

From The Pastor's Desk

There are very few things in life that just keep going on their own steam. Most vehicles with an engine need some kind of fuel to keep them going. When they run out of fuel, they just stop. Even those things like bicycle or kayaks, which don't require fuel, still need the human person to peddle or paddle. When we stop, they stop.

In our faith life, sometimes there's the assumption that once a person gets baptized, then they can just sail along for the rest of their life, on the grace of their Baptism. This would surely make Baptism into some kind of magical event, instead of being the faith event that it is. Baptism brings us into the community of faith, but as we grow, we are expected to give some energy to the faith we have received. Otherwise when we stop, it may also stop.

It's important how we view our life of faith. If we see it as a rigid and motionless reality, something that doesn't move or grow, then everything become quite simple. All we need to do is get ourselves baptized, carry out our basic religious obligations, sit back and wait for the rewards to pour in – a sense of peace in this life, and eternal happiness in the next. This is the image of faith as money that we deposit in the bank. Once it is in the bank, we can forget about it until we need it. It gains interest for us and we don't have to do anything with it.

There's nothing easier than living a faith life that is shallow and superficial, with no real depth about it. This kind of faith seeks only comfort and security that comes from religion. It avoids the hard questions of life and is frightened if anyone challenges or questions any aspect of it. This is not the kind of faith that is found portrayed in the lives of the people who are found in the Holy Scriptures.

The image we get from today's Scriptures does not include the secure bank or the comfortable living room. All of our readings give us quite a different picture and they challenge us to see if our faith fits into this Biblical image.

Faith is pictured as a difficult journey to unknown places. Abraham was called to set out on a journey to a place to which he had never been before. His only guide would be God. He needed to put out a lot of energy. He had to be alert to his surroundings as he moved from place to place. The image we have here is not one of comfort and security. It is just the opposite. The hardships and insecurity of travel in those ancient times were well known facts. Being on a journey was not anyone's idea of a holiday. You might not come back alive! Danger was all around. On such a journey you could not afford to be distracted.

The faith that is "dressed for action" is a faith that believes that God is to be found anywhere and at any time. A person with this kind of faith senses that his or her response to every person and every situation is ultimately a faith response. This is so because he or she believes that God is made known through the ordinary events of life. Someone new at work, a neighbor in need, a family member in distress, a threat to the environment, an obvious injustice – all of these things require that we be ready to respond as people who trust that God is present everywhere. When we make a response to these persons and situations, we do so with a belief and a trust that we are being sent by God who supports us as we reach out in love to our world.



Weekly Readings

- Sunday, Aug. 7** Wis 18: 6-9; Heb 11:1-2, 8-19; Lk 12:32-48
- Monday, Aug. 8** Ez 1:2-5, 24-28c; Mt 17:22-27
- Tuesday, Aug. 9** Ez 2:8-3:4; Mt 18:1-5,10,12-14
- Wednesday, Aug. 10** 2 Cor 9:6-10; Jn 12:24-26
- Thursday, Aug. 11** Ez 12:1-12; Mt 18:21-19:1
- Friday, Aug. 12** Ez 16:1-15, 60, 63; Mt 19:3-12
- Saturday, Aug. 13** Ez 18:1-10, 13b, 30-32; Mt 19:13-15
- Sunday, Aug. 14** Jer 38:4-6, 8-10; Heb 12:1-4; Lk 12:49-53

Liturgy, Reconciliation & Activities

- Sunday, Aug. 7**
 - 8:00 a.m. Holy Mass—†Timothy Karaffa
 - 8:30 a.m. 2016-2017 FF Registration & Ice Cream Social
 - 9:00 a.m. Sunday Food & Fellowship
 - 9:30 a.m. Holy Mass—For Those Hurt by Abortion
 - Backpack Blessing
 - 10:30 a.m. First Sunday Rosary
 - 10:45 a.m. R.C.I.A. Inquiry
 - 11:30 a.m. Holy Mass—†Efren Santiago—Backpack Blessing
 - 12:00 p.m. Novena For Souls In Purgatory
 - 5:30 p.m. Holy Mass—Intentions of Cathy Ordemann
- Monday, Aug. 8 St. Dominic**
 - 7:00 a.m. Rummage Sale Set-up
 - 8:30 a.m. Holy Mass—Intentions of Teheresa Ndura Okeke & Bibian Obiwanna
 - 5:00 p.m. Catechist Certification Training
 - 6:00 p.m. Novena For Souls In Purgatory
 - 7:00 p.m. Young Adults Meeting
- Tuesday, Aug. 9 St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross**
 - 7:00 a.m. Rummage Sale Set-up
 - 8:30 a.m. Holy Mass—†Edozie Okoli
 - 6:00 p.m. Novena For Souls In Purgatory
- Wednesday, Aug. 10 St. Lawrence**
 - 7:00 a.m. Rummage Sale Set-up
 - 8:30 a.m. Holy Mass—Intentions of Amy Vacha
 - 9:30 a.m. Legion of Mary
 - 6:00 p.m. Confessions
 - 6:00 p.m. Family Prayer Group
 - 6:30 p.m. Open Youth Night
 - 7:00 p.m. Estudio Biblico / Outreach Commission Meeting
 - Wednesday Movie Night: "The 13th Day (Our Lady of Fatima)"
- Thursday, Aug. 11 St. Clare**
 - 7:00 a.m. Rummage Sale Set-up
 - 8:30 a.m. Holy Mass—†Palмира Delgado Murphy
 - 7:00 p.m. Zone Board Meeting / R.C.I.A. Sponsor Information Session
 - 7:30 p.m. K of C 4th Degree Meeting
- Friday, Aug. 12 St. Jane Frances de Chantal**
 - 7:00 a.m. Rummage Sale Set-up
 - 8:30 a.m. Holy Mass—†Ann Mills
 - 9:00 a.m. Holy Hour
 - 3:00 p.m. Snow Cone Friday—LAST WEEK!
- Saturday, Aug. 13 Sts. Pontian & Hippolytus**
 - 8:30 a.m. Holy Mass—Intentions of Amelia Baptista
 - 3:30 p.m. Confessions
 - 5:30 p.m. Holy Mass—†Jim Rourke
 - 6:30 p.m. Parish Anniversary Celebration Dinner
- Sunday, Aug. 14**
 - 8:00 a.m. Holy Mass—†Zeb Baird
 - 8:30 a.m. 2016-2017 Children's Faith Formation Registration
 - 9:00 a.m. Sunday Food & Fellowship
 - 9:30 a.m. Holy Mass—Intentions of Theresa Ndura Okeke
 - 10:30 a.m. Team Spirit Retreat
 - 11:30 a.m. Holy Mass—Intentions of Billy & Sandy Chalko
 - 5:30 p.m. Holy Mass—People of Holy Spirit

Youth Ministry

Do you have a 9th-12th grader who is interested in joining a leadership group that helps plan service projects, Sunday night events and retreats throughout the year? Our Team Spirit Retreat is **NEXT Sunday, Aug. 14, 10:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.** Contact: DevynBuschow@holyspiritcc.org to sign your teen up!

If you haven't registered yet for the Youth Ministry program this year, make sure you come to the Dining Room today after the morning Masses! We can't wait to have your teen in our program!

We are still looking for volunteers for our Youth Ministry program this year! Volunteer Orientation is **Tuesday, Aug. 23, 7:00 p.m.** We are hoping to have all our needs filled before then! Please pray and see if you can devote 2 hours a week to helping our youth grow closer to God!

FALL FESTIVAL

In all things, Be Merciful!

Saturday & Sunday, Sept. 24 & 25!

Rummage Pre-Sale Date Change Reminder! New dates are **NEXT Friday, Aug. 19 & Saturday, Aug. 20., 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.** Collections are now in progress! Large items welcome! **NO COMPUTERS**, please! Arrange pick up for large items by calling the parish office. If the office is closed, please do not leave them outside the door.

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer to help with the Rummage Sale, please contact: **Michelle Hernandez, (214) 864-2566.**

SILENT AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED! We are now accepting new, unique, or estate-quality items as donations to our Fall Festival Silent Auction! **See today's bulletin insert for items we are in need of to make this year's event a success!** Forms to request items can be picked up at the Front Desk in the Community Center. Contact Auction Co-Chairs: **Sandi Ciarochi (469) 222-4747 or Kathy Doyle (972) 741-3321** for more information!



Fall Festival Raffle Tickets: Be sure to Turn in all 15 of our sold Raffle Ticket Stubs by **Aug. 15** and be entered in weekly drawings for prizes! Raffle tickets will also be on sale in the Narthex after all Masses this weekend!



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn in honor of **Uchi & Maggie Osuji** requested by **Flora Osuji.**

Sacramental Preparation

General Registration for the 2016-2017 sacramental preparation year is currently underway. Join us THIS Sunday, Aug. 7 and NEXT Sunday, Aug. 14 in the Dining Room after all the morning Masses to complete your paperwork on-site.

Year 1 Parents: Don't forget to re-register your children for Faith Formation/Youth Ministry AND our sacramental preparation program. After reviewing the rosters, there are quite a few of you who have yet to enroll! And, if you were in 1st Grade or 7th Grade, you are eligible for First Communion and/or Confirmation preparation (based on last year's attendance). Please feel free to contact **Deborah, Devyn, Lisa or Lindee** in the Faith Formation office if you have any questions regarding First Communion and/or Confirmation registration and requirements.

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, Sept. 10, 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.** All paperwork must be turned in 2 weeks prior to the Sept. 10 class date!

NEXT Monday, Aug. 15 is the Feast of the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This year, it is *not* a Holy day of Obligation. However, two masses will be offered: **8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.** The Pastoral Offices **will be closed** in observance of the feast day.

Take a look at our NEW Exterior Lighting! The campus is now well-lit! Please notice the light polls on the West Perimeter are inside the parking spaces. **Please be careful parking!**



This is the first project funded by your donations to the Diocesan Capital Campaign, **Our Faith, Our Future** through The Catholic Foundation.

Total Pledged to the Diocese is \$1,047,700 with payments of \$318,812. **Holy Spirit will receive 30% of each dollar paid to the campaign.** Please continue to give generously! Our next facility project depends upon your support.

Finances

Weekend of July 30/31

Contributions	\$29,875.83
Average Weekly Expenses	(\$24,785.00)
Surplus	<u>\$ 5,090.83</u>

Thank you for your continued generous support of the parish, our diocese and the global Catholic Church. May God bless you!

CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION



BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS & ICE CREAM SOCIAL!

Join us **THIS Sunday, Aug. 7** at both the 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. Masses, for a special blessing of the school backpacks! Children are invited to bring their backpacks to Mass, and Father will bless both the children and their backpacks for an awesome send-off before the new school year begins! For those of you without backpacks, we will have a few on-hand to distribute. Please contact **Donna Greenlee** in our Outreach Ministry for backpack and school supply assistance. Also, all school educators will be given a special blessing as they, too, begin a new school year. **Afterwards, join us in the Dining Room for an ice cream social and meet some of your fellow classmates!**

On-Site Faith Formation registration takes place Sunday, Aug. 7 & Aug. 14 after all the **MORNING** masses in the Dining Room. *Please see the **green column** for detailed information regarding registration.*

Catechists, don't forget our CREED certification course begins this Monday, Aug. 8 from 5:10 p.m. in the dining room for the first 5 hours with the remaining 5 on Monday, Aug. 15. You must attend both nights to receive the 10-hour course credit. **Joyce Springer will be here to facilitate the course.** Dinner is provided and if you haven't already arranged for any childcare needs, please contact **Sharon Bush, x19** ASAP. If you would like to attend but have yet to register, please contact **Deborah** by Monday morning to be included on the official roster. *This course is also open to all youth mentors, RCIA team members and the parish at-large if interested!*

Monday, Aug. 22 will be our annual Catechist Orientation for all Children's Faith Formation catechists, aides AND teens. **We'll start with a pizza dinner (don't forget a couple of \$\$) with orientation set to begin at 6:45 p.m.** We have a fun night planned so please try to be there.

Safe Environment Training/Re-Training is scheduled for Monday, Aug. 22, 6:00 p.m. for all new volunteers or if you need to complete your annual retraining. ***This training is open to all parishioners...***

Also, new this year will be a required TEEN TRAINING, which will also be conducted at 6:00 p.m. on the 22nd. *If your teen cannot make it, we will offer another training class in September. However, the training is required in order to serve as a Teen Aide. Please contact Deborah with any questions.*

Faith Formation Registration Information

- ◆ All families wishing to sign children up for Faith Formation must be registered members of Holy Spirit. If you haven't already completed a Parish Census Form to be a part of our wonderful faith community, you must do that **first before** picking up registration paperwork for Faith Formation.
- ◆ 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 6 absences or fewer for 2015-2016.**
- ◆ For paperwork received on the 7th or 14th, all Faith Formation registration fees/sacramental expenses **must be paid in full by Thursday, Aug. 18 before your child will be placed on a class roster.** Current class fees are \$45.00 for one child; \$90.00 for two children; and \$105.00 for three or more children. Sacramental expenses are separate. ***Class fees will increase again as of Saturday, Aug. 27 so register now!***

SPECIAL NOTE: We will not accept registrations after Thursday, Aug. 18 in order to prepare for the first day of class and Parent Orientation on Sunday, Aug. 28. You can still obtain paperwork Monday - Thursday, 10 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., but it will not be processed until after the Labor Day Holiday. Children registering after Aug. 18 will attend class on **Sunday, Sept. 11.** **Absolutely no registration paperwork will be distributed or accepted on Sunday, Aug. 28!**

If you received a fee statement in the mail, those are now due in order for your child to be placed on a class roster. ***We cannot guarantee class availability for those with outstanding balances. Please contact Deborah with any questions. All outstanding fees must be paid in full by Thursday, Aug. 18. Credit card payments may be made online on the "Children's Faith Formation" page on our parish website: www.holyspiritcatholic.com.***

Adult & Family Ministry

For information about any of our Adult & Family Ministry programs, please Email:
Richard Johnson: richardjohnson@holyspiritcc.org
Veronica Houston: veronicahouston@holyspiritcc.org



Adult Faith Formation Fall Registration 2016
TODAY, Sunday, Aug. 7 &
NEXT Sunday, Aug. 14
 after all Morning Masses!

COME & SEE! A preview of all material and registration forms will be available Sunday, Aug. 7 & 14 after all Morning masses in the Dining Room. Sunday Morning Classes will follow the Children's Faith Formation schedule .

Registration forms are available in the Narthex, Community Center or on our website. SEE COMPLETE LISTING IN TODAY'S BULLETIN!

Diocesan Silver & Gold Anniversary Mass

If you were married in **1991** or in **1966**, then the **Diocesan Silver & Gold Mass** celebrates your wedding anniversary on **Saturday, Aug. 27, 2:00 p.m.** at the Cathedral Shrine of the Virgin of Guadalupe (2215 Ross Avenue, Dallas, 75201). Couples celebrating *any anniversary over 50 years* (those married before 1966) are also encouraged to attend.

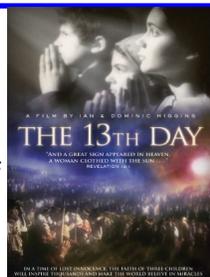
Bishop Farrell will preside at the Mass. He will offer a special blessing for all anniversary couples. Each couple will receive a certificate from the diocese. Families of the anniversary couples are welcome to attend. A festive reception follows the Mass at the Morton H. Myerson Symphony Center.

Please register so pews can be reserved for the 25th and 50th and 50+ anniversary couples. Register by phone (214) 379-2874 or online at www.cathdal.org/Wedding Anniversary August 2016 by **Monday, Aug. 15**, to have your name appear in the program.

Wednesday Movie Night

Aug. 10 7:00 -9:00 p.m.
"The 13th Day (Our Lady of Fatima)"

The 13th Day dramatizes the true story of 3 young shepherds who experienced 6 apparitions of Our Lady between May and October 1917.



Snacks are welcome!

For those needing childcare...Please call in your reservation to **Sharon Bush, x19**. Please call Sharon by **Monday, Aug. 8**. Childcare will open at 6:45 p.m.

Community Life Ministry

Sunday Morning Food and Fellowship

Today: Coffee & Donuts

Join us for coffee & donuts in the dining room.

Next Sunday, Aug. 14: Coffee & Donuts

Snow Cone Fridays

The **FINAL** Knights of Columbus **FREE snow cones, tea & lemonade** under the bell tower is this **Friday, Aug. 12, 3:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.** Come and enjoy the shade of the courtyard and an afternoon treat!



Parish Blood Drive

Get your favorite appointment time for the **Sunday, Aug. 21 parish blood drive** by signing up in the Narthex **THIS** weekend after all Masses. *Eligible donors are 17 years of age, weighing at least 110 lbs., and in general good health (16 years old with signed parental permission).*

Outreach Ministry

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

Exercise Class will not meet on Monday, Aug. 8. Class will resume on **Wednesday, Aug. 9 at 9:30 a.m.** If you'd like to have fun and get a good work out from a professional instructor, come and check out our Low Impact Exercise Class. We meet on Monday and Wednesday mornings 9:30-10:30 a.m. We provide the exercise equipment and we only ask a small donation of \$2 to help offset the cost of our instructor. You will also want to bring a water bottle.

This week's Act of Mercy is to Comfort the Afflicted.

Be open to listening and comforting those who are going through a tough time. Even if we aren't sure of the right words to say, our presence can make a big difference. You could also make a home cooked meal for a friend who is facing a difficult time or write a letter or send a card to someone who is suffering. A few moments of your day may make a lifetime of difference to someone who is going through a difficult time. Don't forget to write down the acts of mercy that you perform on a piece of paper or the form that we've provided and slip them into the "Acts of Mercy Box" on the table in the Narthex.

