

Around the Parish

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

2022



No doubt, many of you may have a “curiosity” regarding the granite *Sacred Heart Parish* monument/obelisk now standing in the right, front lawn as you enter the church. The monument is a gift, erected to serve two purposes.

Not quite a year ago, the *Sacred Heart Catholic Education Endowment Fund* (SHCEEF) was established by a transformative gift from the *John R. Post Family Charitable Foundation*. The monument commemorates that gift to benefit Sacred Heart Parish, in its mission *...to teach all nations...*, in providing a quality Catholic education to the children of our parish and beyond. It also replaces the tired lawn sign that stood on the hill in the upper garden to the right of the church.

Additionally, as part of this transformative gift, the Post Family Charitable Foundation has challenged our parish and school community to partner in this philanthropic effort. If we as a parish/school community are able to raise \$700,000 before 31 December 2023, the Post Family Charitable Foundation will award the SHCEEF with an additional \$500,000 donation. I am confident that we can meet the challenge!

Since the establishment of this Endowment, we have worked and continue to work diligently to achieve this incentive goal. Unfortunately, the pandemic has greatly restricted us from introducing this initiative to potential benefactors in a face-to-face manner as well as being able to invite the parish and local community as a whole to participate in this undertaking. We hope you will prayerfully consider supporting this noble cause. No contribution is too small *OR* too large. Please see the accompanying Pledge/Contribution information for contributing to this Fund.

This has been a most challenging time for all of us in many ways, on many levels. Through God's grace, we persevere as we weather the storm positively seen in many who have returned to Mass and by the continued generous, conscientious stewardship of you, the people of Sacred Heart.

Thankful for your faithfulness, I remain

Yours in Christ, the Divine Teacher,

Sacred Heart School News

We began Catholic Schools Week on January 30th at Mass. Sacred Heart School students will attend the 9:30 AM Mass together with their families. Following each Mass, an alumni of Sacred Heart School will present to the parishioners on the role that Catholic school education has played in his or her life.

Tours of Sacred Heart School are available on Sunday, January 30, 2022.

Please contact Mrs. Beth Gasperack at bgasperack@sacredheartreading.org to arrange for a tour.

We are currently enrolling for all grades PreK-8 for the 2022-2023 school year.

Mr. Robert Elzer has joined the Sacred Heart School faculty as the Grade 5 teacher and as the Religion teacher for Grades 5 and 6. Bob is a graduate of St. John School and Holy Name High School and a familiar face to many in our school and parish community. After a successful career as a software engineer he changed careers and began working in Education. To our good fortune, he decided to return to his roots and bring his considerable talents to the boys and girls at Sacred Heart School.

Students in Grades 6, 7, and 8 will be participating in the 2022 Kitchen Kapers CYO Competition.

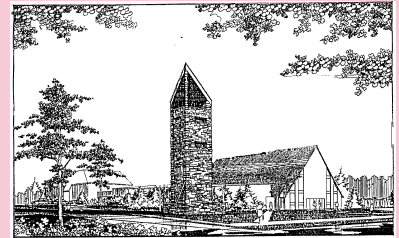
Boys and Girls can enter a dish in one of eleven different categories. Winners in each category will advance to the CYO Regional Competition at Holy Guardian Angels on *Saturday February 12, 2022.*

If anyone is interested in being a Judge at this tasty event, ***please contact Mrs. Gabriella Duffy at gduffy@sacredheartreading.org.***

Submitted by the Principal of Sacred Heart School, Mrs. Joan McNeil



UPCOMING EVENTS



Catholic Schools Week

January 30th—February 3rd

Kitchen Kapers CYO Competition

February 12th

Sacred Heart Valentines Day Dinner Fundraiser

February 14th

St. Vincent de Paul at Kennedy House—Volunteer to serve meals

February 26th & 27th

KOC Lenten Fish Fry Dinner

Tickets Available: February 26th/27th

Dinner Starting: March 3rd

Parish Easter Egg Hunt

Easter Sunday, April 17th



COMING SOON FOR LENT!

This year our Monsignor Bornemann Knights of Columbus Council has partnered with Gino's Italian Restaurant and Pizzeria in Shillington to offer a LENTEN FISH FRY DINNER available during Lent, starting on March 4th. Tickets are only \$16 per dinner which includes: *Battered Haddock, French Fries, and Coleslaw.*

This is a Take-Out or Dine-In event. Tickets will be on sale at both Holy Rosary and Sacred Heart each weekend after Mass starting the weekend of February 26th/27th. Tickets can be used on Friday evenings during Lent, or any other days during Gino's regular business hours - Tuesday thru Sunday 10:30am to 9pm. Once you have your tickets, just call to place your order during the week you want your dinner. Watch the bulletin for more information.

Proceeds from this event will help support several Berks Seminarians through the K of C Refunds Support Vocations Program/RSVP. Our own Seminarian Hy James Gia Ngo will benefit from your ticket purchases and donations. Thank you for your support.

Recitation of the Rosary is now on the weekly schedule, and we hope you can join us on Sunday mornings at 10:40am in the church after the 9:30 Mass, and Tuesdays at 7pm during Adoration in the Chapel. All are welcome to participate!

Important 2022 K of C dates for your calendar:

FEBRUARY 3 - Officer's Meeting – IHM Room 7pm

FEBRUARY 17 - Membership Meeting – IHM Room 7:00-8:30pm; Rosary at 6:30 before the meeting.

FEBRUARY 26 & 27th – Annual Fish Fry Ticket Sales, both churches after Masses

The Knights of Columbus Monsignor Bornemann Council membership is open to all practicing Catholic male adults, aged 18 and over, who wish to serve their parish and community. Meetings are the third Thursday of the month.

To join, contact

John Sylvester at 610-451-6980.



Congratulations on your Wedding:

*Dean Harris
and*

Ilena Taratino

Married
January 8th, 2022



If you are interested in helping out, or have any suggestions, with any **Activities** or **Events** please contact **Kirsten** in the Parish Rectory or by e-mail at activity@shrcparish.org!

Your help is greatly appreciated!

FEBRUARY 2022 LECTOR SCHEDULE

February 5/6

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
5:00 PM Steve Krupa
7:30 AM Vince Moffitt
9:30 AM John Gleason
11:15 AM Beth Tharp

February 19/20

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
5:00 PM Terry Vogel
7:30 AM Steve Bell
9:30 AM Lou Sutherland
11:15 AM Margaret Hueske

February 12/13

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
5:00 PM Sandie Wrable
7:30 AM Joe Tharp
9:30 AM Denise Mogel
11:15 AM John Sylvester

February 26/27

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
5:00 PM Steve Krupa
7:30 AM Kathy Nevel
9:30 AM Mary Ann Kase
11:15 AM Karen Ann Cameron

History of St. Valentine

The first St. Valentine was a priest and physician in Rome. He along with St. Marius and his family comforted the martyrs during the persecution of Emperor Claudius II, the Goth. Eventually, St. Valentine was also arrested, condemned to death for his faith, beaten with clubs, and finally beheaded on Feb. 14, AD 270. He was buried on the Flaminian Way. Later, Pope Julius I (333-356) built a basilica at the site which preserved St. Valentine's tomb. Archeological digs in the 1500s and 1800s have found evidence of the tomb of St. Valentine. However, in the thirteenth century, his relics were transferred to the Church of Saint Praxedes near the Basilica of St. Mary Major, where they remain today. Also, a small church was built near the Flaminian Gate of Rome which is now known as the Porta del Popolo but was called in the 12th century "the Gate of St. Valentine," as noted by the early British historian William Somerset (also known as William of Malmesbury, d. 1143), who ranks after St. Bede in authority.

The popular customs of showing love and affection on St. Valentine's Day is almost a coincidence with the feast day of the saint: During the Medieval Age, a common belief in England and France was that birds began to pair on Feb. 14, "half-way through the second month of the year." Chaucer wrote in his "Parliament of Fowles" (in Old English): "For this was on Seynt Valentyne's day, When every foul cometh ther to choose his mate." For this reason, the day was dedicated to "lovers" and prompted the sending of letters, gifts, or other signs of affection.

The love of our Lord, depicted beautifully in the image of His most Sacred Heart, is a sacrificial, self-less, and unconditional love. Such is the love that each Christian is called to express in his own life, for God and neighbor. Clearly, St. Valentine's matter which one showed such a love, bearing witness to the faith in his dedication as a priest and in the offering of his own life in martyrdom. them, and thanking them for their love in return. Never forget Jesus said, "This is my commandment: love one another as I have loved you. There is no greater love than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends" (Jn 15:12-13). St. Valentine fulfilled this command, and may we do the same.

FR. WILLIAM SAUNDERS—Excerpt cut from Catholic Education Resource Center



Our Condolences to:

The Tomaszewski Family
and Friends on the
passing of:

John Tomaszewski

12-24-2021



The Fisher Family and
Friends on the passing
of:

Mary Fisher

12-27-2021





Sacred Heart's Valentine's Day Fundraiser

Valentine's Day Dinner done right!

Enjoy a delicious meal from Russo's Gourmet Market and help raise funds for upgrades, needed at the Church and School!

You will have a choice of a **Salad**,

Caesar Salad or Insalata Mista

Entree

Chicken Fiorentina with Pasta ai Funghi, Shrimp Tricolor with Mixed Veggies, or Braciola with Pasta Norcina

(topped with spinach, roasted peppers, and melted mozzarella in a white wine sauce along with pasta, mushrooms spinach, and tomato in a white cream sauce)

(grilled zucchini, bell peppers, asparagus, squash, and onion tossed w/ grilled shrimp)

(thinly pounded sirloin, stuffed & rolled w/ground beef, bread crumbs, seasoning & cheese w/tomato sauce along with pasta w/crumbles sausage and mushrooms in a light red cream sauce)

& Dessert.

Cannoli or Tiramisu

\$40/per meal 5 P.M. pickup in the Wachter Room in the Parish Center.

Delivery may be an option!

Funds will go toward a new water heater for Sacred Heart School and an upgrade to the sound system in our Church.

If you would like to volunteer to help, please call Kirsten at the Parish Office.

610-372-4010