
Reconciliation

Sacred Heart Church every Saturday at 3:00 p.m.

Second grade students First Reconciliation on Sunday, December 6, at 11:30 a.m.

PSR Reconciliation at St. Anthony Church on Wednesday, December 9, at 6:30 p.m.

Parish Reconciliation at St. Anthony Church on Sunday, December 20, at 7:00 p.m.

Great things are being planned for Sacred Heart Church during the Christmas Masses.

Christmas Eve ~ December 24

4:00 p.m. – Children’s Mass. Rumor has it that Santa Claus may make a special appearance!

11:00 p.m. – Music by the Sacred Heart Adult Choir and special guest mezzo soprano, Valerie Nicolosi.

Christmas Day ~ December 25

8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. – Music by two of our parish ensembles and a rumored visit from Santa Claus!

Many surprises in store for our Christmas Masses! Be sure to join us for our prayerful and song-filled Christmas Masses this season. Our various choirs and ensemble groups will lead each Christmas celebration, and Santa Claus will be here for our 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass as well as our Christmas Day Masses! Our 11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass will feature 30-member Sacred Heart Adult Choir and special guest Valerie Nicolosi. Valerie is well known for her worldwide opera and symphony performances. She is married to Teutopolis native Gary Niemerg, and will be visiting the Effingham area over Christmas. We are thrilled that she’s chosen to accompany our talented adult choir!

Christmas Flowers & Decorations ~ If you would like to make a donation for poinsettias and Christmas decorations in memory of a loved one, envelopes can be found in your December packets. Please complete the information on the back side of the envelope and enclose your donation. Drop it in the collection or bring it by the parish office by Dec. 17.

Immaculate Conception is a Holy Day. Masses at Sacred Heart Church will be Monday, December 7, at 7:00 p.m. and Tuesday, December 8, at 7:00 a.m., 8:30 a.m., and 7:00 p.m.

Mariachi Mass will be celebrated at Sacred Heart Church on Friday, December 11, to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Mariachi music starts at 8:00 p.m. with a Spanish Mass to begin at 9:00 p.m. A social will follow in the Sacred Heart Parish Center. Everyone is welcome.

Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated on Sunday, December 13, at a noon Mass at Sacred Heart Church. The sacrament is intended for all whose health is seriously impaired by sickness or age. Everyone is welcome. If you want to be anointed, but cannot make it to this Mass, contact Darlene at 347.7177 and the parish priest will come to your home.

Pro-Life & Family Life Center Giving Tree will be on display in the baptismal area. Please take a tag off the tree and return that item under the tree by December 20. All donations will be given to the area Pro-Life and Family Life Center.

Advent Angels ~ Our parish priest and several “angel helpers” will be making special deliveries of gift bags to our parishioners who are homebound, sick, or in the nursing home. If you would like to help provide items to fill a gift bag, please place items or gift bags in the boxes in the back of church. Suitable items would be soaps, lotions, perfume/ cologne, air fresheners, handkerchiefs, socks, slippers, small afghans, a small religious picture, statue, picture frame, doily, or basic essentials for everyday use. If you prefer to make a cash donation, place money in an envelope marked “Advent Angels.” Return gift bags or items to the church by Tuesday, December 8.

Young Hearts Potluck will be Tuesday, December 15, at noon in the Sacred Heart Parish Center. Bring your favorite dish and invite a friend to join in the fellowship. Sacred Heart Grade School students will entertain us with Christmas songs from their upcoming play.



Rest in Peace

*We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of **Caroline Braun.***

Liturgy Schedule

Monday, December 7

7:15 a.m.: Louis Volk *by Sacred Heart Council of Catholic Women*

7:00 p.m.: Nick Dust *by Marie Dust*

Tuesday, December 8

7:00 a.m.: Wanetta Horath *by Gene & Phyllis Kremer*

8:30 a.m.: Albert “Bert” Haarmann *by family*

7:00 p.m.: David Swingler *by family*

Friday, December 11

7:15 a.m.: Clarence Kemme *by family*

Saturday, December 12

4:00 p.m.: Walter & Mary Kreke *by family*

Sunday, December 13

8:30 a.m.: Silas Alldredge *by Gertrude Alldredge*

10:30 a.m.: Mary Jo Stephens *by Mike Stephens*

5:30 p.m.: Scott Hanfland *by Crosby & Bailey Hanfland*

7:00 p.m. Spanish Mass: Ronald Haring *by family*

Sacred Heart Council of Catholic Women

December 1, 2009 Christmas party and meeting

The 50 ladies in attendance enjoyed a turkey dinner, silent auction, and brief meeting. The October meeting notes and treasurer's report were reviewed and approved.

Committee Reports:

- Funeral Dinners – There was one funeral dinner in October.
- Second Hand Rose – Lots of people are buying, extra help needed.
- Cards for the ladies over 80 with birthdays in December and January were signed by the members present.

Old Business:

- The replacement counter top has been installed by the big coffee maker.
- The CD of A breakfast on October 18 was a success. 36 ladies were served. Thank you to all the ladies that helped.
- Thank you to all those who baked cookies for the Harvest Mass.
- Several SHCCW members attended the St. Anthony CCW meeting and salad supper on November 2. Thank you to those who attended.
- The Effingham Deanery meeting held on November 10 was held at Sacred Heart with 40 ladies in attendance. Thank you to the ladies in the choir who sang at the Mass, you did a wonderful job. Also, thank you to all those who brought a dessert for the meeting, and a special thank you to the SHCCW officers for their help serving at the meeting.

New Business

- Motion was made and seconded to renew two of the CDs for 15 months. Monies will still be available in the checking account for daily expenses.
- Several thank you cards were received.
- Yearly Deanery dues and NCCW/DCCW dues will be paid soon.
- Anointing of the Sick Mass will be on December 13 at noon. A sign up sheet was distributed for volunteers to bring cookies and for ladies to serve them.
- New signage for the rummage sales will be made for next year.
- Request for new purificators and corporals for Mass was approved.
- Request for donation to upgrade and purchase six additional cassocks and surplices for the servers at Mass. Inventory on sizes will be taken and order will be placed. If anyone would like to donate additional monies, please place donation in envelope marked "Server Cassocks."

Christmas gift cards were given to the members of the parish staff and the CCW officers. Several CCW members brought items to silent auction. Proceeds will be given to parish priest to assist a church family for Christmas.

Kim Mills had Booster Club merchandise available to purchase, and Lisa Schafer sold Scrip cards.

Door prizes were given away and Christmas CDs donated by Catholic Charities and a Christmas ornament were given to each guest. Tim Schuette won the 50/50 drawing.

Thank you to December's committee – Mary Klingler, Donna Keller, Beth Koester, and Tina Kasdorf.

Our next meeting will be February 2, 2010 with a noon luncheon.

Welcome ~ FOCUS, the Fellowship of Catholic University Students, at Eastern Illinois University will be speaking at the weekend Masses on December 12 and 13 about the 2010 Made for More Conference in Orlando, Florida. Currently, 15 students are registered to attend the national conference, and FOCUS is hoping to raise \$7,200 for transportation and student scholarships. Over 4,000 Catholic college students will be attending this year's conference, and it is the largest gathering of young Catholics in the nation! The conference provides opportunities for deep spiritual growth through many prominent Catholic speakers, such as Matthew Kelly (Catholic author) and Fr. Benedict Groeschel (CFR), and also provides wholesome entertainment, such as concerts by Matt Maher and Matthew West (widely acclaimed Christian artists). If you would like to make a donation to the transportation/scholarship fund, or know someone interested in attending the 2010 Made for More Conference, please talk to the FOCUS team after Mass. For further questions, you may contact the FOCUS team at easternil@focusonline.org or by phone at 217.348.0188. Thank you for your time, and God bless!

Current addresses for the holidays:

Fr. Jeff Goeckner

St. Boniface Church
110 N. Buchanan Street, P.O. Box 423
Edwardsville, IL 62025

Msgr. Kenneth Steffen

Catholic Communities of
Marine & St. Jacob, IL
120 N. Windmill, P.O. Box 457
Marine, IL 62061

Fr. Paul Habing

Pfarrhaus St. Antonius
Oewerweg, 40/42
D-28325, Bremen
Germany

Fr. Donald Knuffman

1509 South 15th Street, Apt. 3
Quincy, IL 62301

Happy 1st Anniversary!

It's been one year since our "First Fruits" Sunday collection of the Extreme Makeover. To say THANK YOU, we'll give a short presentation during the Masses on December 19/20. You'll hear about our progress thus far and what's still in store for Sacred Heart Parish. Read more in the Great Things insert this week.

Christmas Dinner sponsored by the Effingham Ministerial Association will be Friday, December 25, at 11:30 a.m. at the Sacred Heart Parish Center. Reservations can be made by signing up in the back of church or call the parish office 347.7177. Meals will be served at the parish center ~ transportation will be provided if needed. Meals will be delivered to person *home-bound only*, so please include phone number when registering.

Scrip Cards will be sold after Masses for your holiday shopping ~ You can purchase in-stock SCRIP cards and/or place your order for additional cards. SCRIP cards will be sold every weekend from now until Christmas!! There are great gift ideas for everyone on your Christmas list. There's no better way to give back to Sacred Heart than to purchase SCRIP cards and enjoy easy, hassle-free shopping this holiday season!

National Night of Prayer for Life will be December 8-9 at St. Anthony's Memorial Hospital Chapel. Prayers will begin at 9:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 8, and will continue until 1:00 a.m. on December 9.

Cookie/Candy Exchange during the upcoming Sacred Heart Moms-N-More *morning group* meeting on Monday, December 14, in the lower level of the Church at 8:30 a.m.. Bring 3 dozen cookies or candies, your recipe, and a take-home container. We'll exchange goodies and you'll leave with a wide variety of cookies and candy for the upcoming holidays! If you have questions, please contact Christy at 217.347.7177.

Moms-N-More evening group will not have a meeting in December. The next meeting will take place on Thursday, January 14, at 6:30 p.m. at Joe Sippers. We'll get some organizing tips from guest speaker Peggy Clough of *Organize You*. See you there!

26th Annual F.A.C.E. Christmas Concert featuring The FACE Community Orchestra directed by Bev Marshall will be Sunday, December 6, at 2:00 p.m. at Cornerstone Christian Church. Come and enjoy an afternoon of Christmas music. Free admission.

Advent Evensong will be Sunday, December 13, at 4:00 p.m. at Holy Cross Church of Wendelin. A candlelight service with Scripture, organ, English carols, and Austrian Christmas music sung in German, by the Wendelin Kloepfen Singers.

Are you a visitor to Sacred Heart Church? Red visitor envelopes are furnished in the pews for your convenience. If you are not a registered member of Sacred Heart Church, but you're regularly attending our Masses, and/or making regular contributions, please feel free to use these envelopes. Registration forms are available in the back of church and can be downloaded from our website: www.sheff.org. If you have any questions, we invite you contact the Church office at 217.347.7177.

Parishioner Updates ~ Call Darlene at the parish office 217.347.7177 or e-mail any address, phone number or e-mail address changes to: shchurch@sheff.org. Thank you.

Tax Tips about IRA Distributions . . . "If you've reached the age of 70 1/2, you need to take required minimum distribution from your IRA. For the remainder of 2009, you can donate up to \$100,000 from your IRA directly to Sacred Heart Church and reap two benefits: First, the amount you donate escapes income reporting, which means it has no effect on the taxability of Social Security benefits and has no bearing on your itemized deductions or alternative minimum tax. Second, this particular charitable donation is not subject to the normal limitations as other donations are (the 50% of adjusted gross income limits.) Please see Mark at the parish office for more details.

Retirement Fund for Religious collection furnishes immediate support for aging religious and helps implement long-term retirement strategies. Please give generously.

Effingham Co. Right to Life Annual Whole Hog Sausage Breakfast will be Sunday, January 17, in the Teutopolis Grade School Auditorium. Volunteers are needed to set-up on Saturday and all day Sunday. Also, items for the Novelty Store and 25¢ mystery bags are welcome. If you can help, please call 857.3060.

Effingham Knights of Columbus . . .

- ❖ **Children's Christmas Party** will be Thursday, Dec. 10, at 6:00 p.m. with games and refreshments prior to Santa's arrival at 7:00 p.m.
 - ❖ **Adult Christmas Party** will be Sunday, Dec. 20, with a social hour from noon until 1:00 p.m. The meal will be at 1:00 p.m. with the Sawyer Brothers Band to play from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
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WEEKLY OFFERING ~ Nov. 28-29

	<u>Weekly Total</u>	<u>Total to Date</u>
Envelopes ~ 275	\$ 17,166.25	\$ 271,654.00
Loose	\$ 1,958.52	\$ 32,666.74
Children ~ 40	\$ 38.06	\$ 822.15
Adopt-A-Student	\$ 200.00	\$ 10,029.00
Total	\$ 19,362.83	\$ 315,171.89
Budget Goal	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 330,000.00
Difference	\$ 4,362.83	- \$ 14,828.11

Comparison to 1 Year Ago (YTD)

<i>Total YTD 2008-09 07-01-09 to 11-29-09</i>	<i>Total YTD 2007-08 07-01-08 to 11-30-08</i>	<i>Difference for YTD 07-08 to YTD 08-09</i>
\$ 315,171.89	\$ 279,500.96	+ \$ 35,670.93

~ Extra Collections for the Month of November ~

Human Development	\$ 147.00
Catholic Charities	\$ 130.00
Cemetery Fund	\$ 1,481.00
Bolivian Mission of Sister Ann Fearday	\$ 1,300.00
Sacred Heart F.A.C.E.	\$ 1,165.00
World Mission	\$ 85.00
Totals for November	\$ 4,308.00
Extreme Makeover	\$ 43,099.67

Youth Ministry Update . . .

The Sacred Heart High School Youth will be meeting Wednesday, December 9, from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in the lower level of the church. We will be discussing Eucharistic miracles, and those who are interested will have an opportunity to be trained as Ministers of Holy Communion.

March for Life Trip ~ The Sacred Heart High School Youth will be attending the National March for Life in Washington, D.C. January 21-23 with the Effingham Area Life Caravan. Any high school students interested in attending and any parents interested in helping chaperone the trip should contact Kate Pruemmer at 347.7177 or k.pruemer@sheff.org as soon as possible or by Monday, Dec. 21, at the latest. For more information and a registration form see the Youth Ministry bulletin board or the Youth Ministry link on the parish website.

Sponsor of the Week

Bauer Funeral Homes
Effingham ~ Teutopolis

SACRED HEART SCHOOL NEWS . . .

Special thanks to the Sacred Heart School Board and the many volunteers who helped to write the school's Long Range Plan. This tedious process has taken months of time and energy, and we are so appreciative to those who worked on the project. Having a Long Range Plan in place ensures that we're continually working to maintain a viable school.

Mark your calendars for the upcoming events:

First Reconciliation - December 6, 11:30 a.m. Mrs. O and our 2nd graders have been busy preparing their hearts for their first reconciliation. Please remember them in your prayers as they continue to grow spiritually in their Faith journey.

Vision and Hearing Screenings - December 7-9. Students in PreK-grade 3 will be tested.

Picture retakes - Dec. 10

Christmas Program - December 15, 6:30 p.m. in the SHS Gym. "The Legacy of Love," presented by our K-8 grade students, reminds us that Christmas is such a special time of family and traditions and warm memories. It is a chance to reflect on love, both past and present. It is the hope of Sacred Heart School that "The Legacy of Love" will celebrate the special people in our lives, as well as encourage children to see the value in leaving their own legacy of love and generosity to others. Christmas is the perfect time to focus on that legacy because the Heavenly Father's gift of the Son was the ultimate legacy of love. His is an eternal legacy - the gift of love and redemption. If we accept this gift of salvation, it will change us both inside and out.

Upward Basketball & Cheerleading ~ The Cornerstone Christian Church is offering Basketball and Cheerleading for students in Kindergarten thru Grade 6, Boys & Girls. The cost is \$60 per child and the deadline for registration is January 5. For more information, call Cary Storm (basketball) 217.246.6989 or Mindy Splechter (cheerleading) 217.663.5298.

Prayer List

Please pray for the sick and convalescing: Corky Bock, Lisa Crosson, Ava Gass, Leo & Helen Haarmann, Deanne Huey, Jeanie Meyers, Ada Mae Moran, Brian A. Niebrugge, Eileen Overbeck, Lynn Petty, Barb Sims, Larry Weber, Rebekah Volk, Judy Reardon, Jesse Ketteman, Melissa Fiscus, Tena Behrman, Larry Rhodes, Janet Knabe, Amanda Swan, Quade Aldrich, Mark Rogers, Doug Myers, Michael Platz, Cheryl Nuxoll, Jodi Waymoth, Mirta Donnelly, Evelyn Krone, Jeanie Knabe, Sylvan Bauer, Phyllis Stock, Charlie Meyers, Jackie Luchtefeld, Shannan Miner, Pat Kagay, Carolyn Koerner, Joyce Westjohn, Joyce Vahling, Kathy Smith, Jessica Rhodes, Nicholas Rhodes, Dorothy Levitt, Delbert Ritz, Mardell Weis, Adeline Bailey