

Church of the Sacred Heart



PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

Together we foster a welcoming spirit of unity while honoring our diversity which leads to a graced harmony among us since Christ is the center of all we are and do.

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ August 30, 2020

Secular pursuits only bring a temporary amount of satisfaction and fulfillment. As much as we may think that achieving worldly success, economic security, personal well-being, and self-fulfillment are worthy goals to obtain, they all are dependent on external variables and can lead to emptiness. We are trained to be very pragmatic and productive. Unless we are able to check off all of the boxes or comply with specific measurable requirements, our value and worth becomes questionable. Corporations, educational institutions, systems, structures, and secular ideology rarely consider deeper, more spiritual, and human contributions a person can and needs to make. To the secular mind, the wisdom and ideals of the Gospel are making less and less sense. Consider for a moment this question: "What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?" While Jesus is asking this very challenging question to people who are considering his message, many in our world are in a quite different place. Whether we realize it, many folks are asking a much different question. Why would you not want to gain the whole world and secure your life? If you look at where a lot of folks are investing their time, energy, and resources, it becomes obvious where current priorities rest. Modern day comforts and possibilities are backing us out of our relationship with God. The fire burning in every human heart is trying to find its satisfaction in the things that humans have created and not God. Being altruistic and offering compassion for those most in need becomes a political responsibility or responsible gesture. We realize that our hearts need to be centered on something and someone who calls us out of ourselves, but we struggle and battle with naming the source of that call. God places the desire to seek, find, and love Him in the core of every soul. We are not abandoned and left to fend for ourselves. But we can easily get confused. We know that when we extend ourselves to another self-sacrificially, we are doing what is just and right. We know that we can work through suffering and loss and come out better and more whole on the other side. Our minds need to be renewed so that they can begin to understand that there is much more to who we are, and that faith plays a pivotal role in achieving our true and everlasting goals. It is when we see that it is only faith that can bring us to this heightened awareness of ourselves and God that it will begin to make sense. Then, we can put things in proper perspective and consider being a disciple.

©LPi

PRIESTS

Rev. Charles M. Schwartz

Pastor, ext. 11

Rev. Roberto Ignacio, Assistant, ext. 21

DEACONS

Rev. Mr. Robert Bednarek

Rev. Mr. Joseph Donadieu

Rev. Mr. Kenneth Heilig

Rev. Mr. Michael Stinsman

All Deacons — ext. 10

PARISH OFFICE

103 Fourth St. Riverton, NJ 08077

856-829-0090 • **856-829-2087** Fax

Leslie Crofton, Secretary, ext. 10

Joanne Moore, Secretary, ext. 24

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

102 Fourth Street - Family Center

856-829-1848 • **856-829-2087** Fax

Patricia Hutchinson, Director

Joanne Moore, Secretary

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

856-829-1836

Fran Stinsman

LITURGICAL MUSIC MINISTRIES

856-786-5380

Susan Barnett, Associate

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

856-829-0090

Scott Perry, Business & Facilities

Director, ext. 14

John Scouler



**SACRED HEART CHURCH
PARISH INFORMATION**

PARISH OFFICE

103 Fourth Street, Riverton, NJ 08077-1205

Monday through Friday

8:30 am — 12:00 noon & 1:00 pm — 4:00 pm

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE

Family Center, 102 Fourth Street, Riverton, NJ 08077-1206

Tuesday through Friday

12:30 pm — 4:30 pm

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays

2:00 pm — 3:00 pm (until further notice)

GENERAL INFORMATION

NEW PARISHIONERS

Are always welcome, please register at the parish office.

MOVING?

Please notify us if you are moving out of the parish or changing your address or telephone number.

BAPTISMS

Please call the rectory as soon as possible to make arrangements.

Parish registration must be confirmed and eligibility certificates for Catholic Godparents must be presented. Godparent and sponsor certificates may be obtained by those who have received all Sacraments in the Catholic Church. **CALL JOANNE MOORE AT 829-0090 x 24.**

MARRIAGE

Arrangements should be made at the rectory at least **ONE YEAR IN ADVANCE.** Please contact us to receive guidelines for the celebration of marriage.



**PLEASE PRAY
FOR OUR DEARLY DEPARTED
AND THEIR FAMILIES**

Mitchell Rabil, Evangeline Maher, Eleanor Moore, Patricia Stanley, Michelle Cirillo, Frederick Boheim, Joseph Garant, Elaine McPartland, Joseph DeFrank, Anna Catanzariti, Charles Gilbert, Lewis Byzewski, Angie Stellwag, Patricia Clarkson, Thomas Heliger Sr, Carl McDermott, Christopher Fornasier, Marie DeJoesph, Sr. John Raymond, Geraldine Fleck, John Doherty, Rose Countryman, Virginia Kustra, Joanne Higgins, Anthony Portella, Frank Simonelli, Kathleen Thompson, Herbert Hannemann, Cathleen Robinson, Walter Maguire, Mimi Cairns, Pat Franecki, Anna Marie Brennan, Kathleen Yansick, Dot Fries, Paul Daly, Joan Kukawski, Margaret Rieger, Billy Byrem, Owen Conway, Judith McMullen, Anna Boheim, Rose Miller, Michael Baratta, Joseph DiMedio, Theresa Teicher, Nicholas Catanella, Pat Irons, Ryan Mee, Joe Horan, John Izzo, Kenneth Mahoney, Mary Mulhern, Guido DeLiberali, Geraldine McCole, Joseph Buonanno, Christopher Pignatelli, Maria Simonelli, Rosalie Foglio, Clara Merget, Veronica Robinson, Mary Kiefer, Raymond Franecki, Ed Devine, William Wagner, III, Stephen Tranovich, Anthony Pignatelli, Joseph Brennan, Steve Lucasi, Richard Heeter, James Mulvihill, Lisa O'Malley, Stanley Ozalis, Betty Jane Tees, Elaine Cox, Bernice Cipoletti, Frank Salvino, Edward Knickey, Eugene Lorincz, Joachim Jung and Alonzo Bonsal

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, August 31, 2020

8:00 am **Bob Cristella**
r/o His Wife, Judy &
Children

Raymond Zelasko
r/o His Family

Tuesday, September 1, 2020

8:00 am **Don Bermender**
r/o Manfred & Anna
Dickersbach

**Special Intentions for Anthony
Rodriguez & Andrea Perez**
r/o Their Family

Wednesday, September 2, 2020

8:00 am **Sue Horan**
r/o Her Family

Thursday, September 3, 2020

8:00 am **The Deceased Members of the
Pietrzyk Family**
r/o Their Family

Rev. John F. Walsh
r/o Sacred Heart

Friday, September 4, 2020

8:00 am **Rosemary Dienes**
r/o Fr. Chuck

Saturday, September 5, 2020

8:00 am **Sisters Fidelis & Helen Cecilia,
O.P.**
r/o Mary Lou

4:00 pm **Joe Horan**
r/o Cecelia Malloy &
Family

**Special Intentions for the
Living Members of the Pietrzyk
Family**

r/o Their Family

5:30 pm **Lewis & Pat Byzewski**
r/o Sacred Heart

Sunday, September 6, 2020

7:30 am **William Lindsay, III**
r/o The Donnellan Family

9:00 am **Martha Hamilton**
r/o Bernard Kolacz

10:30 am **Aileen M. Carr**
r/o Brian & Melanie
Callahan

12:00 pm **Nicholas Catanella**
r/o Sacred Heart



**PLEASE PRAY FOR
OUR SICK AND HOMEBOUND**

Bobby Barnett, Julia Bizon, Doug Budroe, Debra Burns, Tom Cairns III, Dorothy Clinton, Cami Colella, Diana Comerford, Sharon Connor, Ed DeLussey, Esther DiLeonardo, Tanya DiMaio, Rosemary DiTaranto, Deacon Joe Donadieu, Ruth Donadieu, Diane Donnelly, Fr. Michael Doyle, Fr. George Dudak, Mark Edwards, Elizabeth Falkiewicz, Marianne Ford, Marlie & Megan Guicheteau, Jamie Hall, Joan Harding, Dave Hartman, Maddie Harris, Eric & Sasha Hayes, Mary Hayes, Victor Hayes, Catherine Healy, Kenneth E. Heilig (Ken's son), Gerald Higgins, Carol Hosey, Madison Jones, John Jordan, Phyllis Jung, Florence Klein, Matthew Laverty, Willow Laverty, Joanne Lavin, Gerald & Mary Jane Leach, Joe Leahy, Joyce Macke, Molly Maerten, Travis Martin, Bill & Jeanne Max, William McGonigal, Ashley McKeon, Mary Meeks, Amanda Milewski, Melissa Milewski, Bridget Missenda, Mary Moynahan, Shawn Mulvihill, Rick Muraresku, Betty Pollis, Shannon Robinson, Kate Salamon, Steve Sausman, Michael Stanley Schneider, Dorothy Serfilippi, Charles & Susan Sharpe, Ed Siemietkoski, Gwen Smith, Terry Smith, Joanne Soden, Nicole Stavely, James Sutton, Judy Tamagno, Eleanor Tilmont, Amy Tuccillo, Mary Vandy, Rick Van Glahn, Bob Venango, Patrick White, Jamie Willoughby, Barbara Wilson, and Bill Wilson.

If you or a family member would like prayers during Mass from our parishioners please call the parish office.

Care of the sick: If a family member is sick or homebound and would like to receive Communion please contact Dawn Vermes at 856-979-5107.



FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

August 24, 2020

\$7,528.00

Electronic Giving for August

\$10,228.00

Thank you very much to all of you who have been kind enough to drop off or mail in your weekly offerings.

Please remember Sacred Heart in your Last Will and Testament

Information Sessions for Inquirers into the Permanent Diaconate

The Office of Clergy and Consecrated Life will be offering two information sessions for men who are discerning the call of God to prepare for the Permanent Diaconate. The Dates of the information sessions are Tuesday, September 22nd and Thursday, October 8th. The sessions will be held at the Chancery (701 Lawrenceville Road, Lawrence Twp., NJ 08648) beginning at 7:00pm. If you are interested please contact Father Chuck at the rectory (856-829-0090 x 11). Wives should attend the sessions with those interested.

Among the qualities a prospective candidate should possess are:

A history of faithful participation in the activities of your parish

Participation in the Sacramental life of the Parish

Participation in Parish Organizations

Participation in Liturgical Ministries

A personal commitment to service with the needy

The ability to engage in a rigorous academic program (offered at the graduate level)

If married, an exemplary witness to the values of the Sacrament of Matrimony

Laughing in Heaven

Q. How can you make God laugh?

A. Tell him your plans.

A Prayer, For Those in the Military

Almighty God we stand before you in supplication, asking Your Divine mercy and protection, to envelop with Your invincible armor, our loved ones in all branches of the service. Give them courage and strength against all enemies, both spiritual and physical, and hasten their safe journey, back to their homes and families. If it be Your Holy Will that they be gathered to Your bosom, With the eternal vanguard of the saints, let their journey to Your everlasting arms be swift and painless, where they may stand in honor and glory, praising You for all eternity. Amen.



Father Chuck's Homily:

Although the deacons are preaching this weekend, here are some thoughts for those who will not be at Mass with us this weekend:

“Get behind me, Satan!”

That is a shocking thing for Jesus to say to one of his apostles, especially St. Peter. What is so shocking is that Peter has just said “You are the Christ the Son of the Living God.” OK what’s going on? Well, first Jesus did not actually call him the Devil – Satan can either be the person of the Devil or, in the original Hebrew term satan is a noun from a verb meaning primarily “to obstruct, oppose”. That’s point #1.

Point # 2 is how reassuring this passage is. Peter, the first of the apostles, the one who got it right in declaring Jesus as the son of the living God, gets it wrong. Just like we sometimes get it wrong in our relationship with him. Peter thought, not as St. Paul says to the Romans “transformed the by the renewal of his mind”, but with his own mind in his own logic, and emotionally. And Jesus yelled at him, took him to task, instructed him, corrected him, and then forgot about it. That is very comforting. To know that in those times when we fail and we all do at some point, that Jesus will find a way to instruct us, to correct us, and then he’ll forget about it once we confess it – or in the case of venial sin as soon as we do something to make up for it. And no, he won’t yell at us. But how do we fail him? Now your first thought is probably “by sinning” and you would be right: that is a way of failing Jesus, but it’s not the primary way. We fail him by not doing what he says in the rest of the gospel. “Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me.” Many of us avoid crosses, deny crosses, ignore crosses. And when we do accept them, many of us don’t turn to Jesus for strength and grace and encouragement. We try to handle them ourselves. Not unlike Peter today, thinking in human terms, contradicted Jesus because he didn’t want that to happen. He denied the real Cross. It is when we accept the crosses in our lives, and submit ourselves to his guidance and his grace, that we show him how much we want to be his followers. And remember crosses come in all sizes – they aren’t always big heavy crosses like life threatening illnesses and catastrophes. They can be something simple, or even something temporary. I’m sure our students going back to school would say that one of the crosses they have to bear are tests and homework.

Look at it this way: if you want to buy something what do you do? You save up, at least for the down payment. You sacrifice: you take out of your budget – you sacrifice – the things that you like to do in order to build up the down payment on the car or the house or the land or the jewelry, on the clothes. Do you want eternal life with Jesus? Save up now, save up your treasure in heaven now, by living the life Jesus wants you to live, by accepting the crosses in your life, large and small, and by accepting those crosses saying to Jesus, I want you. I want to be with you for eternity. You are so important that I’m willing to make the sacrifice for you. And if the cross involves suffering, then let my sufferings be joined to yours and let me participate in your saving work. And when we adopt that attitude then we are doing what St. Paul says: we are beginning to be transformed by the renewal of our minds so that we may discern what is the will of God. And, having discerned the will of God, to become more like the person he wants us to be.



Each Catholic parish has a Faith group called the RCIA. This group is designed to guide those answering God’s call to the Church through their final months of preparation. The RCIA team consists of clergy and lay Catholics who come together with the inquirers each week to share the beautiful Faith of Catholicism. The group discusses the Sunday readings and talk about topics such as liturgy, the Sacraments, prayer, and Church history. The goal of the RCIA is to build a personal relationship with Jesus Christ our Lord.

If you or someone you love wishes to join the Catholic Church, let this be an invitation to you. We welcome you! Please email Matthew Bove at shcrivertonRCIA@gmail.com.

It could be the best decision you’ll ever make.

Renewing Your Mind in Jesus



How many times have you found yourself repeating Peter's words, "God forbid". I think it may have been something I heard a lot as a child. I realized while reading this gospel that I am guilty, and I have used it sarcastically. At least Peter meant what he blindly said. The next time I hear it I will remember where it came from in today's gospel. Of course Jesus rebukes him with, "get behind me Satan! You are an obstacle to me. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do."

Well, wait a minute! Peter is surely human, so why would he not be thinking as human beings do? Can he think any other way? Of course, in Peter's concern for Jesus, he does not want Him to suffer. Jesus takes this opportunity to call Peter to account and to encourage him to raise his thoughts to a higher realm.

This is what St. Paul does when he too, urges his brothers and sisters in Christ to "be transformed by the renewal of your mind". In our present society where relativism is often the pervading thought, we are being called too, with the early Christians to "not conform to this age".

Jesus even goes on to say that Peter is not thinking as God does. Repeat that one more time, "not thinking as God does." Sometimes if we just take a few moments in the words of the scripture we may allow the impact of the word of God to sink into our spirits.

Jesus followed by Paul, is calling each one of us to think not with our own humanly inadequate minds, but to put on the mind of Christ. (1Cor.2:16). How, do we do that?

When we put God first in all things, we humble ourselves before Him and acknowledge He is God and we are not. The apostles could put on the mind of Christ because they had sat in His presence and listened to his teachings. Even then, Peter had trouble with this message of the cross. We too may struggle to take up our cross as Jesus tells us, but being true followers, we need to be open to whatever God allows in our lives.

We too, need to sit in His Holy Presence and listen to Him. We have His Word in the scriptures to listen to Him. We have the Holy Spirit dwelling within us to listen to Him. When you come to prayer, take a moment to call upon the Holy Spirit to escort you into the very Presence of God. Leaving all our own concerns at His feet, we just come with loving God on our minds.

Following a desire for what God wants of me, and not of what I want for myself, we will see, to the glory of God, a transformation taking place. Be assured this will not take place in an instant, although sometimes that could happen too. But, over time God will have His way in our hearts and we will experience ourselves in line with Jesus and His mind, more and more.

To God be the Glory!

Fran Stinsman

My life does not belong to me; it belongs to God. My liberty is not mine; it is God's. My happiness is not something I pursue on my own terms; it is to be pursued on God's terms.

Bishop Robert Barron

Heart to Heart Ministry

The Heart to Heart Ministry is collecting school supplies and diapers for the families of Sacred Heart in Camden. We will continue to collect now through Labor Day Weekend. Sacred Heart Riverton Parishioners have always been very generous in the past. We thank you in anticipation of your participation to support the children again.

Supplies and all size disposable diapers can be placed at the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Altar on the St. Joseph side of the church.

Good Sunday to you!

I recently saw an article online where the link to the article declared: "Bible makes monumental mistake: scholars claim the Bible got one detail about Jesus CATASTROPHICALLY WRONG!" "Well this is interesting," I thought, "let me see what they are talking about." Well about after twenty pages listing typographical errors in publishing the Bible, they got to the point. The point? The one thing they got CATASTROPHICALLY WRONG??? Jesus' name. It took twenty pages to get to a point most people already knew. Jesus is the Greek version of his Jewish name Yeshua. Now, my argument on that is this: When I am in Germany I am Karl, when I am in Poland I am Carol, when I am in Italy I am Carlo, in France Charles, in Greek Karolos. Does it make a difference? No. So this big DISCOVERY is anything but. However, they did use the article and this 'fact' to put in some digs against the Bible and religion in general, perhaps planting the seed: if they got THIS wrong what else are they wrong about? The point is they didn't get it wrong (and it would have been the translators, not the authors by the way). So the lesson is to be careful when you see these kinds of headlines in print or online or on TV and realize there's usually an agenda behind it, even if it is just "Let's get people to read our stuff or watch our program so our visitor numbers go up." My M.O. these days is that if the article online has more than two or three pages, I just skip it.

People have asked about the current Mass schedule and when and if it will change. Since we still have confirmations to confer, we've decided to use the same procedure as we did with the First Communions: a few at each Mass until we are finished. So, we will continue with the current Mass schedule until the beginning of Advent, which is the natural time to make any changes, being the beginning of the Church year. When we DO change things, we will do so gradually over time to let people get accustomed to them.

Also, I had a discussion with someone recently about wearing masks. They were not in favor of them, but were following the injunctions (unwillingly and with a lot of complaining). They considered it a personal burden to have to 'wear these things' and an annoyance. I quoted today's Scripture to them: "Take up your cross and follow me." Think of wearing the mask not as a personal burden and an annoyance, but as a cross. A cross that will allow you to benefit yourself and others. Others, because you are not spreading your germs (COVID and otherwise) to them and others and yourself, because besides building up treasure for yourself in Heaven, the mask will help YOU from getting COVID or other illnesses and passing them on to others. You also store up treasure for yourself in Heaven by taking up this particular Cross and showing your compassion and care for others. Hopefully, we will soon be able to set them aside, but in the meantime, take up the mask-cross and follow Him – the great Physician.

I pray you have a safe and blessed week . . .Father Chuck

FALL ONLINE BIBLE STUDY



8 Weeks **Virtual** Bible Study

Beginning Tuesday October 13th, 7pm

Jesus calls us to be his disciples, to trust him, to open ourselves to his merciful love, and to love others as he has loved us. *Follow Me* invites you to experience the joy of a renewed friendship with Christ.

For more information please contact

Mary Neary at info@maryneary.com, to join please fill out the form below and drop off at the parish rectory and/or collection basket.

YES, I am interested in joining this Fall's Virtual Bible study, *Follow Me* ☺

Name _____

Email _____

Phone/cell _____



On Friday, January 29, 2021 we WILL March for Life in Washington, D.C.