



Around the Parish

OCTOBER 2019

BLUE ROSE

Why do I always have to be the one that starts to do laundry and there's no detergent? I guess it was time for me to do my "Dollar Store" run, which included light bulbs, paper towels, trash bags and Clorox. So off I go.

I scurried around the store, gathered up my goodies, and headed for the checkout counter only to be blocked in the narrow aisle by a young man that appeared to be about sixteen-years-old. I wasn't in a hurry, so I patiently waited for the boy to realize that I was there...

This was when he waved his hands excitedly in the air and declared in a loud voice, "Mommy, I'm over here."

It was obvious now, he was mentally challenged, and also startled as he turned and saw me standing so close to him, waiting to squeeze by. His eyes widened and surprise exploded on his face as I said, "Hey Buddy, what's your name?" "My name is Denny and I'm shopping with my mother," he responded proudly. "Wow," I said, "that's a cool name; I wish my name was Denny, but my name is Hal." "Hal like Halloween?" he asked. "Yes" I answered. "How old are you Denny?"

"How old am I now Mommy?" he asked his mother as she slowly came over from the next aisle. "You're fifteen-years-old Denny; now be a good boy and let the man pass by."

I acknowledged her and continued to talk to Denny for several more minutes about summer, bicycles and school. I watched his brown eyes dance with excitement because he was the center of someone's attention.

He then abruptly turned and headed toward the toy section.

Denny's mom had a puzzled look on her face and thanked me for taking the time to talk with her son. She told me that most people wouldn't even look at him, much less talk to him... I told her that it was my pleasure and then I said something I have no idea where it came from, other than by the prompting of the Holy Spirit.

I told her that there are plenty of red, yellow and pink roses in God's garden, however, "Blue Roses" are very rare and should be appreciated for their beauty and distinctiveness. You see, Denny is a "Blue Rose" and if someone doesn't stop and smell that rose with their heart and touch that rose with their kindness, then they've missed a blessing from God.

She was silent for a second, then with a tear in her eye she asked, "Who are you?" Without thinking I said, "Oh, I'm probably just a daffodil or maybe even a dandelion, but I sure love living in God's garden."

OCTOBER 2019 SHS FUNDRAISING NEWS

The Advancement Office is focusing on our 2019-2020 Annual Fund and is busily preparing for events associated with our Annual Fund, such as our Lead Gift event and “Giving Tuesday”. This year’s Annual Fund goal is \$115,000. Our students, faculty and staff depend on our Annual Fund for our operating budget. Please visit our website at www.sacredheartreading.com to donate online or to learn more about our Annual Fund. Our **SHOPS/scripts program** is also a very important way we generate revenue for our school. Families, friends and parishioners can purchase gift cards at face value through our program from participating retailers. Check out the bulletin board in the narthex of the church for detailed information about our SHOPS program or visit the SHOPS tab on our website.

Also, please be sure to **REGISTER YOUR GIANT BONUS CARD** and link it to SHS. Money is sent to our school by simply scanning your linked giant card when you check out at Giant! To link your bonus card, go to www.giantfoodstores.com/school-rewards/ - sign up or log in and then select “My Account” then “Manage My Account”, then “Rewards & Savings” to select our school. **Our school ID is 24256.**

Lastly, I’m proud to report our 3rd Annual Swing and A Prayer Golf Outing was a huge success!

Thank you to all sponsors, volunteers & golfers for your time, talent and treasures!

MAJOR EVENT SPONSOR:

Pat & Meg Shields

TOURNAMENT SPONSORS:

Berks Oral Surgery

Gerry & Kathy Blaum

Dr. Robert Brigham

The William Combs Family

The John Larkin Family

ROG

W. Bradford White, Jr. CIMA

ALBATROSS SPONSORS:

Dr. Bill Finneran

Mr. & Mrs. Jack Mancuso

Ralph & Kathy Nevel

Lou & Ann Sutherland



EAGLE SPONSORS:

Ken & Kathy Emkey

Msgr. Bornemann Council #16066

The Tucker Family

Sandy Sanders

Kuhn Funeral Home

BIRDIE SPONSORS

Anewalt’s Landscape Contracting

Chapman’s Deli

Gage Personnel

Russo’s Gourmet Foods & Market

Lloyd Wolf Memorial

World Electronics

Wyomissing Fitness

PATRON/CART SPONSORS

Tina Bruno

John Casey

Karen Horrigan

Steve Krupa

Matthew Miller

Gerry Williams

Questions? Please contact Beth Gasperack at (610) 685-2347 or bgasperack@sacredheartreading.org.

SENIORS NEWS

A Day of Recollection will be held on Monday, October 7th in the Wachter Room, conducted by our own Deacon Bill Kase. Deacon Kase will be exploring prayer. Don't miss this opportunity to be spiritually enriched in the company of friends. All are welcome and invited to attend.

OUR CONDOLENCES TO

The Kase Family on the death of:
Dr. James J. Kase
8-22-2019

The Miller Family on the death of:
Charles W. Miller
9-12-2019

SVDP SOUP KITCHEN

The weekend of **October 26th and 27th**, Sacred Heart Church Parishioners have our twice a year duty and opportunity to volunteer to serve brunch/ lunch to those in need at the Kennedy House in Reading.

Time: from 10 AM to 1 PM, both days
Kennedy House Address: 532 Spruce St, Reading

We regularly serve 150 - 200 people per day. Come be a part of this fulfilling experience; helping your fellow man and working with others to get the detail done. Spots (usually 15 volunteers is what we look for) often go quickly so contact Jim Tucker at jet999@comcast.com or (610) 781-7940 to sign up. ***Please Note: All volunteers must be fully vetted to be able to volunteer at the Soup Kitchen.***

SACRED HEART SCHOOL NEWS

It's a wonderful new school year as Sacred Heart School! We continue our 100th year with increased enrollment, new faculty members and a calendar full of exciting events. If you'd like to volunteer at the school, please check the volunteer tab on our website, www.sacredheartreading.com. We will be holding a Protecting God's Children Workshop on Sunday, October 13th at 1:00 PM in the IHM Room. Please register with Gina Focht at (610) 373-3316. Registration is limited to 40.

We'd love to have you join us at school Masses. Upcoming school Masses will be: in October, October 4th and October 17th. In November, on the 1st and the 13th. School Masses are in church at 8:30. Come celebrate with us!

This year we are recognizing, exploring and celebrating the gifts of the Holy Spirit with our students each month. In September, that gift was JOY. In October, it is SELF CONTROL (a challenging one for our students during the month of candy!) It is our hope that you will join us in our prayers and devotions, join us at Mass if you can, and continue to pray for our students, families and faculty, as we do for you.

Submitted by: Kathy Napolitano, Principal

LIFE CHAIN 2019

All parishioners are invited to join the Life Chain on Sunday, October 6th, from 2:00 to 3:30 PM. Life Chain is a prayerful, peaceful public event, where we celebrate God's gift of life, from conception to natural death, with other members of our community at large, and to pray for the end of abortion. We will meet behind the Church in the parking

lot at 1:30 PM to get signs and pray together, and then take our places along Penn Avenue. Please feel free to bring a chair if you are unable to stand for the entire event. Call Stephanie Giles (610) 374-8545 for more information. Thank you for all you do for life!

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD DRIVE
SVDP
November 9th/10th**

Please join us in helping our friends at St. Joseph's Food Pantry by donating canned or boxed goods, November 9th and November 10th. Suggested items include: canned fruits and vegetables, pasta, pasta sauce, rice, cereal, soup, canned fish, and instant potatoes. Monetary donations dropped in the Red Bucket are welcome and appreciated.

All donations must be sealed and have a valid expiration date. Members of Sacred Heart St. Vincent de Paul Society will be accepting donations curbside at the main entrance of the Church before and after all Masses on Nov. 3 and Nov. 4, 2018.

Thank you for helping us to help our neighbors!

SHS ENROLLMENT NEWS

This year we welcomed 50 new students from 31 NEW families to our Pre-K - 8th Grade classrooms and embraced them into our Sacred Heart family. We've had an overwhelming response to our outstanding Pre-K program as it is now filled for our 2019-2020 school year. We are accepting waiting list requests for Pre-K and still accepting applications for grades Kindergarten to 7th grade.

If you know someone with school aged children, please encourage them to visit www.sacredheartreading.com/new_student_admissions or contact me at bgasperack@sacredheartreading.org, or call (610) 685-2347 for more information. A Sacred Heart education is priceless and more affordable than some imagine.



Sacred Heart Church and Holy Rosary Church will be hosting the extraordinary and impactful visual exhibit of the "*Eucharistic Miracles of the World*" on the weekends of September 28th/29th in the gym at Sacred Heart School, and October 5th/6th in the basement meeting room at Holy Rosary Church.

Read about the Eucharistic Miracles that have transpired through the years, first observed during Mass in Lanciano, Italy in 750AD! Learn about the various scientific and medical tests and studies performed in numerous countries that all point to the same divine conclusion. The exhibit consists of 160 poster-sized pictorial articles arranged alphabetically by the country in which the miracles occurred. Come, spend as much time as you can. The exhibits will be open on both Saturdays from 3:30 PM to 7:30 PM, and both Sundays from 8 AM to 2 PM.

Sponsored by the Real Presence Eucharistic Education and Adoration Association, (therealpresence.org) and coordinated by our own Monsignor

Bornemann Knights Council. Please make every attempt to visit this powerful exhibit. There is no cost to attend these events, but a Free-will offering will be graciously accepted to benefit the continuation of this display as it ventures around the world.

October Activities:

- 10/3 Planning Meeting
7 PM
IHM Room
- 10/5 Eucharistic Miracles of the World
3:30 to 7:30 PM
Holy Rosary - Lower Level
- 10/6 Eucharistic Miracles of the World
8 AM to 2 PM
Holy Rosary - Lower Level
- 10/17 Rosary & General Meeting
Anniversary Celebration
6:30 PM
IHM Room
- 10/19 Bornemann Knights 5th Anniversary
- 10/23 First Degree Exemplification
7 PM
IHM Room

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 Membership Committee Chair Bill Fatora at (484) 855-9478.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

At 9:30 AM Mass on Sunday children, ages 4 to 4th grade are invited to participate in the Children's Liturgy. They are called to the front of the Church after the opening prayer and led to the Chapel where they will hear the same Liturgy of the Word as the congregation but on a level that is more understandable to them. This is led by

either a Deacon or a parent volunteer. Parents and siblings of this age group are welcome to attend as well. They return to the Church at the offertory and rejoin their families at that time. This is a great way for your children to appreciate the Liturgy of the Word.

**PLEASE WELCOME
OUR NEW MEMBERS**

**Maria Hinojosa and her daughters
Margarita Blanca & SylviaJane
Rosemarie**

**7TH ANNUAL HOLY ROSARY
SPAGHETTI DINNER**

Will be held on Wednesday, October 9th at Victor Emmanuel II from 4:30 to 7 PM. Dinner includes: Spaghetti and Meatballs, Salad, Bread and Butter. Cash Bar Homemade Baked Goods will be on sale. Tickets are \$10 for Adults and \$7 for Children. Tickets can be purchased in the Sacred Heart Rectory during normal business hours or call Linette Razzano (610) 202-9846, or Christine Lichman (610) 334-1208. Everyone is invited to attend. Take Out dinners will also be available.

SHRINE VOTIVE OFFERINGS

Anyone wishing to have a candle or candles burn at the shrines to St. Joseph or the Blessed Virgin Mary as a memorial or special intention for any particular Sunday/week, contact the office (610) 372-4010. The usual offering for the memorial candle is \$5.00. There are many weekends open.



BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

To celebrate the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi on Friday, October 4th, Monsignor DeSantis and/or Father Hutta will confer a blessing on animals at 6:30 PM outside the front of the Church.

HOMEBOUND & NURSING HOME PARISHIONERS

If you are aware of someone from our parish that we may not be aware of who is homebound or in a nursing home or assisted living facility, please take a moment and call the rectory (610) 372-4010. We are trying to keep our lists current and would like to know if we are missing anyone. A home visit can be arranged and visits to our nursing home, assisted living and homebound parishioners take place regularly and whenever needed.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

This ministry, which is sponsored by the St. Vincent de Paul Society and ably manned by the Parish Knitters and Crocheters, knits mantels of healing for those in nursing homes and assisted living facilities, those who are homebound, and those people in our parish who are experiencing pain,

sorrow, personal problems, loneliness or simply can't be with us for worship. Each shawl sends the message that the recipient has been prayed for and that the mantle is a token of love and concern from Sacred Heart Parish. Recipients can wrap the shawls around them knowing they are also being wrapped in prayers for God's presence and healing.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION



Every Tuesday the real presence of Jesus is in the Church/Chapel for the entire day beginning after 8 AM Mass till 10 PM. Please take time from your busy schedule to spend an hour or a half hour with Jesus. Many blessings have been received and prayers answered after time was spent in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. If you can commit one hour or ½ hour a week or once a month, your presence would be greatly appreciated. Please prayerfully consider sharing your time with our Lord. If you would like more information, please call Bonnie Batdorf at (610) 372-4010.

Bishop Alfred A. Schlert will confer the Sacrament of Confirmation here at Sacred Heart on Thursday, November 21st at 4:30 PM.

OCTOBER 2018 EVENTS

- 1 Parish Council – 7 PM - Wachter
- 3 Bible Sharing – 9:30 AM – Bornemann
RCIA – 7 PM - Bornemann
- 4 Knitters & Crocheters – 1 PM – Bornemann
Blessing of the Animals – 6:30 PM – Church Grounds
- 7 Coffee & Donuts – 10 AM – Wachter
- 8 Seniors Day of Recollection – 1 PM - Wachter
SVPD – 7 PM – Wachter
- 10 Bible Sharing – 9:30 AM – Bornemann
RCIA – 7 PM – Bornemann
Knitters & Crocheters – 1 PM – Bornemann
- 11 WINE – 7 PM – Wachter
- 17 Bible Sharing – 9:30 AM – Bornemann
Liturgy Committee – 7 PM – Wachter
RCIA – 7 PM - Bornemann
Baptism Class – 7 PM – Chapel
- 18 Knitters & Crocheters – 1 PM – Bornemann
- 21 Coffee & Donuts – 10 AM – Wachter
Third Order Carmelites – 1 PM – Chapel & Wachter
- 22 Newsletter Mailing – 8:30 AM – Wachter
- 24 Bible Sharing – 9:30 AM – Bornemann
RCIA – 7 PM - Bornemann
- 25 Knitters & Crocheters – 1 PM – Bornemann
WINE – 7 PM – Wachter
- 31 **HAPPY HALLOWEEN!**
Bible Sharing – 9:30 AM – Bornemann
RCIA – 7 PM - Bornemann