

From The Pastor's Desk

Today's Gospel is one that immediately strikes us as being rather strange. It seems out of character, and, at first, we don't know quite how to take it. Here the Prince of Peace is declaring that he has come to bring division. Many people have a view of religion as something that is meant only to comfort. It becomes a place of refuge and consolation when times are difficult. But, Jesus is telling us that our faith is not only a place of comfort, it can also be a place of confrontation. He says that he came to bring fire to the earth. Fire can often be used to purify something. There are times when a piece of land is deliberately set on fire so that any foreign growth is purged, and the original environment is restored. Metals are purified through the use of fire. Jesus has come, not only to bring peace, but to purge the world of evil.

One of the principal ways in which we follow Christ is by encouraging and nurturing within others and ourselves a strong Christian critical spirit. After all, we live in a world that is penetrated with beliefs and values that go directly against the spirit of Jesus Christ. In biblical terms a critical spirit is equivalent to wisdom and the discernment of spirits that constitute a gift from God. To criticize is not to destroy. It means knowing how to distinguish the true from the false; the good from bad, in every concrete situation, so that we always do what pleases the Father. The critic looks about without illusions and detects the mind-set behind public policies and opinions. He possesses good judgment, tact, and good sense. When we lack a thoughtfully critical spirit, we end up conforming to the spirit of our age.

Jesus of Nazareth was an expert in using the critical spirit to liberate human beings from an unthinking acceptance of traditions. He knew the importance of the law, but he was also quick to put the law behind him when he saw that it was not serving the good of men and women. When law is used to keep the poor in an inferior position, then it is no longer useful. Jesus was harsh in his treatment of those who place themselves above others because of their religious or political positions. He had no regard for a person simply because of that person's position. Jesus saw the heart of a person, not the uniform or the sign above a person's office door.

It seems that there is still a terrible assumption that many of us make when we think that if something is legal, then, at the same time, it is morally good. We falsely believe that if the lawmakers of our country make a law about some matter, then we are permitted to act in accordance with that law, even though the law may go against what our faith teaches us. When we do this, we make the government into the creator and keeper of moral values. That's the Church's role, not the government's. Something can be perfectly legal, but, at the same time, can be terribly evil.

As we read our newspapers or watch TV, discuss politics, interact with fellow workers or neighbors, may we always have the courage to be known as followers of Jesus. May we have the ability and strength needed to be a voice for those who have no voice.



Weekly Readings

- Sunday, Aug. 14** Jer 38:4-6, 8-10; Heb 12:1-4; Lk 12:49-53
- Monday, Aug. 15** Rv 11:19a;12:1-6a,10ab; 1Cor 15:20-27; Lk1:39-56
- Tuesday, Aug. 16** Ez 28:1-10; Mt 19:23-30
- Wednesday, Aug. 17** Ez 34:1-11; Mt 20:1-16
- Thursday, Aug. 18** Ez 36:23-28; Mt 22:1-14
- Friday, Aug. 19** Ez 37:1-14; Mt 22:34-40
- Saturday, Aug. 20** Ez 43:1-7ab; Mt 23:1-12
- Sunday, Aug. 21** Is 66:18-21; Heb12:5-7,11-13; Lk 13:22-30

Liturgy, Reconciliation & Activities

- Sunday, Aug. 14**
 - 8:00 a.m. Holy Mass—†Zeb Baird
 - Festival Raffle Ticket & T-Shirt Sales
 - 2016-2017 Children's Faith Formation Registration
 - 9:00 a.m. Sunday Food & Fellowship
 - 9:30 a.m. Holy Mass—Intentions of Theresa Nduro 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
 - Festival Raffle Ticket & T-Shirt Sales
- Monday, Aug. 15 Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
*****PASTORAL OFFICES CLOSED*****
 - 7:00 a.m. Rummage Sale Set-up
 - 8:30 a.m. Holy Mass—†Jim Flusche
 - 10:30 a.m. Holy Mass—†Jim Finger
 - 5:00 p.m. "The Creed" Catechist Certification Training
 - 5:00 p.m. "Roles of the Catechist" Catechist Certification Training
- Tuesday, Aug. 16 St. Stephen of Hungary**
 - 7:00 a.m. Rummage Sale Set-up
 - 8:30 a.m. Holy Mass—Intentions of Uche & Maggie Osuji
 - 7:30 p.m. K of C Officers Meeting
- Wednesday, Aug. 17**
 - 7:00 a.m. Rummage Sale Set-up
 - 8:30 a.m. Holy Mass—Intentions of Emila Mariano
 - 9:30 a.m. Legion of Mary
 - 6:00 p.m. Confessions
 - 6:00 p.m. Family Prayer Group
 - 7:00 p.m. Estudio Biblico / EM Enrichment Session
 - Wednesday Movie Night: "Liberating a Continent: John Paul II and the Fall of Communism"
- Thursday, Aug. 18**
 - 7:00 a.m. Rummage Sale Set-up
 - 8:30 a.m. Holy Mass—†Camilo Gumapac
 - 7:00 a.m. Festival Committee Meeting
 - 7:30 p.m. Choir Practice
- Friday, Aug. 19 St. John Eudes**
 - 8:30 a.m. Holy Mass—Intentions of Geoffrey Charles Sanford
 - 9:00 a.m. Holy Hour
 - 9:00 a.m. Fall Festival Rummage Pre-sale
- Saturday, Aug. 20 St. Bernard**
 - 9:00 a.m. Fall Festival Rummage Pre-sale
 - 8:30 a.m. Holy Mass—†Liz Mancenido
 - 2:00 p.m. Nuñez Convalidation
 - 3:30 p.m. Confessions
 - 5:30 p.m. Holy Mass—†Jack Anderson
 - 5:30 p.m. Festival Raffle Tickets & T-Shirt Sales
- Sunday, Aug. 21**
 - 8:00 a.m. Holy Mass—†Bob Rombach
 - 8:00 a.m. K of C Parish Blood Drive
 - 8:00 a.m. Festival Raffle Tickets & T-Shirt Sales (until 1:00 p.m.)
 - 9:30 a.m. Holy Mass—†Stephen Hladyslaw
 - 10:45 a.m. R.C.I.A. Inquiry Session
 - 11:30 a.m. Holy Mass—Intentions of Emmaline Fernandez
 - 5:30 p.m. Holy Mass—Intentions of Antonio Lee
 - 5:30 p.m. Festival Raffle Tickets & T-Shirt Sales

Youth Ministry

If you haven't registered yet for Youth Ministry make sure you come to the Dining Room TODAY after the morning Masses! We can't wait to have your teen be a part of 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!

If you're a Young Adult looking for an upcoming Catholic Conference in the area, check out the National Catholic Singles Conference! It will be held **Friday, Sept. 30 – Sunday, Oct. 2** at the Embassy Suites at the DFW Airport. More info at: www.nationalcatholicsingles.com!

Sacramental Preparation

General Registration for the 2016-2017 sacramental preparation year is currently underway. Join us this THIS Sunday, in the Dining Room after all the morning Masses to complete your paperwork on-site. Year 1 Parents, don't forget to reregister 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 completed 1st Grade or 7th Grade (which is the required first year of Faith Formation), 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 completed paperwork must be turned in **two weeks prior** to the Sept. 10 class date.

Congratulations to our newest parish members! Sarah Lynne Kelly and Alison Celest Zavala celebrated the Sacrament of Baptism on Sunday, July 31!



Fall Festival Rummage Pre-Sale
THIS Friday, Aug. 19 & Saturday, Aug. 20
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

A bargain shopper's dream! This is your chance to grab the "pick of the crop" of wonderful bargain items next weekend at the Fall Festival Rummage Pre-Sale event. (Don't worry, we'll still be accepting donations for the main sale over the Fall Festival Weekend, so you'll want to check it out then too)! **Bring your friends and family and get ready to grab some great deals on furniture, clothing, household items, and more!**

SILENT AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED! We are still accepting new, unique, or estate-quality items as donations to our Fall Festival Silent Auction! 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!



Get ready to bid on some fabulous items including: a 48-piece silverware set, vintage Barbie dolls, vintage Elvis memorabilia, jewelry and small household appliances galore!

REMINDER: TOMORROW, Monday, Aug. 15 is the Feast of the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Note: This year, the feast day 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.



Fall Festival Raffle Tickets: Be sure to turn in all 15 of your sold Raffle Ticket Stubs by **TOMORROW, Monday, Aug. 15** and be entered in weekly drawings for prizes! Raffle tickets will also be on sale for \$5.00 each in the Narthex after all Masses this weekend!

Get Your Fall Festival T-Shirts Now! T-shirts are available after all Masses in the Narthex starting this weekend. **Children sizes:** \$8.00, **Adult sizes:** S-XL: \$12.00, 2X-3X \$15.00!

Finances

Weekend of Aug. 6/7

Contributions	\$23,772.55
Average Weekly Expenses	<u>(\$24,785.00)</u>
Deficit	<u>(\$ 1,012.45)</u>

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



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn in honor of **Linda Reitmeier** requested by **Juanita Ramsden**.

The Altar Flowers were given in memory of **†Zeb Baird** by Carol Lisle.

CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION

THIS Sunday, Aug. 14 is our last day for on-site Faith Formation registration! If you haven't registered your kiddos for the upcoming 2016-2017 Faith Formation year, join us after all the **MORNING** masses in the dining room to do so! *Please see the next column for detailed information regarding registration, deadlines and the first day of Faith Formation (Aug. 28).* **Also parents, we have an awesome PK3 Faith Formation program, in jeopardy of being cancelled this year due to low enrollment. What a great age to learn about God and how special we are to him!**

Catechists, don't forget we complete the CREED certification course this Monday, Aug. 15, 5:00-10:00 p.m. in the Dining Room! You must have attended the first night (Aug. 8) to receive the 10-hour course credit. Dinner is provided. If you haven't already arranged for any childcare needs, please contact Sharon, x19 ASAP. **Additionally, on Monday, Aug. 15, from 5:00-10:00 p.m., we are offering the 5-hour certification course, ROLES OF THE CATECHIST, for those of you who couldn't make both nights of the Creed course but can handle a one-night course!** Lindee Greer will be facilitating this course in Room 212/214.

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. We will be taking pictures for your Faith Formation ID's so dress appropriately. **For those of you who can't attend, please contact Deborah to pick up your packet and have your photo taken.**

Safe Environment Training/retraining is scheduled for Monday, Aug. 22 at 6:00 p.m. for all new volunteers or if you need to complete your annual retraining. All catechists and teen aides, 18 and over, must be in compliance with all SEP requirements by the first day of Faith Formation on Aug. 28. ***This Safe Environment Training is open to all parishioners...***

Additionally, 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.**



We are still in need of a TEACHING adults for our 11:15 a.m. Faith Formation class time. Contact Deborah for more information on how you can serve in our Children's Ministry!

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 less for 2015-2016.**
- ◆ **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, August 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, 10:00 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. And 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 for the upcoming year. **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 made be made on-line at our parish website at 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



Parish Wedding Anniversary Celebration

This weekend, we honored **53 couples** in our parish who are celebrating significant milestones in their marriage. These couples celebrated a combined **2350 years** of love, commitment and marriage in 2016. We are blessed to have these wonderful role models in our parish!

Thank you, thank you, thank you to all of our parishioners that made personal donations of money, time and talent to the Parish Wedding Anniversary Celebration this weekend. The evening was a beautiful expression of our parish commitment to marriage and family. The attendees received our gratitude for making their vocation of marriage a priority in their lives. A special thanks to **Davida & Billy Callender** and **Juanita & Jack Ramsden** for their faithful behind the scenes coordination of this event and their commitment to make this celebration a reality.

Community Life Ministry

Sunday Morning Food and Fellowship:

Today: Coffee & Donuts

Join us for coffee & donuts in the Dining Room.

NEXT Sunday, Aug. 21: On Break (to make room for the Parish Blood Drive.) We will be back on **Sunday, Aug. 28** with Coffee & Donuts.



Parish Blood Drive:

Share the Wealth of you Health at the parish blood drive **NEXT Sunday, Aug. 21** in the Dining Room. Sign up this weekend to reserve your donation time!

The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a drawing of two \$25 gift certificates to a local restaurant for all donors.

Eligible donors must be at least 17 years of age, weighing at least 110 lbs., and in general good health (16 years-old with signed parental permission).

Outreach Ministry

Eucharistic Ministers to the Sick and Homebound:

There will be a Ministry Enrichment session **Wednesday, Aug. 17** (following the Family Prayer Session at 7:00 p.m.), Room 106.

Exercise Class will not meet on Monday, Aug. 15. Class will resume on **Wednesday, Aug. 17. 9:30 a.m.** . If you'd like to have fun and get a good work led by 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 off-set the cost for our instructor. You will also want to bring a water bottle.

This week's Act of Mercy is to Pray for the Living and the Dead.

Prayer is one of the most powerful ways we can support others. Joining together to pray for the living and the dead puts us all into God's care. One of the ways that we can do this is to request a mass intention for a friend or family member who is going through a tough time or who has passed away. You might want to keep book of prayer intentions, writing down the names of those who you are keeping in your prayers.

Ask a friend or family member if there is anything you can pray for them about. Through prayer, trust God with your cares and concerns for those around you. Remember to write down the acts of mercy that you do on a piece of paper and slip them into the Acts of Mercy Box on the table in the Narthex.



Adult Faith Formation Fall Registration 2016

TODAY, Sunday, Aug. 14
 after all Morning Masses!



COME & SEE! A preview of all material and registration forms will be available **TODAY Sunday, Aug. 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 parish website.

WEDNESDAY MOVIE NIGHT CONTINUES!



This week: Aug. 17, 7:00-9:00 p.m.
"Liberating A Continent: John Paul II and the Fall of Communism"

"The spiritual dynamic that John Paul II brought behind the Iron Curtain was absolutely essential in the liberation of the continent." says Carl Anderson, the film's Executive Producer and CEO of the Knights of Columbus.

Snacks are welcome! Bring a friend! If you need childcare: Please call in your reservation to Sharon Bush, x19, by **TOMORROW, Monday, Aug. 15.** Childcare will open at 6:45 p.m.