Celebrating the triduum

By Mary Kay Head

The summit of the Liturgical Year is the Easter Triduum—from the evening of Holy Thursday to the evening of Easter Sunday. Though chronologically three days, they are liturgically one day unfolding for us the unity of Christ’s Paschal Mystery.

The single celebration of the Triduum marks the end of the Lenten season, and leads to the Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord at the Easter Vigil. The liturgical services that take place during the Triduum are: Mass of the Lord’s Supper; Good Friday of the Lord’s Passion; and Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord.

Holy Thursday is filled with customs and rituals. Originally no Eucharist was celebrated during the week before Easter, but by the fourth century some areas began to celebrate Jesus’ Last Supper on Thursday with a Cena Domini (Supper of the Lord). During the Middle Ages Christians rang bells throughout the service, then silenced all bells until Easter. Today bells are often rung during the Glory to God on Holy Thursday. The day was also known as “Maundy” Thursday, which comes from the Latin mandatum (commandment), referring to Jesus’ commandment to “love one another.” Foot-washing, according to Jesus’ example, symbolized His love and service. Jesus’ giving himself as food and drink as well as the washing of feet point us to our serving ministries in the Church and in the world.

Good Friday is the only day of the year on which Mass is not celebrated. The altar is bare, without cloths, candles or cross. The liturgy consists of the reading of Jesus’ suffering and death from John’s gospel, praying the general intercessions, the veneration of the cross, and a communion service. It is a day to meditate on the Sta...

Continued on page 5

Sacred Heart parishioners participate in the Veneration of the Cross on Good Friday.

Join the celebration; Pentecost is June 8, 9

By Pat Gerke

Have you ever wondered why we celebrate Pentecost and what it’s about? I learned as a child that it was when the Holy Spirit came to the Apostles after the Ascension, but I went to the internet for more answers and here is what I found:

Their reception of the Holy Spirit in the Upper Room is recounted in Acts 2:1–6:

The Coming of the Holy Spirit

1 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. 2 And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like the rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. 3 And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, distributed and resting on each one of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

5 Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. 6 And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in his own language.

Image by Sebastiano Jervolino from Pixabay

We are so blessed at Sacred Heart Church to have a multicultural parish. I don’t know the exact demographics of our parish, but Pentecost makes the perfect time for celebrating our diversity here at Sacred Heart.

Did you know that Pentecost is also consid-

ered the birthday of the Church?

For Christians, Pentecost is a holy day on which we commemorate the coming of the Holy Spirit on the early followers of Jesus. And before the events of the first Pentecost, which came 50 days after Jesus’ resurrection, there were followers of Jesus, but no movement that could be meaningfully called “the church”. From an historical point of view, Pentecost is the day on which the church was started. This is also true from a spiritual perspective, since the Spirit brings the church into existence and enlivens it. Thus, Pentecost is the church’s birthday.

What might God want us to do in our lives and in our churches on Pentecost? Celebrate, of course! We are the church, and if it’s our spiritual birthday, we should celebrate. So, a festival is being planned!

Our main celebration that weekend will be a multicultural celebration held on Saturday, June 8 at the 4:30 p.m. Mass, with all our various choirs participating and readings in many languages. There will also be a festival in the

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Birthdays

May 1  
Liam Boss, Doris Crites, Patrick Kelly, Ruben Ramirez, Delaney St. Omer

May 2  
Carly Bowman, Jeanne Szolkka

May 3  
Kyle Richardson, Carmen Slattery, Collin Westbrook

May 4  
Rachel Alvarez, Amy Anderson, Bart Cuddihy-Barner, Mary Moore, Julian Ramos, John Singh, Carolyn Steinmetz, Lizbeth Vazquez

May 5  
Ellise Best, Roman Timmerman, Theresa Timmerman, Erik Uribe, Jeannette Uribe-Hdez

May 6  
Jack Baugher, Raelene Head, Sarah Hodapp, Steve Pratte, Anthony Uribe, Dan Westbrook

May 7  
Darleen Bell-Mayfield, Ann Devoy, Apolinaria Herrera, Altogracia Sontos

May 8  
Cheryl Johnson, Annalynn Ortiz

May 9  
Jacob Clark, Devin Duran, Merryn Kosiara, Seth Schelich

May 10  
Amanda Anderson, Rodrigo Chaddad, Sandra Garcia, Martin Mendez, Mireya Murrieta, Nery Ortega, Richard Troth

May 11  
Augustus Grellner, Mary Kovarik, Juan Lopez-Valdivia, Charles Ochoa, David Whelan

May 12  
Timothy Mayhan, Michael Meyers, Susan Schaefer

May 13  
Justin Borgmann, Arthur Clark, Grace Fisher, Madelynn Harvey, Annette Klobiger

May 15  
Andria Burns, Alexandra Cadwell, Michelle Cokerham, Rush Holbrook, Kathleen Pitzer, Marigrace Powers, Jordan Rapoff, Vanessa Rogel

May 16  
Robert Borst, Freddy Ocampo, Tim Opitz-Abramovitz

May 17  
Alexander Baldovinos, Dionne Bates, Bronson Evan, Nicole Nelson, Angie Priesmeyer, Alejandro Rogel

May 18  
Elsa Dickerson, James Evans, Greta Frymire, Allen Moss, Emma Schulz

May 19  
Dennis Bernhardt, Douglas Whithworth

May 20  
Amira Beck, John Brothers, Sr. Francine Koehler, Laura Korte, Marcus Wade

May 21  
Erika Fitch, Jeffrey Freeman, Charlotte Ortiz

May 22  
Gerard Hoke, Mathias Miller, Ivan Ocampo, Deanna Thies, William Vrandan

May 23  
Braeden Kahl, Norma Mendoza, Jacob Pilger

May 24  
Megan Kelley, Emily Mayhan, Andrew Vrandan

May 25  
Judy Bryant, Carlos Delgado, Louis Holbrook, George Nickolaus, Connie Sutter

May 26  
Frank Cunningham, Natalie Duncan, William Robinson, Pat Turner, Amanda Wiley

May 27  
Alex Labrunerie, Bulus Mayom, Alfred Pinho, Marcha Sarrazin

May 28  
Paula Bequette, Reece Borst, Ann Doherty, Christine Harvey, Robby Lammers, Pedro Meza, Raymond St Omer, Baiju Tuwambwe, Daniel Widhalm, Joshua Womack

May 29  
Julia Mendez, Kevin Politte, John Shrum, Ireland Watson

May 30  
Finn Even, Justin Rapoff, Jacqueline Valdivinos

May 31  
Joyce Holland

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Eternal Rest

Alvin F. Bietsch, 91, of Belleville, IL, was born July 7, 1927, in Ruma, IL. He died Monday, April 15, 2019, at St. Elizabeth’s Hospital, O’Fallon, IL.

Mr. Bietsch retired as a member of the Sheet Metal Workers Union and served as President of the Union Local #268 Retirees Club. After retirement, Al thoroughly enjoyed working at George Renner & Sons Funeral Home for 20 years. He was an avid euchre player, loved gardening, and was an excellent handyman who could fix anything.

Al was a member of St. Teresa Catholic Church in Belleville, IL, was an usher at the church, and was a member of the Knights of Columbus Council 1028. He was a U. S. Air Force veteran.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Walter and Mary, nee Scherle, Bietsch; and one brother, Russell Bietsch. Surviving are his wife of 66 years, Pauline L. (Schmidt) Bietsch; two daughters, Janet (Norman) Joellenbeck of Red Bud, IL, and Donna Bietsch of Belleville, IL; two sons, Michael (Debbie) Bietsch of Columbia, MO, and Ronald (Julie) Bietsch of Scottsdale, AZ; five grandchildren, Matthew (Kati) Bietsch, Kristin (Breanna) Bietsch, Andrew (Julia) Bietsch, Lori Bietsch, and Tyler Bietsch; three great-grandchildren, Abrielle Bietsch, Henry Bietsch, and Luke Bietsch; a sister-in-law, Darleen Bietsch; many nieces and nephews; and cousins.

Memorials may be made to the St. Vincent DePaul Society, or in the form of Masses. Condolences may be expressed to the family online at www.rennerfh.com.

Visitation was held from 4 to 8 p.m. Friday, April 19, 2019, and from 9 to 10 a.m. Saturday, April 20, 2019, at George Renner & Sons Funeral Home, Belleville, IL. Funeral services were held at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 20, 2019, at George Renner & Sons Funeral Home, Belleville, IL, with Msgr. David Darin officiating. Burial with military honors was at Lake View Memorial Gardens, Fairview Heights, IL.

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Pentecost

Continued from page 1

We are in the planning stages and we need people to participate with music, dancing and food tastings from around the world.

If you, or someone you know, would like to participate in the celebration at the festival by singing, playing music, dancing or preparing and sharing food from your country, WE NEED YOU. Please contact Sister Francine or Chris Vitt in the parish office or email me at: patgerke@gmail.com.

We hope you will plan to participate and get the chance to meet and speak with our fellow parishioners from around the world.

AND DON’T FORGET TO WEAR RED TO THE CELEBRATION!!

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Heart of the Matter
Sacred Heart Parish, Columbia, MO
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Layout Editor: Katherine Cummins
Send comments to: jhead2403@aol.com
or 105 Waugh St., Columbia, MO 65201
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Sacred Heart Catholic Community Foundation
To Be An Angel Forever
Write to: The Foundation
PO Box 10263, Columbia, MO 65205-1263

Perpetuating Our Faith
Meeting the long-term purposes of our parish
An exciting second year for Sacred Heart community garden

By Johanna Bishop

The garden had its first birthday this March 2019, and we have already come a long way!

We had a challenging cold wet spring last year. Plants were a bit stubborn about starting to grow, but as the season wore on, we learned some things, and had increasing success.

This ministry was born of the goal to help feed those in need in our community through the work of our hearts and hands. Additionally, we wanted to demonstrate urban gardening opportunities - ways folks with small, and non-standard gardening spaces might grow a bit of fresh food with their own hands. A raised bed 4x4 square foot garden, once a person learns the management tricks, can keep something fresh from the garden on your dinner plate for a garden season.

We are still learning and developing tools to aid in team communication and crop planning. Last season we offered about 45 bags of fresh vegetables to our community members, with garden high season in July and August resulting in some beautiful produce. To help folks know what is going on, we have started a communication system. On our tallest garden bed, there is now a mailbox. Inside you will find some bed maps, planting guides, and a note book. When you visit, sign in on the notebook with the date and your name. The notebook can be used to list any chores you did, and note any chores that need to be done. When our next visitor comes, they can see the tasks that need to be done, and pitch in. If you do, draw a line to cross out any chore that you did, and if there is something you noticed – add that to the list. Any comments or suggestions are welcome.

We are already well into this season’s launch. We will be using “Square Foot Gardening” techniques to use every bit of the raised bed space to grow fresh vegetables. Last year we tried potato growing in burlap sacks with some success. This year we added five wire rings to space to grow fresh vegetables. Last year we tried potato growing in burlap sacks with some success. This year we added five wire rings to (the center block bed) planted from one small plant donated last year. This spring that bed is about half full of healthy plants. We hope for lots of juicy berries in June.

In addition to soil improvement efforts last fall, we have started to install a drip irrigation system this spring. We hope to add some timers to improve watering regularity. In order to reuse waste plant matter for soil improvement, we are composting plant parts we don’t eat.

Spring is a great time for gardeners and not just vegetables, but some real friendships have grown among beds at Sacred Heart over this past year. A formal Garden Angel ministry has begun, working not just on the community garden, but also working to enhance the beauty of our church campus by caring for landscaping around our buildings.

The Garden Angels will also be taking some trips and other activities to build our community and our skills. We would love for you to stop by for a look any time. Even better – get involved!

If you would like to, there are many ways to help. You can join as a regular garden worker, help with a particular project on campus, or drop by when you have some free time. If time is tight, but you want to help, you can donate a pack of seeds, bag of soil, a spare plant, seedlings from your own garden or any other gardening thing – all our materials have been donated by church members, so support has been great!

Specific needs for the 2019 season:

Up to 10 bags of raised bed garden soil or top soil - We will use this now to work with the potato rings, and then use it to fill the southern

Knights of Columbus Council 14414

The Sacred Heart Knights of Columbus Council #14414 held our social meeting April 3 by providing soups for the Lenten Soup Supper at Sacred Heart. Our business meeting was held April 17 in the Education Building. Our Council hosted degree ceremonies in the Education Building April 7. In the past month, the Handyman Ministry has done yard work and small home repairs for several parishioners, raising $255 to support Sacred Heart Parish.

Coming Up

May 3 Vocations Dinner at 1529 KC Hall honoring our local religious leaders, 6 p.m.
May 4 Landscaping work day at church with the Garden Angels, 7:30 a.m. Bring tools.
May 4 Deacon Ordination, St. Joseph Cathedral, Jefferson City, 10 a.m.
May 15 Pre-meeting dinner, 6 p.m.; Business meeting, 7 p.m.
May 19 Pancake Breakfast after the 8:30 a.m. Mass. (Proceeds will go to support the Sacred Heart PSR program.)

For information or to join Council 14414, contact Dave Rapoff (573/864-1068; davidr@cmcnf.com) or Steve Sutter (573/489-6001; steves42868@gmail.com).

Calling all graduates!

Do you have a son, daughter, niece, nephew or other relative who is graduating this Spring? If so we’d like to highlight them in Heart of the Matter. Just send a photo of the graduate, provide their name, where they are graduating from and what their future plans are. They may be going on to high school, college, grad school or a job. Any further information you would like to share would be appreciated. Just email the photo and info to jhead2403@aol.com, or you may drop it off at the parish office. Our graduates deserve recognition for a job well done, and we’d like to help with that.

Knights of Columbus Council 14414 Handyman Ministry

If you need help with projects around the home or in the yard, call Rick Clawson at (573) 491-3399 or email rlclawson1950@gmail.com

Payment is not required, but donations are accepted by the council and are used to support the parish.

Join us!

Catholic gentlemen 18 years and older are invited to join the Knights of Columbus, Sacred Heart Council 14414. The Knights stand for the four principles of our Order: Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism. If you want to be of service to your church and community, please consider the Knights.

For more information, contact:
Steve Sutter - (573) 474-6227 or steves42868@gmail.com
Dave Rapoff - (573) 864-1068 or davidr@cmcnf.com
Parish School of Religion News

By Keith Miller

This year’s 7th & 8th grade class is a mix of kids from around Columbia with backgrounds that extend the cultural experience from around the world. The students include Ally Bertrand, Christina Cox, Ben Dickerson, Brandon Hernandez, and Mcumbozi Dhenyi pictured. Not in photo, but active in the class are Jack Keene, Byatanga Kashindi, Mary Gardner and Emma Grus.

Taught by Bryan Mayhan and Keith Miller, the focus of the class is to complete the student’s middle school religious education and prepare the kids for life in a tri-parish student community.

The basis of each class is the weekly Gospel readings, supplemented by Pflaum Gospel Weeklies Formation Program and the Catechism of the Catholic Church. We read the Gospel and tell the background stories that surrounded or led up to the events discussed. The Bible along with an understanding of the importance of the Love and Forgiveness shown by the Father and his Son to his children are reviewed as well as Bible study and breakfast every other Friday. It will be a wonderful way to build Life Teen into a stronger community, and it also is a good reminder that God wants to be in relationship with us all the time. Our first event is a picnic on June 1st at noon in Newman’s courtyard - please join us! Find our summer schedule on our Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter accounts!

All of our work in preparation for Confirmation is over. All that is left is for our students to receive the Sacrament on May 11! If you’re able to, consider joining us for the Confirmation Mass at Newman at 5 p.m. on May 11 to support our students. Please keep praying for them that they may be open to receiving the Holy Spirit more fully and that they may use this time to become more faithful disciples of Jesus. Next year we are accepting both juniors and sophomores for Confirmation - look out for registration in late July.

Life Teen News

By Tyler Peterson

Life Teen had a phenomenal end to the semester! Luke 18 was at the beginning of April, and it went really well. Our high schoolers who gave talks and led the small groups did a great job, and our Lukers (the 8th and 9th graders) responded quite well and are slowly learning who Jesus is through them.

We had our last Life Night of the semester in mid-April, and we invited the 8th graders to join us, and 15 of them came! It was a little chaotic but we all had a lot of fun. I am so excited that they are now officially part of Life Teen!

Also, Life Teen is having summer events this year! We will be having a couple miscellaneous service/social type events as well as bible study and breakfast every other Friday. It will be a wonderful way to build Life Teen into a stronger community, and it also is a good reminder that God wants to be in relationship with us all the time. Our first event is a picnic on June 1st at noon in Newman’s courtyard - please join us! Find our summer schedule on our Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter accounts!

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Continuing the spiritual journey

Easter promise

By E. Jane Rutter

Early Thursday I drove home in a thick fog. At two in the morning there were no other cars on the highway; a fact that plunged me into the surreal feeling of being an unsuspecting victim in a scene from a horror movie. The scene where we all scream “don’t go there” as she tiptoes down a dark hallway where we know danger lurks. Honestly, what person in real life is stupid enough not to run in the opposite direction?

Even the disciples ran and hid after Jesus was crucified. Eyewitnesses to the cross and the crypt, they knew their fate if recognized as one of his followers. Paralyzed by the fear of persecution and death, they couldn’t hold on to God’s promise to Joshua to “Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.” (Joshua 1:9) Witnesses to horror, they doubted.

They couldn’t hold on to the previous week’s high of adorers chanting “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.” (Matthew 21:9) They couldn’t see through the fog of fear to understand their Master as the Promise of salvation; rather, they slunk away from the scene like “scared rabbits.” (Kreeft, Handbook of Catholic Apologetics, 1994)

Like the disciples, we too retreat in fear of the challenges that our faith places on us. Two thousand plus years of prophets, stories and a tomb are not enough to convince us to follow Christ. We need to know Him as God, to know Him as I Am, just as the disciples found that Easter season when the risen Christ appeared to them.

“Afterward, they were transformed from scared rabbits into confident saints, world-changing missionaries, courageous martyrs and joy-filled touring ambassadors for Christ.” (Ibid)

No longer did the world’s convention hold them back from living the truth of Christ. They did not relegate the risen Christ to the Sabbath or the Temple or behind locked doors where it was safe. Healing, teaching and proclaiming the promise of eternal life became their mission. They faced the sorrow of rejection, the fear of death and the joy of a community of believers.

How does Christ risen resonate with us today? Christ invites us; He calls us to be His missionaries, martyrs and ambassadors. He gives us His strength and joy through the Eucharist, the Holy Spirit and our

Continued on page 8
For Sacred Heart Youth

“Amen I say to you, whoever does not accept the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it.” (Mark 10:13)

Someone sneezes in church… and you wish you had your alcohol sanitizer! You are willing to share your little sister’s Easter candy… but you steer clear when she has the flu. Can you imagine walking into a hospital full of people with a disease that is killing them all…20 people a day… and volunteering to help? That is just what St. Bernardine did when he was 20. Then he spent several years just taking care of his aunt until she died. Her death left him undecided about his future.

How many times do you (or your parents) say a bad (cuss) word in a day? Did you try to give that up for Lent? Giving cussing up for Lent would have been easy with St. Bernardine around. He hated bad words… legend says he would even get embarrassed and blush when he heard people cussing when he was young! Later as a man, he was known to slap people who cussed at him. It is no surprise that someone like that would come to be known for being a great preacher! St. Bernardine was really good at helping people stop sinning, not because they knew sinning was bad, but because he helped them love Jesus so much, they didn’t want to hurt him.

As we look back on Easter of 2019, are we still working on giving up our sins or “favorite things” for the love of Jesus? Or have we returned to some habits or behaviors we tried to give up for Lent? Think of St. Bernardine, his sacrifice to help sick people, and his willingness to encourage people to speak kindly, just as Jesus did. His feast day is May 20.

(Sarah Eber assembled materials for this page.)

Triduum

Continued from page 1

tions of the Cross and the words of Jesus as he hung dying for our salvation.

How many of the people who just a few days earlier cried, “Hosanna!” were now crying, ‘Crucify him, crucify him.’ Would we have been in that crowd? Would we have said, “Surely it is not I, Lord.” But who among us is without sin?

And finally, the Easter Vigil! This is when the paschal candle is lit from a new fire and carried into a darkened church as “Christ our light” is proclaimed three times. The ancient chant, the Exultet, rejoices at the present reality of God’s deliverance and the blessings of salvation through the Passover of Christ. “O truly blessed night, when things of heaven are wed to those of earth and divine to the human” opens this chant as we recall how God’s love overcame the finality of death.

This special service is when the Church receives new members, when those who have been preparing are baptized and those already baptized make a profession of faith, joining together with Catholics the world over to give thanks and praise to God. The newly initiated were also Confirmed in the Spirit and receive Holy Communion for the first time.

This year Sacred Heart welcomed Jerod Yates into the Catholic faith. Let us rejoice and be glad in the work of the Spirit seen through this new member.

Sarah Eber assembled materials for this page.

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Language program to offer citizenship classes

By Pat Gerke

The Sacred Heart Language Program will offer a free class to help anyone eligible to become a U.S. Citizen. This class will be held twice a week on Tuesday & Thursday evenings from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. The deadline to register is June 1, 2019. The first day of class is June 11, 2019.

There is currently a literacy class being held on Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m. in Room 201 to prepare for the Citizenship Course.

The course is designed to help prepare adult immigrants at the low or beginning ELL level to successfully complete the naturalization process. This preparation includes developing English language skills and civics content knowledge as well as assistance in filing the form N-400 and preparing for the naturalization interview. Students will build knowledge and skills through instructional activities and can expect to be reading, writing and speaking in English in every class.

Who is eligible to apply for Citizenship?

- You must meet the following general eligibility requirements to apply for naturalization and become a U.S. Citizen:
  - You must be at least 18 years of age at the time you file the application.
  - You must have been a lawful permanent resident for the past three years, or five years, depending on the provision of law under which you are eligible to naturalize.
  - You can demonstrate continuous residence and physical presence in the United States.
  - You must be able to read, write and speak basic English.
  - You demonstrate good moral character.
  - You can demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of Civics, U.S. History and Government.
  - You are willing to take the Oath of Allegiance.

Anyone wishing to sign up for this course of study should come to Room 201 in the Education Building on Tuesdays at 6:00 pm. Students must be able to commit to the entire 15-week session. Space is limited, students are currently being enrolled.
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Parish Celebrations

Five students celebrate First Communion

Sunday, April 28, 2019, will be remembered as a very special day for five students. That was the day they received First Communion at the 11 a.m. Mass at Sacred Heart.

(Left) Yuliya Fedorak with her parents Maryna Fedorak and Matthew Hibdon. (Center) Ashly Arias Alvarez with her parents Eugenia and Aurelio Alvarez. (Right) Bruce Holbrook with his parents Christopher and Kesi Holbrook.

(Left) Caloan Scroggins with his parents Craig and Heather Scroggins. (Right) Tessa Lee with her parents Terese Zidon and Jason Lee.

Community garden

Continued from page 3

most garden bed for future wild flower planting
2 packets of pole beans or bush beans seeds
5-6 tomato plants – variety would be nice, but any will do
zucchini starts 2-3
Melon seeds – any kind
1 pack radish seeds
Cucumber starts 6-12
Broccoli starts 6-12
Cabbage starts 6-12
Hot Pepper plants 3-6

For more information: Johanna Bishop at Johanna.bishop11@yahoo.com or Susan Stolwyk at S.Stolwyk@gmail.com

Summer Tutors & Drivers Needed

The Sacred Heart Language Program is looking for some extra Tutors and Drivers to fill in over the Summer while college students are gone.

If you are willing to help out from May through August, please contact: Pat Gerke at patgerke@gmail.com

THANK YOU!
Wit and Wisdom from G. K. Chesterton

Easter promise
Continued from page 4

Communities of faith. He promises to share our burdens for this short life and reward us with eternal life. Can we see through the fog to accept His loving gift?

“‘The Church is justified, not because her children do not sin, but because they do.’ — The Everlasting Man

“In human affairs, unfortunately, the warning, ‘Repent, before it is too late,’ is hardly uttered until it is too late.” — Illustrated London News, July 29, 1933

“We have lost the idea of repentance; especially in public things.” — A Miscellany of Men

“If we boast of our best, we must repent of our worst.” — New York American, Sept. 3, 1932

These were my thoughts on my early morning trek home. I made it through the 23 miles of soupy fog without incidence, relieved to turn into the driveway and see that David had the outdoor lights on to welcome me home. I truly felt guided to the Light!

And so I pray: Lord, give us the courage and humility to walk your path despite its twists and turns. Fill us with the Holy Spirit to navigate through this earthly fog and do your will.

Mission Statement

The mission of Heart of the Matter is to be a communication tool for Sacred Heart Parish. It is our goal to inform, to instruct, to evangelize, and at times, to amuse readers. We rely on God’s grace and on the efforts of many volunteers to fulfill this mission. Heart of the Matter is published monthly by Sacred Heart Church, Columbia, MO.

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