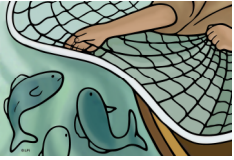


JANUARY 22, 2012: Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



As he passed by the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting their nets into the sea; they were fishermen. Jesus said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." — Mk 1:16-17

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LITURGY

MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS

Sunday, January 22, Pro-Life Sunday (Jon 3:1-5, 10/1 Cor 7:29-31/Mk 1:14-20)

8:00 am- Russell Grahmann
10:30 am- For our Parish Family

Monday, January 23 (2 Sm 5:1-7, 10/Mk 3:22-30)

7:00 am- Frank J. Matula
10:00 am- Margaret Janak Roeder (H'ville Rehab)
7:00 pm- Pro-Life Mass – For an end to abortion

Tuesday, January 24, St. Francis de Sales, Bishop & Doctor of the Church (2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19/Mk 3:31-35)

7:00 am- Buster & Anne Hale

Wednesday, January 25, The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle (Acts 22:3-16 or 9:1-22/Mk 16:15-18)

7:00 am- Bobbie Jean Appelt
8:05 am- Mass of Thanksgiving – Bill & Margaret Bludau's 56th Anniversary

Thursday, January 26, Sts. Timothy & Titus, Bishops (2 Tm 1:1-8 or Tit 1:1-5/Mk 4:21-25)

7:00 am- Special Intention
10:00 am- Wilhelm & Georgie Grahmann, Benefactors (Stevens)

Friday, January 27, St. Angela Merici, virgin (2 Sm 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17/Mk 4:26-34)

7:00 am- Herbert, George & Adela Bludau
8:05 am- Eddie & Georgie Janak

Saturday, January 28, St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest & Doctor of the Church (2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17/Mk 4:35-41)

5:30 pm- Herbert, Heddy, Robert & Wilbert Greer; H.G. Cobb
Sunday, January 29 (Dt 18:15-20/1 Cor 7:32-35/Mk 1:21-28)
8:00 am- Alois & Buck Leopold
10:30 am- John & Frances Valigura
5:00 pm- For our Parish Family (Spanish Mass)

Bulletin Sponsor: Irene Szwarc in memory of Gene Szwarc.

Radio Broadcast Sponsor: Andy & Mary Chapman in memory of Gus (Cudlum) Werner.

Vigil Light: Special Intention.

Our Gift to God: Envelopes-\$5,136.50; Cemetery Fund-\$62; Catholic Ed.-\$1,571; Loose-\$1,165; Children's-\$36.

Anniversaries:

Forrest & Margaret Timm	51 years	Jan. 22
Louis & Dorothy Nagelmueller	50 years	Jan. 27
Julius & Rose Mary Sedlar	45 years	Jan. 28

Please pray for the repose of the soul of *Daniel Wick* of our parish family. *May he and all the faithful departed rest in the peace of Christ.*

Please pray for vocations to the priesthood & religious life!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22

- Baptism Preparation Class, 9:00 a.m., Rectory. Please call the Rectory in advance to register for the class.
- Texas State Championship Domino Tournament, K.C. Hall. BBQ Chicken Dinner served at Noon. Plates to go available.
- Novena for Life, Eucharistic Procession, & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, 5:00-6:30 p.m., Church.

MONDAY, JANUARY 23

- Pro-Life Mass, 7:00 p.m., Church (Concludes Novena).

TUESDAY, JANUARY 24

- Quilting Circle, 9:00 a.m., KC Hall of Fame Room.
- Adult Education Class, 7:00-8:30 p.m., Family Center.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25

- CCD: K-12th Grade, 6:00-7:15 p.m.
- English as 2nd Language Class, 6:00 p.m., Family Center.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28

- First Penance Practice, 9:00 a.m., Church.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29

- First Penance in Church at 2:00 p.m. followed by a Reception in the Family Center.
- Covered dish supper in Family Center after Spanish Mass

Among our sick: Edna Key, Frank Fishar, Faith Del Castillo, Michael Gerdes, Renae Ross, Doug Blumberg, Dan & Danielle Grady, Rose Thumann, Dr. Michael Moore, Bill Gohlke, Sterlin Ritchie, Ed Aulick, Ricky Skelton, Larry Appelt, Victor Pavliska, Anita Bohuslav, Anita Kallus, Josephine Janak, Paul Najvar, Irene Bordovsky, Betty Hemmi, Milissa Zamora, Rhonda Janak, Larry Korenek, Red Kahaneck, Emily Dworsky, Theresa (Alvin) Steffek, Bobby Pavliska, Liz Woytek, Hank & Marion Morris, Angela Hermes, Bohumir Pustejovsky, Chris Layton, Wade Amsden, Vernell Bozka, Denise DeBord, Frank, Patrick & Robben Nemeck, Geneva Strmiska, Bea Heinzl, Damas Garcia, Brenda Bludau, nursing home residents & the home-bound.

Notice: The Parish Finance Council and the Parish Advisory Council will meet on Monday, January 30.

Attention Parents of Altar Servers: An Altar Server Schedule for 2012 was mailed to the Altar Servers. Please follow that schedule; **however**, please note that due to Catholic Schools Week, the students from Sacred Heart School will serve during all Masses on January 28 & 29. If you have any questions, please call Carl Blahuta 772-4581. Thank you.

Jr. Catholic Daughters meeting, Wed., January 25, 3:45-5:00 pm, Family Center. January is "Respect Life" month so each girl is asked to bring in gently used or new baby items for our "Baby Shower" for The Gabriel Project. If

you have any questions, please contact Shanna Clark 798-9189.

2011 contribution statements will be provided upon request. Please **call** the Rectory to request a statement.

From the Desk of Father John

I spent this past week attending the Annual Priest Retreat. It was a very rewarding and restful experience. I prayed for all of you during the retreat. Thank you for your prayers.

This weekend we welcome back to the parish Fr. Tommy. It is good to have him back. Keep him in your prayers for his continued recovery. He has been recovering well at his parent's home.

We thank everyone who has been attending the Novena for Life this week and Deacon Harper, Charlene Bradbury and others who have been taking care of it. We invite you to join us for the Procession this Sunday evening and the Mass on Monday evening to conclude the Novena.

**Sacred Heart Catholic School News
Office 798-4251**

Jan 29-Feb 3: Catholic Schools Week activities:

Monday: Clergy & religious visit classrooms.

Tuesday: Respect Life Prayer Service & March, 8:05 a.m. Awards Ceremony for Grades K-8 at 8:45 a.m., Gym.

Wednesday: National Appreciation Day for Catholic Schools. Live radio broadcast 10:00 a.m., KTXM 99.9 FM & KHLT 1520 AM.

Thursday: Open House 5:30-7:00 p.m. Soup & Sandwich Meal, Family Center, 5:30-7:00 p.m. Coronation, 7:30 p.m., Gym. All are welcome to attend.

Friday: National Teacher Appreciation Day. 8:05 a.m. Mass. Flag Raising Ceremony, 8:50 a.m. School dismissed at 12:00 noon.

**Religious Education (CCD) -- Office 798-3124
Angela McConnell, Coordinator**

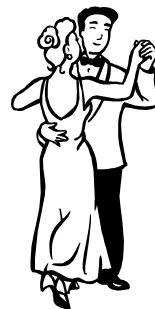
Jan. 28: First Penance practice, 9:00 a.m. in church.

Jan. 29: First Penance, 2:00 p.m. in church.

PRAYER FOR RAIN – *Heavenly Father, we believe that it is You Who created our world with all of its beauty and life. We believe that it is You Who put into place the systems of nature that sustain, nurture and renew this work of Your hands. We believe that it is You Who hears Your children when they call upon You. Hear then, this prayer which comes from a heart filled with confidence and trust. Grant to us and to all who seek it, the gift of a bountiful rain. Water our lands so that they may once again spring to life and reflect the beauty of Your creation. Fill our lakes and rivers with sufficient rain so that they may continue to provide life giving and refreshing water to all who depend upon it for their livelihood and well being. Please do not*



let many more days pass without sending us this most needed blessing of rain. We ask this in the name of Jesus, Your Son Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever. Amen.



**Sacred Heart School Extravaganza
"A Black & White Affair"**

Saturday, February 4, 2012

Knights of Columbus Hall

Social 6:00-7:30 p.m. with hors d'oeuvres

Steak Dinner 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Dance 9:00 p.m.-12:00 a.m.

(Music by Cactus Country of San Antonio)

Tickets - \$125 per couple

Only 250 tickets will be sold & are available for purchase at the Sacred Heart School Office and the Rectory.

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time – For seven seasons the Discovery Channel's highly rated show Deadliest Catch has wowed viewers with the real life tales of extreme fishermen in the Bering Sea off the coast of Alaska. They are after crab, with hopes for a big payday if they're successful. But the challenges of weather, luck, and crew can leave a captain without a large enough catch and finally without a job. Viewers can watch from the comfort of their homes, settled back in an easy chair while a crew fights ice, high seas, equipment failure, and frayed nerves. What is entertainment for those watching the television is daily life on the boat for those who work at sea.

In the Gospel today, Jesus meets up with some fishermen. Simon and Andrew, James and John were casting their nets, probably not very far from shore. While the Sea of Galilee cannot compare to the Bering Sea, we know from the Gospels that storms can be violent on that body of water as well. Certainly at the time of Jesus fishing was as dangerous a job as it is today. So when Jesus called the two sets of brothers to follow Him, were they looking for a safer job?

Unlikely! Fishing for men and women is a lot more



difficult than fishing for fish. The disciples answered the call to follow Jesus. It is a call that He continues to issue today. Whether in the priesthood, the religious life, the married state, or the committed single life, Jesus is asking people to follow Him, not in a job, but in a way of life. Just as the crew of a boat on the Bering Sea doesn't punch out after eight hours, the life of a Christian is more than a full-time job. Following Jesus forms the basis for our lives. We do it all day, every day. That is the call He gives. 2011 Liturgical Publications Inc

SACRED HEART CCD PROGRAM –

In memory of Lawrence Grubert, Sr.: Vernell Bozka-\$20; Donald & Donna Shimek-\$20; Gilbert & Mary Schindler-\$10; Gerald & Alicia Frantzen-\$10; Arthur & Julia Hahn-\$10; Charlene A. Leopold-\$10. **In memory of Frank Matula:** Tommy & Charlotte Sitka-\$25.

SACRED HEART CHURCH MUSIC FUND – In memory of Lawrence Grubert, Sr.: Kubena Funeral

Home-\$20; Bob Kubena-\$25; Fred & Laverne Chovanetz-\$20; Lavo & Ruth Brisco-\$100. **In memory of Jaro Krenek & Johnnie Rose Randow:** Kubena Funeral Home-\$40.

SACRED HEART CHURCH MUSIC FUND – **In memory of Ernest Schulte:** Kubena Funeral Home-\$20; Elroy & Barbara Holik-\$10. **In memory of Frank Matula:** Bob Kubena-\$25; Kubena Funeral Home-\$20; Elroy & Barbara Holik-\$10.

SACRED HEART CHURCH FLOWER FUND – **In memory of Lawrence Grubert, Sr.:** Bill & Lillian Gohlke-\$25.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL BAND – **In memory of Ernest Schulte:** Maurice & Marjorie Parr-\$20.

SACRED HEART ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MUSIC ROOM – **In memory of Lawrence Grubert, Sr. & Frank Matula:** Tim & CandyHines-\$50.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL VOC. SHOP FUND – **In memory of Frank Matula:** Ann Birkner-\$20.

SACRED HEART CHURCH ENDOWMENT FUND – **In memory of Ernest Schulte:** Dollie Parr-\$10. **In memory of Lawrence Grubert, Sr.:** Alvin Mikulenko-\$10; Monte & Arleen Werner-\$30; Henry & Elrose Muenster-\$20; Morley & Delores Sommer-\$10; John & Sherry Henke-\$100; Alvin Paul & Barbara Grahmann-\$10; Henry & Ann Kostelnik-\$15; Gene & Betty Bujnoch-\$20; Linda & Tom Donnelly-\$25; Darryl & Cheryl Steffek-\$10; Mitchell & Irene Harbus-\$30; Judy Renger-\$25; Peoples State Bank-\$10; Peggy Jurica, Janis Pfeffer & Kara Matheney. **In memory of Mary Ann Hoch:** Mick & Cheryl Barosh-\$40. **In memory of Johnnie Rose Randow:** Jean & James Marek-\$300; Dotty & Bob Hill-\$100. **In memory of Jaro Krenek:** Research & Engineering Development-\$50; Peoples State Bank-\$10. **In memory of Irene Carley:** HHS Class of 1945-\$15. **In memory of Annie Henke:** Doug & Sherri Grahmann-\$25; Vera Hilscher-\$5; Victor & Pauline Klekar-\$20; Robert & Barbara Grahmann-\$10; Johnny & Mandi Havel-\$100; Mr. & Mrs. John Vavra-\$20; Elroy & Barbara Holik-\$10; Andrew & Sheila Henke-\$10; Kenny & Jane Janecek-\$10; Lawrence & Laura Henke-\$10; Glenn & Mary Ann Janca-\$10; Frank & Charlene Fishar-\$20; Margaret & Leon Steffek-\$5; Peoples State Bank-\$10. **In memory of Frank Matula:** Steven & Cecilia Anders-\$10; Judy Renger-\$35; Leroy & Patricia Klesel Family-\$20; J. D. & Andrea Matula-\$75; Jimmy & Tammy Garner-\$20; Ken & Mary Sample-\$100; Tommy & Debbie Tumis-\$25; Don & Mary Jane Christen-\$50; Donald & Joyce Strauss-\$25; Frank & Darlene Bludau-\$25; Denis & Sheryl Mueller-\$25; R.L. & Elsie Orsak-\$15; Don & Nancy Hale-\$10; Alvin Paul & Barbara Grahmann-\$20; Glenn & Evelyn Jansky-\$20; Stephen & Renee Bludau Family-\$25; Robert & Marie Tobola-\$20; Johnny & Anna Havel-\$15; Bill & Sweet Hrcir-\$10; Monte & Arleen Werner-\$20; Gene Renger-\$25. **In memory of Herman Spode:** Jerry & Margaret Kallus-

\$15. **In memory of Gene Drozd & Sidney Berger:** Bill & Sweet Hrcir-\$20. **In memory of Mary Harris:** Lavo & Ruth Brisco-\$50. **In memory of Christopher Jares:** Peoples State Bank-\$10.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL ALUMNI FUND – **In memory of Lawrence Grubert, Sr.:** Diane & Ronnie Bollom-\$20; Elaine Schindler-\$20. **In memory of Frank Matula:** David & Joyce Smolik-\$25; Wink & Ida Bludau-\$25; Glen Bludau-\$10; Albert & Margaret Pozzi-\$25; Chuck Grafe-\$10; Andrew & Pam Kutac-\$20; Willie C. & Mary Migl-\$10; Marcus & Marjorie Grahmann-\$20. **In memory of Annie Henke:** Wayne & Lisa Migura-\$20. **In memory of Sidney Berger:** Marcus & Marjorie Grahmann-\$20.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL CAFETERIA – **In memory of Irene Carley & Frank Matula:** Margaret Henneke-\$20.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL ENDOWMENT FUND – **In memory of Lawrence Grubert, Sr.:** Robert & Louise Pesek-\$20; Charles & Doloris Leopold-\$50; Fred & Anita Spangler-\$25; Dennis & Cynthia Matula-\$20; Wink & Ida Bludau-\$20; Rita & Frank Zaruba-\$25; George & Irene Knebel-\$25; Phillip & Rosemary Hemmi-\$10; Tamara Grubert-\$50; Charles & Dorothy Jansky-\$10; Annabeth & Charlie Neumeyer-\$25; Robert & Rita Wachel-\$20; Stacy Kennedy & Matthew Amy-\$100; Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Zarsky-\$25; Kenny & Mickey Schwab-\$50; A.J. & Alice Kallus-\$20. **In memory of Ernest Schulte:** Anthony & Virginia Kristek-\$50; Justin & Erin Kallus Hasbrouck-\$20. **In memory of Frank Matula:** David & Kathy Bujnoch-\$20; Phillip & Evelyn Bujnoch-\$10; Sherry Hale-\$10; Jorge & Jackie Loreda-\$50; Dottie & Ernest Mensik-\$70; Robert & Rita Chase-\$20; Charles & Annabeth Neumeyer-\$25; Robert & Diane Mertz Family-\$100; Dorothy Bujnoch-\$20; Betty Jean Janak-\$15; Bob & Carol Franks-\$10; Pete & Glenda Trlicek-\$50; Bryan & Sandra Tesch-\$25; John & Sherry Henke-\$20; Paul Miksch-\$20; Pat & Debbie Wagner-\$20; Sonny & Pat Matula-\$20; Glenn & Mary Ann Janca-\$10; Katherine, Wayne & Danita Ansle-\$20; Anthony & Joyce Harper Family-\$20; Alton J. Grahmann-\$20; Michael & Peggy Malinovsky-\$10; Robert & Louise Pesek-\$20; Clarence & Mary Rose Barta-\$5; Kenneth & James Miksch-\$20; Chris & Jennifer Miksch-\$20; Alton & Marlyn Sevcik-\$10. **In memory of Annie Henke:** Phillip & Evelyn Bujnoch-\$10; Dorothy Bujnoch-\$15; Kenneth & Mary Anne Etzler-\$5; Roy & Anita Drabek-\$25; Blaise & Deborah Konvicka-\$20. **In memory of Sidney Berger:** Sherry Hale-\$10; Pete & Glenda Trlicek-\$50. **In memory of John Lell:** Paul & Dolores Janak-\$20.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL OPERATING FUND – **In memory of Lawrence Grubert, Sr.:** Don & Barbara Rainosek-\$15; Leon & Nancy Etzler-\$10; Bob & Sally Janak-\$10; Everett & Pam Bludau-\$20; Gene & Maureen Schott-\$10; Stanley & Becky Bujnoch-\$10;

Robert & Barbara Grahmann-\$20; Sonia Menking-\$20; James & Antonia Brooks-\$15; Daniel & Glenda Trlicek-\$25; Jeffery & Tara Trlicek-\$20; Carrie Besetsny-\$25; Darlene & Bryan Stacy-\$15.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL OPERATING FUND –

In memory of Lawrence Grubert, Sr.: Don & Barbara Rainosek-\$15; Andrew & Jane Pesek-\$20; Paul & Annette Henke-\$20; David & Marian Elliott-\$20; Arthur & Rose Mary Etzler-\$25; Charlene & John Pillow-\$20; Billy Carnes-\$20; Dennis & Gerardette Haas-\$20; Mr. & Mrs. Leon C. Steffek-\$5; Mr. & Mrs. Bill Grafe-\$10; Richard & Rita Donnelly-\$25; Virginia Pustka & family-\$20; Sally & Jim Kolos-\$20; Jeanette & Daniel Pustka-\$50; Dr. Mike & Sarah Mabry-\$50; Fred & Dorothy Kubesch-\$25. **In memory of Mary Ann Hoch:** Dennis & Gail Stryk-\$20. **In memory of Ernest Schulte:** Richard & Frances Henke-\$10; Daniel & Shirley Steffek-\$10; Leroy & Alice Janak-\$10. **In memory of Jaro Krenek:** Herbert & George Etzler-\$20. **In memory of Rose Melnar:** William & Charlene Bradbury-\$10.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL OPERATING FUND –

In memory of Johnnie Rose Randow: Daniel & Shirley Steffek-\$15. **In memory of Frank Matula:** Jackie & Carol Skelton-\$25; Arthur Etzler, Jr.-\$25; Julia Timm-\$20; Leon & Nancy Etzler-\$20; Frank & Rita Zaruba-\$20; Mike & Helen Technik-\$20; John & Jean Carpenter-\$20; Ella Mae Bludau-\$15; Jennifer Golsch-\$8; Paul & Theresa Voelkel-\$10; Sandra & James Mullen-\$20; Robert & Grace Kloppenburg-\$20; Richard & Sheila Klimitchek-\$20; James & Tonie Brooks-\$10; Rosemary Hermes-\$15; Joe & Ana Henke-\$50; Franklin & Nola Bohuslav-\$50; Madeline Migura-\$20; Patrick & Glenda Stavinoha-\$100; Jim & Marcie Quitta-\$60; Frank & JoNell Janecek-\$20; Josie Zappe-\$20; Robert & Barbara Grahmann-\$20; Larry & Doris Grubert-\$20; Andrew & Jane Pesek-\$10; Raymond Henke-\$20; Fred & Debra Huser-\$10; David Holik-\$20; Ronnie & Debi Sevcik-\$10; Frank & Bernadette Bludau-\$10; Bob & Jeanette Henke-\$20; Dennis & Geraldine Haas-\$15; John & Charlene Pillow-\$20; Bill & Virginia Grafe-\$20; Fred & Dorothy Kubesch-\$25; Paul & Dolores Janak-\$20; Brandon & Brandi Pohl-\$15; Gerald & Betty Tait-\$100; HQ AETC Logistics Readiness Council, Randolph AFB-\$150. **In memory of Annie Henke:** Ella Mae Bludau-\$15; Georgie Henke-\$15; Anthony & Anna Etzler-\$20; Mark & Karen Janak-\$15; Rosemary Hermes-\$10; Leon & Nancy Etzler-\$25; Margaret Bludau-\$20; Sharon Bludau-\$10; Frank & JoNell Janecek-\$20; Raymond Henke-\$10; Joseph & Dorothy Etzler-\$10; Rudy Henke-\$20; Richard & Frances Henke-\$20; Leroy & Alice Janak-\$10. **In memory of John Lell:** Leroy & Alice Janak-\$10; Bob & Sally Janak-\$10. **In memory of Christopher Jares:** Leroy & Alice Janak-\$20; Mike & Lois Nelson-\$25.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL ATHLETICS –

In memory of Helen Appelt: Mike & Shirley Johnson Family-\$15. **In memory of Frank Matula:** Sharon Reagan-\$20; Karen & Blackie Bludau-\$10; Roger &

Beverly Janak-\$20; Laurence & Carol Bludau-\$15; Georgie Henke-\$15; Darlene Appelt-\$15; Marty & Rhonda Henneke-\$10; Mike & Theresa Kostelnik-\$5; Robert Kahanek Farm-\$10; Marvin & Monica Holik-\$20.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL ATHLETICS – In

memory of Frank Matula: Tommy Henneke-\$10; Edward & Sandra Pustka-\$10; Larry & Diane Gallup-\$10; I. G. Matula-\$10; Michael & Karen Volcik-\$20; Mrs. Don Peterson-\$10; Leo & Evelyn Hoffer-\$20; Charles & Geralyn Klimitchek-\$20; David & Suzanne Janda-\$35; Trey & Jennifer Kraatz Family-\$25; Jeanette Henke, Scott Henke Family & Jeff Henke Family-\$75; Brandon & Jennifer Noska-\$30; Leon & Kay Steinocher-\$20; Linda Pavliska-\$20; Claude & Monica Barnes-\$20; Carol Ley-\$20; Lucille Werner-\$20; Daniel & Dorothy Rother-\$15; Harvey & Vivian Janak-\$10; Mike & Shirley Johnson Family-\$20; Jeff & Tara Trlicek-\$25.

FR. JOHN PETERS' SEMINARY BURSE #5 –

In memory of Annie Henke: Leo & Dorothy Henke-\$30. **CAROLYN DWORSKY SCHOLARSHIP FUND –** **In memory of Lawrence Grubert, Sr.:** Emil & Joyce Hermes-\$10. **In memory of Johnnie Rose Randow:** Ben & Nancy Dworsky-\$20.

DOROTHY HENNEKE SCHOLARSHIP FUND – In

memory of Ernest Schulte: Richard Grahmann-\$5; Roy & Loretta Hardcastle-\$10. **In memory of Lawrence Grubert, Sr.:** Roy & Loretta Hardcastle-\$10; Richard Grahmann-\$5; Tommy & Elsie Grahmann-\$10. **In memory of Annie Henke:** Richard Grahmann-\$5. **In memory of Frank Matula:** Roy & Loretta Hardcastle-\$15; Richard Grahmann-\$5

JEROME HAAS SCHOLARSHIP FUND – In

memory of Lawrence Grubert, Sr.: Jimmie & Sylvia Steffek-\$20; Georgia Haas-\$10. **In memory of Frank Matula:** Leo & Dorothy Henke-\$10.

HENRY & ELIZABETH HENKE SCHOLARSHIP

FUND – In memory of Herman Spoede, Annie Henke & Frank Matula: Marcella & Henry Joe Henke-\$30

SACRED HEART EARLY CHILDHOOD & DAY

CARE – In memory of Lawrence Grubert, Sr.: Andy & Mary Chapman-\$20; Roy & Jean Schaefer-\$15; Harvey & Vivian Janak-\$10; James & Mary Honish-\$10.

In honor of Kenneth & Annie Mae Henneke's 50th Anniversary: Roy & Jean Schaefer-\$15. **In memory of Ernest Schulte:** Harvey & Vivian Janak-\$10. **In memory of Frank Matula:** Andy & Mary Chapman-\$25

SACRED HEART QUILTING CIRCLE – In memory

of Helen Appelt: Kubena Funeral Home-\$20; Dan & Mathilda Melnar-\$20; Lawrence & Delores Grahmann-\$15. **In memory of Annie Henke:** Lawrence & Delores Grahmann-\$15; Kubena Funeral Home-\$20.

SACRED HEART BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE –

In memory of Helen Appelt: Darlene Stacy-\$15

RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS FOR
WOMEN ENTERING THE
CONVENT FROM
SACRED HEART PARISH -In
memory of Henry Jalufka &
Irene Carley: Pat Mladenka-\$60.



The Word of God This Week

Set time aside each day this week with other members of your household, with other members of your parish or alone to listen to and reflect on the living Word of God. Use these passages from the Lectionary that are assigned for Liturgy this week. Reflect on how the Lord is inviting you to a deeper union with him.

TODAY

Jonah 3:1–5, 10
1 Corinthians 7:29–31
Mark 1:14–20

MONDAY*

Mark 3:22–30
"How can Satan cast out Satan?"

TUESDAY

Mark 3:31–35
"Here are my mother and my brothers."

WEDNESDAY* **

Mark 16:15–18
"Go into all the world and proclaim the good news . . ."

THURSDAY*

Mark 4:21–25
" . . . the measure you give will be the measure you get . . ."

FRIDAY

Mark 4:26–34
"With what can we compare the kingdom of God . . . ?"

SATURDAY

Mark 4:35–41
"Have you still no faith?"

*Alternate readings exist for this day.

**Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul the Apostle



Invitations to parties often include the letters RSVP at the end, which is a polite (and brief) way of saying, "please let us know whether or not you will attend." This Sunday's readings look at some of the ways God invites us to join in the divine party.

The story of Jonah is always fun to read. While his three days in the belly of the whale is what we remember most, we often forget that Jonah was in the whale because God wouldn't take "no" for an answer. That, of course, is the message of his preaching in Ninevah; people there believed that God would destroy the city. Which is harder to

believe: that Jonah lived in a whale for three days or that the entire city of Ninevah immediately said "yes" to God's invitation to reform?

The reading from the Gospel of Mark is equally amazing. Imagine these four fishermen immediately walking away from their livelihood because Jesus made them a simple invitation: "Follow Me." Obviously, Peter and Andrew, and James and John, received an offer that they dared not refuse.

The Bible is filled with such invitations—stories where we are invited to do something simple for the Lord, like feeding the hungry, loving those who hate us, and taking up our cross. What is astounding is that so many people don't realize that these invitations are addressed to them. "Oh, I thought you were inviting someone else!"

But God's invitations don't work that way. *You* are invited, and God expects an RSVP from you. Will you accept the invitation?



The Faith of the Church

When God invites us to the divine banquet, he does so to give us something and to get a response. Our response to God is always an act of faith: we never know fully what God expects from us or what the end result will be, but we trust in his compassion and mercy and are filled with his grace (Cf. *US Catholic Catechism for Adults*, p 37).



Questions of the Week

One of the tasks Jesus gave to us as his disciples was for us to invite others to discipleship. Remember, people are more likely to participate in an activity or an event if personally invited by a friend or neighbor.

Adults

What can I do this week to invite a friend or neighbor to follow Christ?

Children

What can I do this week to help a friend or classmate feel invited to follow Christ?

Responding to God's Word . . .

TV evangelists preach a "Gospel of Prosperity": Accept Jesus into your life, and you will know unlimited happiness, wealth, and prosperity.

While being a disciple of Jesus offers joys and blessings beyond imagination, Catholics also recognize that suffering and grief are part of life and part of being a disciple of Christ.

Jesus invited us to pick up our cross and follow him (Mt 10:38), to take his yoke upon our shoulders (Mt 11:29–30). He didn't promise life would be easy, only that he would always be with us and help us carry our burdens.

Saint Theresa of Avila, commenting

on the challenges that come with God's invitation, once said to God, "If this is how you treat your friends, it is no wonder you have so few of them!"

God's invitation is persistent, as Jonah quickly learned. While God allows us to freely say "no" to his invitation, he never gives up on us; he never stops inviting us.

As Francis Thompson wrote in his poem "The Hound of Heaven," God seeks us unceasingly, refusing to take "no" for an answer, never giving up until we are captured by divine love.

This is the invitation that our God has for us.



Meditation Moment

John Henry Newman went to Rome to discern if Jesus was calling him to follow him as a Roman Catholic. One day on the return voyage he prayed, "Lead me, O Lord! . . . I cannot see the way. . . . Lead, kindly Light." The words brought such peace to him that he took a pencil and began to write. When he finished, he had written the lyrics to the famous hymn "Lead, Kindly Light." Upon his return to England, he entered the Catholic Church and became one of its greatest leaders.

For reflection . . .

Can I recall a time when, Like Newman, I placed all of my trust in Jesus to lead me through a night of darkness?

LEAD, KINDLY LIGHT . . . / THE NIGHT IS DARK, AND I AM FAR FROM HOME; / LEAD THOU ME ON . . . / I DO NOT ASK TO SEE / THE DISTANT SCENE—ONE STEP ENOUGH FOR ME.

JOHN HENRY NEWMAN

FROM *MISSION* BY MARK LINK, SJ

An Invitation to the Feast

Lord, Jesus,
Thank you for inviting me to join in your banquet of love, the Eucharist. I accept your invitation. Help me to be worthy of this wonderful gift.
Thank you for the invitation to discipleship, which I also accept willingly. Help me to take up your cross and to live my life in service to all who need my assistance. Thank you for your invitation to be a witness to you in all I do and say and am. With your love and support, may I be a faithful witness with my life.
Amen.

Carry this thought in your heart as a guide for your faith journey this week.

And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. When God saw . . . how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind . . .

Jonah 3:5, 10

SUGGESTIONS

Use one of these suggestions or one of your own to respond to God's Word this week.

In the home. Invite family members to join you in a spiritual activity. Consider attending Sunday Mass together, saying grace before and after each meal, gathering to pray the Rosary, or working together to feed the hungry.

In the workplace or in school. Look for ways to invite coworkers and classmates to join you in following Christ. Offer an invitation to join your prayer group, to work on a project to house the homeless, or to attend Mass with you.

In the community. Promote your faith in God in everything you do. Be a living witness to the joy and benefits of accepting God's invitation.

Profile in Faith

Teresa of Avila

Teresa of Avila (1515–1582) was a Carmelite sister who reformed her community and the Church.

Pope Paul VI declared her a Doctor of the Church because of her writings on theology, contemplation, and prayer, and because of the witness she provides on what it means to accept God's invitation to divine love.

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† Most Reverend Kevin J. Farrell, DD, Bishop of Dallas
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