

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

### SETTING OUT AGAIN

This Sunday each year, the Church invites us to embark on a great journey--the journey of the Liturgical Year.

When we start the liturgical year, we are setting out to follow in the footsteps of Christ. In the course of the year, the whole of his life and teaching will pass before us. We will revisit all the mysteries of his time on earth: from his expectation (that is what Advent is about), to his birth, his life, death, resurrection, ascension into heaven, and his sending of the Holy Spirit.

In the course of the year we will relive his whole story. But we have heard the story many times. Hence, there is a danger that we may see it as old and stale. We must try and see it as new and present and alive. It's not like playing an old video. The celebration of each feast brings back the event in its original clarity and vitality, never allowing it to grow cold and lifeless or fade into oblivion.

Besides, we are not spectators but actors in all of this. The mysteries of Christ's life are represented in such a way that we are drawn into them, and become participants in them. That makes it more demanding, but more enriching and exciting too. God is not just a God of the past, but of the present and the future.

Each year we need to hear the Christ story better, understand it more deeply, and make it more our own. In hearing his story we ought to hear our stories too. Our stories merge with his and are illuminated by it. His story enables us live our own story more fully and more joyfully.

Even though we've made the journey before, we must try to embark on it today as if for the very first time. This Sunday is a God-given chance to make a new beginning in our following of Christ.

Today the readings concentrate on the second coming of Christ and the end of the world. The reason for this is that before we commit ourselves to a journey we need to know the goal of the journey. So on this day the liturgy directs our eyes towards the goal of our own journey and that of the world, namely, the second coming of Christ.

The early Christians believed that the Second Coming was near, and would be preceded by cosmic signs. We are not so sure about that. All the false prophets speak of the end as a time of gloom and doom. But Jesus spoke of it as a day of liberation and salvation for his followers. The world is not heading for catastrophe or mere ending. God has a goal for the world. That goal is the coming of God's Kingdom in all its glory. Therefore, we should not be afraid of the Lord's coming, but await it with confidence, vigilance and prayer.

However, we should worry more about the end of our own individual world at death, which is certain, than about the end of the whole world, which is out of our hands.

Sincerely in Christ,

*Fr. Héctor Návalo, C.M.F.*



# FROM OUR PARISH

## DECEMBER 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2012 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT Liturgies This Week

Saturday	12/01	4:00 pm	+Liz Long
Sunday	12/02	9:30 am	+ Frank & Angie Pohl
		12:30 pm	+Héctor Návalo, Padre +Obdulia Romero
		6:00 pm	+Obdulia Romero +Héctor Návalo, Padre
Monday	12/03	No Mass	
Tuesday	12/04	6:00 pm	
Wednesday	12/05	8:00 am	Young at Heart
Thursday	12/06	8:00 am	
Friday	12/07	6:00 pm	
Saturday	12/08	4:00 pm	+Vincent Sebek
Sunday	12/09	9:30 am	+Mary Ann Mc Kay +Emerald Mc Kay
		12:30 pm	+Héctor Návalo, Padre +Obdulia Romero
		6:00 pm	+Héctor Návalo, Padre +Obdulia Romero

### EVENTS OF THE WEEK

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2

- Decorate the Peace Tree after 9:30 am Mass
- First Sunday in Advent

#### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6

- Communal Penance Service, 7:00 pm

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7

- Vigil for Immaculate Conception, 6:00 pm
- No 12:00 Noon First Friday Mass

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8

- Immaculate Conception, Mass 8:00 am
- Heart to Heart Ladies Christmas Breakfast and Gift Exchange, Mass at 8:00 am followed by Breakfast in McGivney Hall

### UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

#### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11

- Parish Council Meeting after 6:00 pm Mass
- Mañanitas to OLG 10:30 pm to midnight

#### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12

- Blessing of OLG statue 5:30 pm
- OLG Mass 6:00 pm. followed by a Presentation at 7:30 pm and dinner.

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15

- Christmas Party 5:00 pm.

## MINISTER'S SCHEDULE DECEMBER 8-9, 2012

**4:00 pm:** **Lector:** Terry      **Ushers:** Dunaway, Otradovec      **Server:** Michael      **Eucharistic Ministers:** Jay Sebek, Julie Sebek, P. Otradovec, M. Otradovec      **Mass Captain:** Sebek

**9:30 am:**      **Lectors:** Osredker, Olson      **Ushers:** Viviano, L. Beuerlein      **Server:** Lopez      **Eucharistic Ministers:** Nutting, Kite, Walker, C. Farrar, Krudwig      **Mass Captain:** Bowmaker

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

Bernie Lucas, Don Meyer, Barbara Farrar, Bob Smith, Margarita Gagliardi, Phyllis Knauff, Peggy Petersen Jones, George Swisher, Rose Mary Peters, Elvia Orozco, Estera Enciu, Elaine Schaupp, Mildred Otradovec, Carolee Struble, Amy Mort, Rosemary Sebek, Maryann Jennings, George Krudwig, Joe & Marion Petersen, Richard & Marian McNabb. *May they experience God's grace and healing power.*

### PRAYERS FOR OUR MILITARY PERSONNEL

Please pray for the following friends and family of Sacred Heart in the military: Jesus Orozco, Jr., Andres Orozco, Jon Swisher, Kevin Petersen, Thomas Milam, Christopher Siegismund, Chris Michael, Michael Kellner, Aaron Kellner, Aaron Belt, Carlo Lorge, Tessi Bowmaker, Will Hornback, Ken Austin, Jason Jennings, Jenna Murphy, Emilio Valdez, David Lukansky, Daniel Newsome, Donald Moor, Heath Jennings, Peter Pohl and Thomas J. Peebles

### OUR GIFT TO GOD NOVEMBER 2012

Envelopes:	\$621.00	Total: \$2,219.00
Plate:	\$421.41	Total: \$2,106.83
Other Donations:	\$635.00	Total: \$3,710.00
Building Fund:	\$ 131.00	Total: \$ 257.00
Maintenance:	\$ 175.00	Total \$ 935.00
Outreach Fund:	\$ 32.00	Total: \$ 307.00



SCRIP--- The magic numbers are 4-80-1,089-1,890-635-47,960

- 4 THE AVERAGE % PER CARD ON THE CARDS SOLD
- 80 TOTAL PARTICIPATING FAMILIES IN THE PROGRAM
- 1,089 CARDS SOLD IN JUST 29 WEEKS
- 1,890 DOLLARS RAISED FOR SACRED HEART
- 635 DOLLARS WORTH OF CARDS SOLD LAST WEEKEND
- 47,960 DOLLARS IN SCRIP CARD SALES

At this average of \$1,599 sales and \$64 in rebates, we will sell \$83,130 in cards and our rebate will be over \$3,331.

**Workers for the weekend of December 8 & 9:**  
Saturday 12/08 – Bob Horton  
Sunday 12/09 – Tressa Beier & Robyn Stock

### FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Masses for The Feast of the Immaculate Conception will be on Friday, December 7 at 6:00 pm, and on Saturday, December 8 at 4:00 pm. We will not have our regular First Friday Mass in December.

### CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Parish Christmas party will be December 15<sup>th</sup> after the 4:00 pm Mass. This year we are going to try something new. We will be handing out admission tickets for each person to enter the hall. We found this change necessary after the large crowd that attended last year, and our need to follow the capacity for the hall. Tickets will be available beginning next week for **registered parishioners**. Please contact the office to make arrangements to get your tickets. Tickets are available on a first come, first serve basis.

### ALTAR SPONSOR

In Honor of  
Walter & Melva Levy  
Chester & Roberta Garrison

### CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

With Christmas a little over a month away, it is not too early to be thinking about honoring your loved ones, living and deceased, in a special way by donating for Christmas Flowers in the Church. If you wish to make a contribution, please place it in the envelope marked “Flowers” and include the names of your loved ones to be remembered.

### OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE (OLG)

The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas, will be celebrated on Wednesday, December 12<sup>th</sup>. Mass will begin at 6:00 pm and will be Bilingual. We will be honored with the presence of our Bishop James Johnston. Mass will be followed by a presentation of Our Lady Of Guadalupe in the Parish Hall at 7:30 pm. All parishioners are invited to participate and to bring their favorite dessert to share. Dinner will be provided.

### HEART TO HEART LADIES CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST

The Heart to Heart Ladies Group will be holding their Christmas Get Together on Saturday, December 8 at 8:30 am in the Parish Hall. We will also be doing our Christmas item gift exchange. The value should be approximately \$10. If you are planning on attending the breakfast, please give the office a call because Sue Hornback will be preparing the casseroles for the breakfast. Father Hector will be celebrating a special Mass for the Ladies Group that morning at 8:00 am. We look forward to seeing you at Mass and at the breakfast.

### DONATIONS FOR THE NEEDY

The Knights of Columbus 9533 have placed a box in the gathering space for donations for the needy of our parish. These donations should be non-perishable food items. The items will be given to families just before Christmas.

Thank you for your generosity,  
*The Knights of Columbus Council 9533*

## NEWS AROUND THE AREA

### CATHOLIC CENTER POSITION OPEN

The Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau seeks qualified applicants to fill a permanent, non-exempt, full-time administrative assistant position at the Catholic Center. The person hired will work a minimum of half-days for the Director of Development and Properties, and the balance for Administration as needed. Applicant must be a practicing Roman Catholic. Qualified individuals will be those with excellent organizational, composition and grammar skills, proficient with all current computer software including database programs, and have accurate proofreading abilities. Spanish language skills, while not required, are a plus. To request an application packet, please contact Jan Smith at the Catholic Center, 601 S. Jefferson, Springfield, MO, 65806, (417) 866-0841 or by email at [jansmith@diosecg.org](mailto:jansmith@diosecg.org). Applications will be accepted through December 12, 2012. The target start date for this position is January 2, 2013.

### ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES

#### *Immaculate Conception*

Tuesday, December 4, 7:00 pm

#### *Sacred Heart*

Thursday, December 6, 7:00PM

#### *St. Francis of Assisi, Nixa*

Monday, December 10, 7:00PM

#### *St. Joseph the Worker, Ozark*

Thursday, December 13, 7:00PM

#### *St. Joseph, Springfield*

Sunday, December 16, 7:00PM

#### *St. Agnes Cathedral*

Monday, December 17, 7:00PM

#### *Holy Trinity*

Tuesday, December 18, 7:00PM

#### *St. Elizabeth Ann Seton*

Wednesday, December 19, 7:00 pm



### FEELING LUCKY?

St Joseph Catholic Academy is raffling a beautiful 1.8 carat Diamond Solitaire ring appraised at \$8500. The drawing will be held at The Tower Club on March 9, 2013 in conjunction with the academy's spring fundraiser, *Evening At His Table*. Winner does not have to be present to win; chances are \$25 each. For purchase information please call the school office at 866-0667 or see any member of the St Joe Development Team.

### SPRINGFIELD CATHOLIC PROJECT GRADUATION 2013

Project Graduation is a parent sponsored all-night celebration funded entirely by donations. To help with this fun and safe night for our 73 seniors, please consider making a tax-deductible donation payable to **SCHS Project Graduation mailed to Springfield Catholic High School, ATTN: PROJECT GRADUATION 2013, 2340 S Eastgate, Springfield MO 65809**. If you have any questions please contact Jamie Hill at 417-299-6199 or [jhill7697@yahoo.com](mailto:jhill7697@yahoo.com) Thank you!

## WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS

#### **Monday**-Isaiah 2:1-5

Psalm 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9

Matthew 8:5-11

#### **Tuesday**- Isaiah 11:1-10

Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17

Luke 10:21-24

#### **Wednesday**- Isaiah 25:6-10a

Psalm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6

Matthew 15:29-37

#### **Thursday**- Isaiah 26:1-6

Psalm 118:1 & 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a

Matthew 7:21, 24-27

#### **Friday**- Isaiah 29:17-24

Psalm 27:1, 4, 13-14

Matthew 9:27-31

#### **Saturday**-Genesis 3:9 -15, 20 22:1-7

Psalm 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4

Luke 1:26-38

#### **Sunday**-Baruch 5:1-9

Psalm 126:1-6

Luke 3:1-6