



Sacred Heart Catholic Community of Wilton

November 22, 2020 • Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

PARISH COMMUNITY

Father Jerry Rogers

Church Mailing Address: PO Box 1897, Bemidji, MN 56619-1897

Church Physical Address: 135 3rd St NW, Wilton, MN 56687

Father Jerry's Mailing Address: PO Box 189, Red Lake, MN 56671 • (218) 368-6328

www.sacredheartwilton.com Mass: Sunday morning 9:00 am

SACRED HEART COMMUNITY WELCOMES YOU

No matter what your present status is
in the Catholic Church,

No matter your current family
or marital situation,

No matter your personal history, age,
income, background, gender, race,
ethnicity or spirituality,

No matter your own self-image
of holiness or virtue -

You belong to Jesus Christ
and you belong to us!

You are invited, accepted and respected here
at Sacred Heart.

We want to share our Roman Catholic way
of faith and life in Christ with you!

Fellowship Hall.....751-8446

BOOKKEEPER

Deb Heineman.....444-3287

BULLETIN INFORMATION

Ruth Walters..... 308-1265

walters56601@gmail.com

Please call or email bulletin info by 7:00 pm
on Thursdays.

CEMETERY

Shelly Fredriksen..... 556-8023

Richard Anderson..... 467-3275

Clark Chambers..... 760-2936

COMMUNITY OUTREACH & HALL RENTAL

Shelly Fredriksen..... 556-8023

If you would like to use the church or social
hall for an event, (wedding, reunion, etc)
please contact Shelly to schedule and for
rental information.

FUNERALS

LITURGY

Ann Illies.....751-9254

Candy Barthel..... 224-3466

Lois Jenkins

MAINTENANCE ADVISOR

Karl Oestreich..... 333-0724

MUSIC & CHOIR

Polly Scotland..... 444-8847

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Clark Chambers..... 760-2936

Gloria Collyard..... 751-7953

Lynn Eaton..... 766-4722

Shelly Fredriksen..... 556-8023

Karl Oestreich..... 333-0724

Kailey Rucinski..... 444-2305

Regular meetings are the third Tuesday of Feb.,
Apr., Jun., Aug., Oct., & Dec. starting at 7:00 pm
in the church social hall.

PARISH OUTREACH

Deb Heineman.....444-3287

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Contact Mardelle Mohs or Fr. Jerry for
information.

TRUSTEES

Richard Anderson

Cheryl Pauly

ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBERS

If you have changed your phone number,
address or email address, please let Shelly
know so the church records can be updated.
It is helpful when notification about weather
related announcements need to go out.
Thank you for your help.

BAPTISM

Please contact Father Jerry. When a date is
set, please contact Ruth Walters.

BUSY BAGS

There are Busy Bags available for children
during Mass. They are on the bulletin rack.

CALLING TREE

If church is cancelled due to weather, an email
notice will be sent. If you don't have email
and would like to have a phone call for
cancelations, please give your phone number
to Zelda or Polly. Thank you.

HEARING HELP

If you need assistance in hearing, there are
hearing devices available for Mass.

KEEP US INFORMED

Please keep the priests and other church
members informed of the hospitalized, sick or
shut-ins or a recent family death. Contact
Zelda Cartier or Deb Heineman for a visit
from a Eucharistic Minister or a card.

MASS INTENTIONS

If you would like Mass to be said for someone,
please contact Ruth at 308-1265 or fill out a
Mass intentions envelope found in the bulletin
rack and give to Ruth.

NEW PARISHIONERS

New Parishioners are always welcome!
Please see Shelly Fredriksen to register

RECONCILIATION

First Sunday of the month before Mass.

SCHEDULING

If your name appears next to Gifts, your
family is scheduled to bring up the offering
gifts. If you are scheduled for Mass and
unavailable, please find a substitute to take
your place and let the Sacristan know.

SERVING CREWS

If it is your month to serve on the cleaning crew, and you are unable to help, please find a substitute to take over for you.

TRADITION

The first Sunday of the month, Potluck immediately following Mass.
Everyone Welcome!

VICTIM ASSISTANCE COORDINATOR

Diocese of Crookston
Cindy Hulst, LSW
24 hour confidential number:
218-281-7895

Restrooms are located at the far end of the social hall, and in the nursery. The nursery is available for anyone with small children, so that all may participate in celebrating Mass.

If you are in need of a gluten free host, please let the Sacristan know before Mass.

Please pray for those who have been called to leave their families in service to our country.

MASS OPTIONS

Since many are uncomfortable coming to mass at Sacred Heart on Sundays, you are invited to St. Philip's daily masses. Below is the daily mass schedule.
Tuesday: 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday: 8:40 a.m. school year
(8:30 a.m. summer months)
Thursday: 8:30 a.m.
Friday: 8:40 a.m. school year
(8:30 a.m. summer months)
Reconciliation/Confession Times
Saturday: 4:30 p.m. or by appointment, call 444-4262.
Weekend Mass Times
Saturday: 5:30 p.m.
Sunday: 8:00 & 10:00 a.m., and 6:30 p.m.

MASS INTENTIONS

In memory of
Msgr. Mike Patnode
By David & Margie Luadtke

PLEASE NOTE

If your birthday or anniversary did not appear in the bulletin, this is not an oversight. Anyone who did not request this information to be included in the bulletin on their parish registration form is not included. Please check with Shelly Fredriksen to make sure your information is up to date.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

• November 26 •
DAVID & MARGIE LUADTKE

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Reminder: please notify Ruth when loved ones no longer need to be on our prayer list.

Don Amundson
Bonnie Anderson
Jeremiah Anderson
Ron Arel
Nancy Bedura
Clara Lou Burnham
Darin Burnham
Will Burrack
Ron Caskey
John Chadwick
Kristy Christianson
Nelda Lee Dotray
Alys Ann Edwards
Arlys Erickson
Elaine Erpelding
Ed Freking
Eileen Gothman
Cecelia Gross
Msgr. Roger Grundhaus
Francis Heineman
Ron Hendricks
Larry Hennager
Bernie Hoag
Victor Hoaglund
Ben Hougen
Clara Hoyum
Harlan Johnson
Jobe Kemp
Leon Kramer
Jan Larson
Jeff Larson
Adyson Latzke
Ellen Lidinsky
Beverly Lind
Andrew Lisak

Ann Loeffler
Adam Luadtke
Cody Luadtke
Margie Luadtke
Paul Lundberg
Bob Lykins
Kade Moore
Dan Mrazek
Lou Mrazek
Sister Pat Murphy
Tyler Narvason
Darlene O'Beirne
Andrea Osman
Elizabeth Parthun
George Pawlik
Bjorn Peterson
Jaiden Pressen
Robbie Reck
Dillon Renner
Fr. Jerry Rogers
Richard Rolling
Monica Rowland
Ben Rucinski
Lois Rucinski
Gabe Shwarzlander
Bob Skon
Scottie Smiar
John Sorensen
JoAnn Schmidt Stradtmann
Prudence Shereck
Marie Stebe
Tony Tammrow
Andy Vleck
Mike Voss
Lois Ward
Lorraine Wenner
Johnny & Janet Wojtowicz
Suzie Wojtowicz
Dalton Youngblood

WHAT'S IN YOUR HEART?

What have I done to alienate myself from God and others, and what have I failed to do? Take a moment to ponder these questions. Then ask yourself, What good have I done out of love for God and neighbor, and what temptations have I avoided? Now that you've acknowledged the worst and best in you, you're ready for the greatest work of your life: God's corporal works.

- Who are the hungry, thirsty, naked, lonely and imprisoned in my faith community, and how can I aide them?
 - Where is the greatest need in myself and in those around me? What will satisfy it? What can we do together?
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HOMILY FORTHE
THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF THE
YEAR (A)

The parable of today's Gospel is one of those stories of Jesus that most people are pretty sure they understand. "Get off your behind and practice your piano! Some day you'll be judged on how you used Your talents," says a mother to her less-than-ambitious daughter, confident that she has the backing of the Lord himself on this one. And yet today's Gospel is about much more than using our God-given gifts and talents. It is an intriguing story of three servants and what they did with the money their Master entrusted to them. Let us focus on the third fellow, and on what he did NOT do - that is take a risk.

That cautious fellow was apparently a decent guy, otherwise his Master would hardly have entrusted him with a thousand dollars. But he lived his life in fear. The other two servants had nerve -- they were as shrewd as their master and as a result they doubled their investment. But not that third nerveless nerd. He was afraid - afraid because he knew his Master was "a hard man" who did not look kindly on failure. So he decides to play it safe --- he buries the money, which at that time, was the best security available. In fact, anyone who buried money that had been put into his care would no longer be liable for its safety.

He played it safe, so he thought. No risk, none whatsoever, so he thought. The only trouble was, he underestimated his Master. For you see, the name of the game is risk. To the extent that you risk, you are alive and living. To love is to risk, to marry is to risk, to be a parent is to risk, to be in politics or in business, is to risk. But perhaps the greatest risk you take is to be a Christian.

To begin with, you commit yourself to a Christ you cannot see. Your very act of faith is a risk -- the risk to believe THAT which does not make sense. You see a criminal on a cross and you cry, "My Lord and my God!" You hear words proclaimed from a book, and you hear them as "the Word of the Lord." You shake a hand in a gesture of peace and you sense the presence of God in your midst. You taste bread and wine, and you eat and drink the Body and Blood of Christ.

When it comes to the risk of faith, you cannot be certain and THEN make a commitment to Christ; you must first commit yourself in order to have any certainty at all. It takes a risk because faith is not just some afterthought, determined by how you feel on this or that day; it determines the very direction of your life. And if we are faithful, we know that a cross will be there for us to carry; the risk comes in that we do not know what shape it will take.

If we risk in committing ourselves to a Christ we cannot see, we risk just as much in committing ourselves to a Church we can

see. For this is a pilgrim Church, a people on the way, not yet there; a strange assortment of saints and sinners, who at times are a startling contradiction to the Lord who heads it, to the Spirit who gives it life. It can even scandalize those it is called to edify!

And still it is Christ's body; here is where he expects us to experience him. And not only to endure it, but to love it, maybe not for what it has done, but for the vision it offers and the potential for good that it possesses.

But you know, all to many of us play it safe, hedge our bets, don't take any risk by getting involved. Let those other "600 plus" other people support the parish; I have better uses for my money; I'll just keep sitting on my hands, taking as long as they keep giving . . . Let those others sing and actively participate; they should be happy I'm here! Let the "do-gooders" take care of the starving and needy And when the Master challenges us as to why we have not done more with THAT which we were given, like that cautious servant in today's Gospel, we can lay the blame on someone else: a harsh Msgr., the Church's teaching on Birth Control, that paranoid nun in grade school who looked cross-eyed at us, uninspired and boring liturgies, impossible marriage laws, those "better-than-thou" so-called Catholics who go piously to church but who fail to live it -- the thousand and one excuses why we don't take any risk to grow or get involved.

People, this gospel is a wake-up call for those of you who think they are doing God's will when in reality you are simply preserving intact the faith you were given rather than taking any risks to stretch you comfort zone that you may grow. That third fellow in the gospel opted for security out of fear. Did you note that while that poor guy gets himself thrown into darkness thanks to his fear of the master, the woman in the first reading is celebrated and praised for her fear of the Lord?

What's wrong with this picture? Nothing! "Fear of the Lord" is a positive, even essential quality, necessary if one is to have a right relationship with God. It is a gift of the Holy Spirit celebrated at Confirmation. Indeed, the "fear of the Lord is the beginning of all wisdom." But this fear is not a fear of what God can do to you - he is not waiting to catch you in some sin of weakness so that he can then zap you straight to hell! No, the "fear of the Lord" praised in that First Reading is the "fear" of WHO God is - the fear that is a profound awe and utter reverence of the God that frees one from THE OTHER type of fear that is NOT a virtue BUT which comes from the devil; Genuine "fear of the Lord" doesn't freeze you in terror of what God might do to you if you make a mistake, but rather it energizes one to act justly and generously. The first and the second servants in today's gospel were motivated by such healthy fear, whereas the third servant ended up losing THAT which he thought he was saving! Hell must be full

of the gifted and talented who chose to live in fear rather than trust and take a risk!

Friends, to be a follower of Christ you have to risk -- the biggest risk being losing your life in order to find it. "Nothing ventured, nothing gain" might be a safe perspective for some aspects of your life, but today's readings challenges that kind of safe thinking, for they proclaim "to venture nothing is to lose it ALL!" While faith the size of a mustard seed can move mountains, unless it moves you to take the risk and invest it in your living, even the little you have will be lost!

15 November 2020
Wilton/Red Lake, Minnesota

BE SLOW TO JUDGE

For many years, I played a small part in making dinner once a month for a local shelter for homeless women. Making and serving that dinner was a group effort—sometimes I made chicken, sometimes a dessert or a salad, or sometimes I delivered the food to the shelter and stayed to serve it. On one such night, we had set up the line and begun to serve. One of the guests approached the line, walking along, muttering a bit to herself, disheveled and distracted. When she came to the end of the line, I handed her the plate of food. She took one look at it—and shoved it back toward me as she yelled at me, "I don't want any f***ing chicken."

She walked away and I continued to serve the many guests who were waiting to eat. At some point in the evening, someone started playing the piano—a flawless version of Beethoven's "Für Elise." My brain acknowledged the tune, but I was too busy to look around. Until a bit later, when I glanced across the room and realized the woman had thrown the plate at me was the pianist. I was overcome with the thought . . . there but for the grace of God go I.

Every homeless person, every hungry person, every prisoner, every stranger that we encounter has a story. And everyone must be treated with dignity. "Whatever you did to the least of mine . . . you did for me."

Peggy Ekerdt

Peg Ekerdt is a writer, spiritual director, and retreat facilitator. She has served as a parish pastoral associate for more than 30 years, working in the areas of pastoral care, bereavement, marriage preparation, liturgy, adult formation, and religious education. She has written for Celebration, National Catholic Reporter, Abbey Press CareNotes, Liturgy Training Publications, and as a scripture columnist for the diocesan paper. She continues to write for Take Five and Prepare the Word.

Sunday, Nov 22, 2020

SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

You decide

The church year ends this week. Along with that we're invited to consider another ending: our mortality. What goes on in eternity, anyway? Thomas Aquinas declares that God and eternity are the same. When we go from here, we go to God. How we experience the Divine Presence depends on whether our lives have become fully compatible with Love. Francis de Sales envisions Jesus saying to us: "Be it done as you desire; and because of what you have done, come, enjoy eternity." The desire of my heart will be answered: Will the choice be a life of love?

TODAY'S READINGS: Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17; 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28; Matthew 25:31-46 (160). *"These will go off to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."*

Monday, Nov 23, 2020

MEMORIAL OF BLESSED MIGUEL AUGUSTÍN PRO, PRIEST, MARTYR

¡Viva Cristo Rey!

Mexican Jesuit priest Miguel Pro was executed on fabricated charges in 1927 by a fiercely anti-clerical government. Pro had served the persecuted church by secretly celebrating the sacraments. He was killed by firing squad while holding a rosary in one hand and a crucifix in the other, his arms stretched out in imitation of the crucified Christ, shouting "Long live Christ the King!" His death energized the resistance. We may not be called to such dramatic sacrifice, but can we give up some comfort and convenience to fight for the greater good?

TODAY'S READINGS: Revelation 14:1-3, 4b-5; Luke 21:1-4 (503). *"This poor widow put in more than all the rest."*

Tuesday, Nov 24, 2020

MEMORIAL OF ANDREW DŨNG-LẠC, PRIEST, AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS

Holiness in high numbers

Nine times in the liturgical lineup of feast days we memorialize a canonized person or two "and companions." All were martyrs and many had been foreign missionaries. Today's memorial honors Andrew Dũng-Lạc, a Vietnamese priest beheaded in 1839 for promoting Christianity instead of the official state religion; he's joined by another 117 killed in Vietnam, tortured and martyred during the 18th and 19th centuries. Just as we began this month with the feast of All Saints—honoring a multitude of holy unknowns—may every instance of "and companions" encourage us to call to mind the "great cloud of witnesses."

TODAY'S READINGS: Revelation 14:14-19; Luke 21:5-11 (504). *"Reap the harvest, for the time to reap has come."*

Wednesday, Nov 25, 2020

MEMORIAL OF CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGIN, MARTYR

Raise your voice

Christian tradition holds that Catherine of Alexandria (287-305) was an eloquent young Christian convert who challenged the Emperor Maxentius' persecution of Christians. That faithful courage led to her own martyrdom. The United Nations has declared today the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, asking the world to recognize that "violence against women and girls is one of the most widespread, persistent, and devastating human rights violations in our world today." We honor the courage of Saint Catherine by paying attention to the violence that others endure, speaking up in

defense of the voiceless, and adding our prayers for those whose suffering too often goes unnoticed.

TODAY'S READINGS: Revelation 15:1-4; Luke 21:12-19 (505). *"They will seize and persecute you . . . they will have you led before kings and governors because of my name."*

Thursday, Nov 26, 2020

THANKSGIVING DAY

Give thanks, indeed

This Thanksgiving won't be celebrated the way many of us hoped and imagined back when the pandemic started. And yet, we are alive. Most of us reading these words can breathe freely. The virus has reminded us to never again take these simple matters for granted. One of our wisest teachers about prayer, Dominican priest Meister Eckhardt (1260-1329), said: If the only prayer you ever said in your entire life is thank you, that would suffice. Even amid hard times, giving thanks to God is appropriate. Let it be your prayer today.

TODAY'S READINGS: Revelation 18:1-2, 21-23; 19:1-3, 9a; Luke 21:20-28 (506). *"But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand."*

Friday, Nov 27, 2020

Turn the page

The "Book of Life" is mentioned several times in the Bible. A bit like the contact list you keep on your phone, the Book of Life is the figurative expression of how God is said to keep track of those heading for heavenly repose united with the Divine. According to Jewish tradition, God opens the Book of Life on Rosh Hashanah and leaves it open for 10 days, until Yom Kippur. During those days, believers spend time repenting of their sins and amending their lives in order to be written into the Book of Life. If there's something you need to repent, today is a good day to turn the page.

TODAY'S READINGS: Revelation 20:1-4, 11—21:2; Luke 21:29-33 (507). *"Then another scroll was opened, the Book of Life. The dead were judged according to their deeds."*

Saturday, Nov 28, 2020

OPTIONAL MEMORIAL OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Call forth your best self

Perhaps you've heard that Jesus' life was foreshadowed in passages from the Hebrew scripture that predated him. But were you aware that Mary's life and role in salvation history might have been as well? The prophet Isaiah (7:14) speaks of a young woman (sometimes translated as a "virgin") who will give birth to a son she will name Emmanuel, meaning "God with us." Mary has been "going ahead" of us for generations, a role model beckoning us to live our best lives, regardless of how improbable, even miraculous, that might turn out to be.

TODAY'S READINGS: Revelation 22:1-7; Luke 21:34-36 (508). *"These words are trustworthy and true."*

Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time



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