Sacred Heart Catholic Church Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time February 5, 2023 Making and Strengthening Disciples of Jesus





Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

As some of you know, I studied physics and mathematics in college and so it isn't a surprise that numbers interest me. Perhaps you'll allow me to share some numbers and statistics about last year's Catholic Ministry Appeal that I found particularly interesting. 22,372 individuals and families contributed, on average, \$416.90 which combined to provide \$9,327,033.43 for the important ministries of our diocese.

What's interesting to me is that \$416.90 figure. It seems a bit high. I know lots of people who could not pull out a checkbook and easily give that amount in a one-time gift. If you break it down, however, it doesn't look as big. Dividing by the 52 weeks in a year, these people gave, on average, \$8.02 per week. Suddenly that doesn't seem all that much.

This is a simple illustration of the power of large numbers. If the \$9 million had to be raised by a few hundred donors, the chance of success would depend on finding rich donors. However, get lots of people to contribute – 22,372, last year – and you're down to an amount the majority of families can contribute.

To take a different example, suppose you wanted to eliminate trash along the roads, beaches, and waterways of our country. The task may seem overwhelming until you realize that if you got one million people to pick up one ounce of trash each day for a year, 22,812,500 pounds of litter would be removed. That's over 11 thousand tons!

The other interesting lesson in the Catholic Ministry Appeal numbers is the reality that the average gift of \$416.90 is just that, an average. Some individuals and families were able to contribute far greater amounts and others less. It is easy to assume that those who gave large sums did so because they have larger paychecks or retirement accounts, but that may not be the case at all.

It is possible that some of those larger amounts came from people who have found ways to be better stewards of their money. In fact, I would suspect that at every giving level you'll find people who are able to give more than might seem possible simply because they manage their money well. I know, for instance, people who routinely spend five and ten dollars a week on lottery tickets. It is hard to argue that this is a good use of their money. Imagine the vast sum of money available for local and diocesan ministries if the 108,451 individuals and families in our diocese gave their lottery dollars to the church!

Today is commitment Sunday for the Catholic Ministry Appeal. As you consider your pledge and think of an amount, ask yourself, "Am I choosing this amount because it's comfortable?" If so, you might want to ask the Lord if He wants you to be comfortable. I've asked that question. It's scary. The reward, however, is amazing.

In Christ, Fr. Kevin

Weekly Mass Intentions



Saturday, February 4

8:00 a.m. +William Spekhardt

4:00 p.m. **†**Gabriel "Gabe" Giancristofano

6:00 p.m. **†**Amando Lujano

Sunday, February 5

7:30 a.m. **†** Carmella & Anthony Pagano

9:30 a.m. **†**Piper Schmiedl 11:30 a.m. For our parishioners

Monday, February 6

8:00 a.m. **†**Leonard Mezerowski

Tuesday, February 7 8:00 a.m. Doris Sylvan

Wednesday, February 8

8:15 a.m. For the students of Sacred

Heart and Morning Star

schools

For the recently departed, 6 p.m.

especially John Bolin

Thursday, February 9

8:00 a.m. †Jim Barlow

Friday, February 10

8:00 a.m. †Pacita Santos Enriquez

Saturday, February 11

8:00 a.m. †Eric Vonlehmder

4:00 p.m. Lou Horn

6:00 p.m. For our parishioners

Sunday, February 12

7:30 a.m. † Sally & Carolina

Cardenas

9:30 a.m. **†**Jean Schwartz 11:30 a.m. †Jane Gossett

The sanctuary candle burns in loving memory of James Masterson

Sanctuary Candle

Our Stewardship

January 28-29

Offertory: \$9,896.00 His Heart: \$320.00 Other: \$573.86 Total: \$10.789.86 Attendance: 1,043



DIOCESE OF ST. PETERSBURG

CATHOLIC MINISTRY appea

We received the first report on our stewardship to the diocese. As of this past Monday, 43 families have led the way with pledges to the Appeal that total \$20,545. That's a great start toward our goal of \$90,479.10. Today is Commitment Sunday and we invite everyone to use this day to support the many ministries of our diocese. If you gave last year, will you renew that pledge? If you didn't give last year, will you join us? Pledge and gift envelopes are in the narthex and at the side doors. If you place the completed envelope in the offering basket, we'll see that it gets to the diocese this week.

Your Catholic Ministry Appeal gifts support:

Catholic Charities, DOSP - Catholic Charities Shelters of Hope provided new affordable housing opportunities with the opening of Mercy Oaks Apartments in Tampa, the Pasco Family Shelter for young homeless families with children, and two communities in Hillsborough County, Las Villas and Vincent Oaks. An additional location, St. Benedict Apartments, will be available after construction is completed this year.

Catholic Charities Foundations of Life Pregnancy Centers serve in Hernando, Pasco, Hillsborough and Pinellas Counties.

Ministry to Multicultural Communities - 11 priests, 10 religious and more than 400 lay people participated in the fourth annual African Mass held at Most Holy Redeemer Parish in Tampa.

Clergy Care and Ministry to Priests - 100% of our parishes receive assistance at least occasionally from 73 of our 98 retired priests.

Ministry to Catholic Schools & Tuition Assistance Grants - The appeal contributes almost \$300,000 in tuition assistance grants to families across our diocese to assist in providing access Catholic School education.

Office of Worship & Diocesan Liturgical Celebrations - Our Worship ministry assists in coordinating 20+ liturgies and services in collaboration with other diocesan ministries and coordinates all diocesan liturgies where the bishop presides.

Coming Soon

Feb. 22 Ash Wednesday

Feb. 25 The 13th annual Tampa Bay Men's Conference

The conference will take place in Higgins Hall, at St. Lawrence Catholic Church, Tampa. Register at: suncoastcatholicministries.com/.

March 25 Legion of Mary Annual Acies Mass

Mass will be held at 10am, celebrating the Annunciation of the Lord.

May 5 Sacred Heart School Auction

Auction begins at 6pm. Support the mission of the school while enjoying a fun evening. Tickets will go on sale next month.

For Your Information

It's Saturday!



More specifically, it is the second Saturday of the month and that means a terrific group of parishioners will gather around 9am to improve the landscaping around the parish. There are a variety of jobs to do and we'll do our best to find something that fits your interest and abilities. Middle and High School teens are welcome! Meet us in front of the church. We typically work until around 11am.

The Gift of Life (literally!)



The blood mobile will be here next Sunday morning. We're always grateful to those who are able and willing to give the gift of life to others. It is a great way to live out Jesus' command to "give, expecting nothing in return" (Luke 6:35).

We really need your smiling face! (Actually, a picture of your smiling face.)



Thanks to the parishioners who have shared a picture with us! We can't begin to tell you how helpful it is. We only use them in our database and will not publish. The best pictures for this are closeups. Simply email a recent photo (maybe from Christmas with your Santa hat on!) to frkevinyarnell@gmail.com.

Please pray for children who have lost parents and caregivers to the pandemic



The pandemic has claimed more than 6.25 million lives worldwide since it began in March 2020—and millions more have been lost indirectly through overburdened health care systems and other circumstances. Those numbers mean the pandemic is depriving children of parents and caregivers.

Worldwide, researchers believe more than 7.5 million children so far have suffered the loss of a parent or primary caregiver to Covid-19. They report that pandemic-associated orphanhood and caregiver loss are increasing at an unparalleled speed. As we move into the new year, let's pray for these children.

A Bible verse for the Week: Isaiah 58:7



Thus says the LORD: Share your bread with the hungry, shelter the oppressed and the homeless; clothe the naked when you see them, and do not turn your on your own.

Our Current Liturgical and Devotional Schedule

Weekday Mass Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri, & Sat: 8am Wed: 8:15am & 6pm (Rosary prayed before morning Masses at 7:25am)

Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil

4pm and 6pm (Spanish) (Rosary prayed in Spanish at 5:30pm)

<u>Sunday</u>

7:30am, 9:30am *(live-streamed),* & 11:30am *(Rosary prayed at 7am)*

Confessions

Wednesdays: 6:45-7:45pm (English) Saturdays: 2:45-3:45pm (English) Saturdays: 5:30-5:55pm (Spanish) (If you need more time with the priest in confession, please contact the parish office for an appointment)

Morning Devotions

Monday & Thursday at 9am (livestreamed):

Fr. Kevin provides some background and a short devotion on the saint of the day.

Our Chapel is Open for Prayer

Mon, Tues, Thurs, & Fri:8:30am-5pm Wednesday: 9am-8pm Saturday: 8:30am-4pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Wednesdays: 6:30-8pm

First Friday Exposition:

8:30-10am, 6pm-9pm, Mass 9pm Exposition continuing until 8am Saturday

First Saturdays with Mary: 8:30-10am (includes Adoration)

Divine Mercy Chaplet: Tuesdays, after the 8am Mass

Our Mother of Perpetual Help: Thur., after 8am Mass

Santo Nino (Infant Jesus) Novena: 2nd & 4th Wednesdays, after the 6pm Mass

Livestreamed liturgies and devotions can be found at sacredheartpinellaspark.com (look for the "Live" link at the top of the page) or on Facebook (SacredHeart Parish PinellasPark).

This Week at Sacred Heart

If you need information about a group or ministry listed, call the office. We'd be happy to get you connected to them!

Sunday, Feb. 5th, The 5th Sunday of Ordinary Time:

- Pancake Breakfast, Parish Hall, after the 7:30 and 9:30am Masses
- Faith Formation classes follow the 9:30am Mass
- Middle School Youth Group & Confirmation Session (w/ sponsors!), 4-5:30pm, Parish Hall

Monday, Feb. 6th:

- Morning Devotions (livestreamed on Facebook), 9am; Learn a lesson from one of the Saints!
- Legion of Mary, 9am, Marian Room
- Beyond Our Walls prayer group, 5:30pm, Chapel. Each week we pray individually for requests we receive throughout the week. Have a request? Cards are available in the narthex.
- Junior Legion of Mary, 6pm, Parish Hall
- Life Ministry Group, 7pm, Retreat House

Tuesday, Feb. 7th:

- National Marriage Week starts today!
- Fr. Kevin's Bible study, 9-10:15am and 6-7:15pm
- His Heart Society: food and clothing distribution, 9-11am

Wednesday, Feb. 8th:

- Adoration 6:30-8pm; Confessions, 6:30-8pm
- Spanish Prayer Group, 7pm Retreat House
- Columbiette General meeting, 7pm, Parish Hall

Thursday, Feb. 9th:

- Morning Devotions (livestreamed on Facebook), 9am; Learn a lesson from one of the Saints!
- His Heart Society: food and clothing distribution, 9-11am
- Prayer Shawl Ministry, 10am, Retreat House
- God's Housekeepers, 1-3pm, Church
- Pinellas Hope Meal carpool at 6pm
- Chosen video showing and discussion, 6:30pm, Parish Hall

Friday, Feb. 10th:

• Men of St. Joseph, 7pm, Retreat House

Saturday, Feb. 11th:

• 2nd Saturday of Service, 9am, Church

Sunday, Feb. 12th, The 6th Sunday of Ordinary Time:

Readings: Sirach 15:15-20; Psalm 119; 1 Corinthians 2:6-10; Matthew 5:17-37

• Parish Blood Drive



MINISTRIES IN ACTION

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SERVING IN SOLIDARITY

Like the symbol of our appeal, the dove, your generosity through the Catholic Ministry Appeal will continue bringing hope, peace and joy to countless people. Exceeding our \$8.5 million goal will allow us to support and explore growing the critical ministries making a difference in our diocese every day by:

+ nurturing spiritual life and offering opportunities for people to encounter Christ

+ embracing God's call to serve

+ accompanying those who help form missionary disciples

We know we can make a difference by working together. One gift, when added to thousands in solidarity, can serve and support thousands.

You can also make a secure, on-line gift today through one of these three options:



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givetoministry.dosp.org

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CHECK

Payable to Catholic Ministry Appeal PO Box 40200 St. Petersburg, FL 33773-0220

We believe that standing by the Church and it's ministries, and contributing our time, efforts, skills, and whatever else necessary is for the betterment of the Catholic Community as a whole.

- Michael Celentano & Peggy Scherman

Sometimes the simplest path to peace is through focusing on the service of others.

- Bill and Monica Yeomans

We have been blessed in many ways by the Lord and have been supported by the church in times of need so I feel that I can thank both of them by supporting my parish as well as the Catholic Ministry Appeal.

Carmelo & Elba Meletiche

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DOSP.ORG/CATHOLICMINISTRYAPPEAL

Website: sacredheartpinellaspark.com

Facebook: SacredHeartParish PinellasPark

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Fr. Brad Reed frbradreed@gmail.com

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Alberto Maisonet

alberto.maisonet@gmail.com Vanessa Dockery

Parish Religious Gift Shop: Located in the church narthex

Open: Sat.3:30-5:30pm Sun.8:30am-12:45pm

His Heart Society Outreach:

4661 80th Ave. N. Pinellas Park, FL33781

Food & Clothing: Tue. & Thurs. 9-11am Call (727)544-5445 for financial assistance

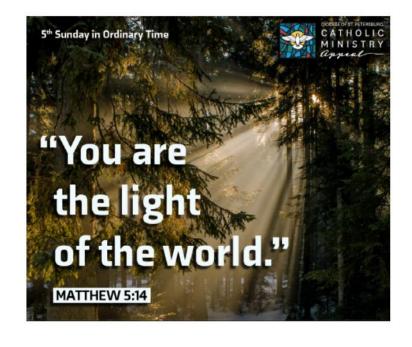
Sacred Heart School: 7951 46th Way N., Pinellas Park, FL 33781 Phone: 727-544-1106 SacredHeartPinellasPark.org

A Message from Pope Francis

This is an excerpt from Pope Francis' Wed. Jan. 25, 2023, General Audience, where he continues his discussion of evangelization. He is talking about the story found in Luke 4 where Jesus returns to the synagogue in Nazareth and reads from the prophet Isaiah. You can read the entire talk at vatican.va. Click Audiences and choose the one for Jan. 25th.

The first element is joy. Jesus proclaims, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me; [...] He has anointed Me to preach good news to the poor" (v. 18), that is, a proclamation of gladness, of joy. Good news: one cannot speak of Jesus without joy, because faith is a wonderful love story to be shared. Bearing witness to Jesus, doing something for others in His name, is like saying "between the lines" of one's life, that one has received so beautiful a gift that no words suffice to express it. Instead, when joy is lacking, the Gospel does not come through, because - as the word themselves suggests, it's the very meaning of the word - is good news, and "Gospel" means "good news," a proclamation of joy. A sad Christian can talk about beautiful things, but it is all in vain if the news he conveys is not joyful. A thinker once said, "A Christian who is sad is a sad Christian." Don't forget this.

We come to the second aspect: deliverance. Jesus says He was sent "to proclaim release to the captives" (ibid.). This means that one who proclaims God cannot proselvtize, no, cannot pressure others, no, but relieve them: not impose burdens, but take them away; bearing peace, not bearing guilt. Of course, following Jesus involves asceticism, involves sacrifices; after all, if every good thing requires these things, how much more the decisive reality of life! However, those who witness to Christ show the beauty of the goal rather than the toil of the journey. We may have happened to tell someone about a beautiful trip we took: for example, we would have spoken about the beauty of the places, what we saw and experienced, not about the time to get there and the queues at the airport, no! So, any announcement worthy of the Redeemer must communicate liberation. Like that of Jesus. Today there is joy, because I have come to liberate.



Our Parish Prayer List

June Abraham Sheryl Acunal Robert Anderson Genevieve Aziz Rita Bahler Mary Barbuti Kenneth Barcomb Audrey Bentley Ryan Buck Jr. Judy Cardone Melina Carmen Chase Maryloo Carrico Sean Casev Paul & Gail Catalona Bill Cauchon Kathy Chabot Joseph I. Chase Bonnie Crisafulli Rita Durish Christina Fabb Brooke & Brianna

Farnsworth

Ian Gossett

Anne Fiamengo

James Guimond

Florence Garrido

Mary Haisch Jenny Holland Jean & Gary Hossman Amy Iketani Janet Jacob David Johnson Elija Johnson Elizabeth Jurado Deanne Karner Liam & Jeanne Kennedy Dolores Kenney Barbara Klasek Tony Lociech Anna Kumari Charlotte Laliberti Gail Larson Sharn Lundy Sheila Lutz Katie Malins Connie Marmaro Mary Masterson Mary Mattingly Mattie Mores Jeff Odajewski

Antoinette Passero Neil Petrocci Daniel, Sylvia, & Stella Przywalny Nicole Rizzo Judy & Mark Rucker Janet Schaumann Maryanne Sirrianna Patricia Slaymaker Jeanne Slofkin Fred & George Sontheimer Helen Sullivan Norman & Leonette St. Germain Sherry Taylor Gloria Unger

Bold indicates new name added to prayer list.



Pope Francis February Prayer Intention

Parishes

We pray that parishes, placing communion at the center, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.

To keep this list meaningful, we respectfully ask that requests to be included on the list be renewed every 4 weeks and that you provide a specific prayer intention. To respect the privacy of individuals, please submit requests only with the expressed permission of the person for whom you are requesting prayer. Send requests to frkevinyarnell@gmail.com

Diane O'Neill

Rinette Parece



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