **Army**;

Robert Dover, **Air Force**; Patrick Dover, **Marine**; Jeanette Dover, **National Guard**; †Ted Lincks, **Air Force**; †Alfons Cinek, **Army**; Thompson Family, **Military**; †Jim Flusche, **Army**; Curtis Opdah, **Navy**; †Clarke Witt, **Army**; †Lawrence V. Vann, **Navy**; Cecil Bosworth, **Army**; †John S. Ference, **Air Force**; †John M. Malone, Jr., **Army**; †William G. Palermo, Jr., **Army**; †Leonard N. Lutes, **Air Force**; Cody Ray Hall, **Navy**; †Frank J. Talani, **Navy**; Efrain Gonzalez, **Air Force**; †Fred Lyons, **Navy**; Brian Doyle, **Coast Guard**; Maggie Hollyfield-Doyle, **Navy**; Joe Campbell, **Navy**.

**HAPPY LABOR DAY and God Bless
all of our
Military, living and deceased.**

CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION



CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION CLASSES OFFICIALLY KICKED OFF LAST SUNDAY, AUGUST 30!

If you missed Parent Orientation, please stop by the front desk and pick up a packet of important information about the 2015/16 Faith Formation year including all the great special events and activities planned for the year.

And, if you haven't yet registered your children for Faith Formation, it's not too late! You can pick up registration paperwork between 10 am and 4 pm, Monday through Thursday, at the Community Center front desk or on Sunday mornings during Faith Formation.

The deadline for Faith Formation registration for the 2015/16 year is Sunday, September 13 for children wishing to enroll in our sacramental preparation program and Sunday, September 20 for children needing to fulfill the one-year attendance requirement (that's first grade and up). After that, classes will be officially closed except for PK3, PK4 and Kindergarten (pending room availability) or those who have already celebrated sacraments.

Additionally, if you registered during the week of August 24 or later, your children will be on class rosters beginning with the September 13 class. Those rosters will be posted outside classroom doors or stop by the front desk for class assignments.

Parents, we have an awesome PK3, PK4 & Kindergarten Program! Instead of the nursery, which is awesome by the way, but how about trying our Faith Formation classes? It's never too early to start teaching them about the Love of God since they are already so close to Him.

There will be no Faith Formation classes on Sunday, September 6 as we celebrate the Labor Day Holiday! Faith Formation classes will hit the ground running on Sunday, September 13!

Children's Faith Formation will be conducting Lessons #1 of the diocesan mandated safety training program entitled, "Protecting God's Children" on **Sunday, September 20** for children in Kindergarten through 6th Grade. The VIRTUS safety program will be done during their normal Faith Formation class. **Parents can preview both the VIRTUS ice breaker video and lesson plans on Sunday, September 13 between 9:30 am and 12 noon by contacting Deborah at the front desk.**

Also, don't forget that with the start of the Faith Formation year, the familiar orange safety cones and locked gate will be in place. For safety's sake, **PLEASE DON'T MOVE THE CONES!**



They are there to ensure the safe passage of both the children and parishioners, as they move from the Church to the Community Center and vice versa. Thanking you in advance!

SAFEGUARDING THE DIGNITY OF EVERY HUMAN PERSON!

That's the theme of this year's national celebration of Catechetical Sunday and it seems to be very appropriate considering today's social climate.

Watch for more information on Pope Francis' Inaugural U.S. Visit to Philadelphia and the World Meeting of Families where the topic of The Family Fully Alive will be highlighted.



But on Catechetical Sunday, the many men and women who serve in the Church's catechetical ministries are recognized and affirmed for sharing their gift of faith with others and "opening the hearts and minds of the faithful." With that in mind, take a moment on the 20th to say **"THANK YOU"** to your child's catechist for taking on such a commitment. *And catechists, youth mentors & RCIA team members, you and your families are cordially invited to an Appreciation Brunch from 8:30-11:15 a.m. in the dining room prepared by our own Knights of Columbus.*

Adult And Family Ministry



Don't miss this exciting opportunity to explore and deepen your beautiful Catholic Faith!

Adult Faith Formation 2015

See additional information and register for these amazing classes online at www.holyspiritcatholic.com

Sundays 9:15 – 10:30 am, starting September 13

- Adult Cluster 1 "Matthew" video series
- Adult Cluster 2 "The Bible Timeline" video series
- Adult Cluster 4 "Finding True Happiness"

Sundays 11:15 – 12:30 pm, starting September 13

- Adult Cluster 3 "Evangelio Según San Lucas"

Mondays 9:30 – 11:00 am, starting September 14

- Monday Morning Scripture Study "Letters from Prison"

Mondays, 10:00 – 11:30 am, starting September 14

- Mothers Together in Christ

Wednesdays 7:00 – 9:00 pm, starting September 16

- Wednesday Evening Scripture Study "Matthew"

Second Tuesdays, 1:00 – 3:00 pm, starting September 8

- Women's Spirituality "ENDOW" JP II Letters to Women

Tuesday Evenings, 7:00-9:00 pm, starting September 15

- Hearts Afire "Consoling the Heart of Jesus"

Tuesday Evenings, 7:00-9:00 pm, starting September 15

- Tuesday Evening Scripture Study "The Mass"

Registration forms also available in the Narthex and Community Center.

Community Life

HAWAIIAN FALLS RECAP!

We had a great day of **fellowship and family fun** at Hawaiian Falls this past Saturday. We were able to stay the extra hours until the lightning sent us on our way.

We will be adding this event to our calendar for next summer, so watch for the date and plan on joining us next year!!

And a huge thank you to all those who donated tickets. We were able to nominate some awesome families to join us.

SUNDAY MORNING FOOD & FELLOWSHIP

Welcome's you back from summer break next week!

Next Sunday, September 13

We are celebrating **Grandparent's Day**

Join us in the dining room for **Breakfast Tacos and Donuts** in honor of our amazing Grandparents! Donations will be accepted and food will be provided after the 8:00 am and 9:30 am masses. Come and celebrate the gift of Grandparents in your life.

ZONE BOARD MEETING

Thursday, Sept. 10 at 7pm

Outreach

First Sunday Rosary for the end to abortion is today at 10:30 in the church.

ESL Class Registration forms are available at the front desk at the Community Center. If you would like to learn English or have already taken our ESL class and want to learn more and practice sign up soon. Class begins on Thursday, September 10 at 9:30 a.m. For information call Donna at ext. 20.

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion to the Sick and Homebound Reminder: There will be an optional Ministry Enrichment session on Saturday, September 19 at 9:15 a.m. following the 8:30 a.m. Mass in room 210.

Our Food Pantry is running low. Any of the following items it would be greatly appreciated: canned soups and fruit, dry or canned beans, rice, pasta, peanut butter and canned meats such as tuna, chicken, etc. Thank you for your continued support.

Joseph's Corner "Before I made my decision to come to the retreat, I wanted to be in a place where no one would judge me for my past. I found a great place where I left my pain and suffering and at the retreat I learned that I needed to trust God. When I left Project Joseph I knew that I now have started a new chapter in my life and a huge weight has been lifted off my shoulders" (Testimonial from Project Joseph). Come on a one-day Project Joseph Retreat for men and discover what it feels like to have that burden removed. Abortion AfterCare-Healing – Project Joseph at healing@projectjosephdallas.org or go to www.projectjosephdallas.org or call 469-416-210. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

Finance

Weekend of August 29/30

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| \$18,099.29 | Weekly Contributions |
| \$ 1,614.00 | On-Line Giving |
| <u>\$22,365.00</u> | Average Weekly Expenses |
| (2,603.71) | Shortfall |

Balance in Future Fund \$32,196.00

Thank you and May God Bless You.



**Marriage Enrichment
Movie/Date Night for Couples
Saturday, September 19th, 6:30 pm
Movie starts at 7pm**



MCFARLAND USA
Starring Kevin Costner
Jim White moves his family after losing his last job as a football coach. He sees that some of the students are worth starting a cross country team and turns 7 students with no hope into one of the best cross country teams.
Hotdogs, nachos and popcorn (and the fixins) furnished.
For more information call :
Billy or Davida Callender: 214-645-8254 or
Email: billy-davida@hotmail.com

Office of Adult & Family Ministry

Richard Johnson ~ richardjohnson@holyspiritcc.org 972-298-4971 x23
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