

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH

Parish Staff:

Rev. Fr. Tom Kuffel, Pastor
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Parish Office Hours
 Tues. – Thur. 9:00AM - 3:00PM

Heart of the Plains Cemetery
 Linda Epple
 970-347-7597

Religious Education
 Deacon Ed Green (SH)
 Christina Workman (HF)

9.13.2026

Twenty-fourth Sunday

Parish Information

Mass Times

Saturday: 5:00 PM Holy Family
Sunday: 8:00 AM SH; 10:30 AM HF; 12 PM HF Spanish
Tues: 6:00 PM SH preceded by Adoration & Confessions
Wed - Fri: 8:30 AM Sacred Heart
First Saturday of each Month: 8:30 AM Holy Family

Confessions

30 minutes before Weekend and Weekday Masses
Tuesday: 5:00 - 6:00 PM at Sacred Heart
Or by appointment

Baptism: Call Deacon Ed Green 720-550-0356.

Marriage: Call six months prior to wedding date.

Status of Operating Fund

(July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027)	Sacred Heart		Holy Family	
Weekly Budgeted (Sep 6)	\$2,307.69	\$240.38	\$1,538.46	\$67.30
Actual Collection	\$1,575.00	\$177.00	\$1,024.00	\$20.00
Over/<Under> Weekly Budget	(\$732.69)	\$73.38	(\$514.46)	(\$47.30)
Year-to-Date Budgeted	\$23,076.90	Capitol	\$15,384.60	Capitol
Year-to-Date Actual Collections	\$16,361.00	Funds	\$13,460.75	Funds
Over/<Under> Yearly Budget	(\$6,715.90)		(\$1,923.85)	
Expenses Budgeted for the year	\$29,138.50		\$22,032.70	
Expenses for the year to date	\$28,764.22		\$23,473.71	
Over/<Under> Yearly Budget	(\$374.28)		\$1,441.01	

Wrath, Resentment, and Ridicule

Sin creates hate and souls steeped in sin live in vengeance. Toxic and tainted, they hate, for they themselves are rejected, not only by others, not only by God, but sadly by their very self. They reject their dignity and beauty, refusing to be restored to their glory, by expelling the hatefulness.

Evil abounds and turns into hatred. These darkened souls become slanted, ignoring another's pain. They amuse themselves causing others pain. They become cunning, cruel, and crazed, trying to fuel their hateful desires. Dishonest and disloyal, sinners become delusional for they are forever wanting: unsatisfied; for hate is an empty pit that can never be filled.

Scared, they react and sadly, God does not forget. He remembers the details of their sins, exposing their ways, trying to heal them of their hate.

Light breaks in and reveals the darkness, exposing not just their sins, but their greatest fear: being healed of their hate. This is Mercy!

To heal, God commands mercy. Hate not your neighbor, hate not your enemy. Do good to those who do evil and in so doing, you will be healed of your sin, your fear, your hate!

Wrath and anger are hateful, yet the sinner hugs them tight. The vengeful will suffer the LORD's vengeance, he remembers their sins in detail.

"He who knows how to forgive prepares for himself many graces from God. As often as I look upon the cross, so often will I forgive with all my heart."
 Saint Maria Faustina Diary 390

Forgive your neighbor's injustice; then, when you pray, your own sins will be forgiven.

September 13, 2026

God whispers to us
in our pleasures,
speaks in our consciences,
but shouts in our pains.
It is his megaphone
to rouse a deaf world.

C.S. Lewis

Mass Times & Intentions

Sat. Sep 12 Holy Family	5:00 PM: Joseph & Chelsea Kemp by C. Workman
Sun. Sep 13 Sacred Heart	8:00 AM: Norman Linnebur† by Family
Sun. Sep 13 Holy Family	10:30 AM: Tina Wharton† by Mary Jo Wharton
Sun. Sep 13 Holy Family	12:00 PM: Parish Family
Mon. Sep 14: <i>No Mass Here</i>	
Tue. Sep 15 Sacred Heart	6:00 PM: Jacob Workman by Christina Workman
Wed. Sep 16 Sacred Heart	8:30 AM: Bowman Family by Leah Bowman
Thu. Sep 17 Sacred Heart	8:30 AM: Randy Crook Family by Ed Green
Fri. Sep 18 Sacred Heart	8:30 AM: Cayla Christen by Christina Workman
Sat. Sep 19 Holy Family	5:00 PM: Clara & Lyle Smith† by Jim Brnak



Sep 14 Homeschool Co-op gathering, 9-12 PM, HF

Sep 14 Catechesis 8-9 PM, Holy Family Hall

Sep 17 Youth Group begins, 7-8 PM, Holy Family Hall

Sep 17 Bible Study Letter of James 6:45 PM, Sacred H

Sep 22 OCIA begins, 7 PM, Sacred Heart

Sep 25 Safe Environment Training Class 7-10 PM,

Holy Family Hall

Sep 29 Spanish Healing Mass 7 PM, Holy Family

October-November Stuffed Animal Donation Drive

Oct 3 First Saturday Devotions 8:30 AM, Holy Family

Oct 6 Healing Mass 6 PM, Sacred Heart

Oct 9-12 Fr. Tom gone, Food for the Poor priest visit

Pray for Them

Janet Klausner, Don Bratrsovsky, Jason Klausner, Bailey Navarro, Fr. John Shedlock, Barb Marty, Robert McMillion, Sally Bratrsovsky, Fr. Peter Dinh, Jeanette Neuhausen, Mary Ockenfels, Bowman Family, Bill Epple, Theresa Schindedecker, Leticia Paz, Easton Vigil, Rick Gerkin, Geri Green, Dennis Buchholz, Dale Boehner, for the repose of the soul of Roseann Erker†



(Please let the parish office know if you or someone you know needs to be added or removed from the prayer list.)

Merciless Bitterness Healed

Jesus explains the mystery of forgiveness in the Parable of the Merciless Servant.

"You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?" And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart" (Matt 18:32-35).

The Love of Christ knows no limits. It never ends. It does not shrink from ugliness and filth. Rather it purifies and beautifies us. Yet there is a cost. Forgive as you have been forgiven.

Unforgiveness creates hostilities, especially in families. As children grow up and start their own families, new hostilities arise because past familial injustices were never healed. To stop this cycle of unforgiveness within family members, individuals must correct their injustices first and stop blaming others for their anger. When individuals experience divine mercy, the absolute, unconditional forgiveness of every sin, then they can forgive the wrong others have done or are doing because they experience Divine Mercy.

Seeking mercy and becoming merciful stops the cycle of unforgiveness. This is the radical message of Jesus who states: one must forgive "not seven times but seventy-seven times."

Two ideas of forgiveness exist. One is based on secular justice; the other is based on Divine Mercy. Secular society forgives when the criminal pays for his crime. Yet, does that heal the victim or correct the criminal? Christians forgive because Divine Mercy heals the heart, forgiving the offense and opening a door for reconciliation. Sadly, Sirach reminds us, unforgiveness destroys.

"Wrath and anger are hateful things, yet the sinner hugs them tight. The vengeful will suffer the LORD's vengeance, for he remembers their sins in detail." (Sir 27: 30). Holding on to unforgiveness, wrath festers, creating greater injustices. To atone for these sins, Sirach tells us, "Forgive your neighbor's injustice; then when you pray, your own sins will be forgiven" (Sir 28:2). If we want to receive God's mercy, we have to become merciful as He is.

Strict justice corrects our faults which restores and repairs the injustice. Mercy, however, empowers the person to forgive because he received mercy. Healed of bitterness, he forgives the other even if he sins seventy times seven. This is grace, a gift from God Who forgives because He can, not because we earn it. Forgiven, we too forgive, not because the other deserves it, but we have the power—the God's grace—to forgive. This infinite strength comes when we accept God's mercy.

If we want forgiveness, we have to forgive, even the greatest injustices against us because Jesus forgave all injustices upon the cross.

"This forgiveness from the Cross is the image and principle of that forgiveness that Jesus wishes to convey to all humanity through his sacrifice. To merit this forgiveness and in the concrete, the grace that purifies and confers divine life, Jesus made the heroic offering of himself for all humanity" (John Paul II General Audience 11/16/88).

Realize, we owe God an infinite debt because of our personal sin, yet because of Christ's unconditional mercy, He forgives us. In turn, we, restored with Divine Mercy, offer mercy to anyone who offends us. So, we pray daily: forgive us of our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

Seeing is Believing

Be always merciful
as I am merciful.
Love everyone out
of love for me,
even your greatest
enemies, so that My
mercy may be fully
reflected in your heart.
(Diary 1695)

Two sides to every person exist: good and bad; and every relationship has two sides, you and I. We have the good side — the best side — the side with all the dreams and ideals, the plans and the purpose, the charisma and charm. This is the best side, but how many actually see this side, especially in others?

We have a bad side too, with all the faults and failures, evils and the vices, negative, critical, and toxic.

What we look for we will see!

What we look for is how we see and how we see is how we treat people and how we treat people is how people will treat us.

Examining our conscience is critical for we must come to know ourselves if we are ever to grow and become better— not negative. Yet many fail to examine themselves, only to wallow in negativity.

To examine our conscience one ought to ask: how do people treat me? If I find that people treat me poorly, I need to look at my behavior not theirs. If others are negative and critical of everything I do, ask what am I doing to cause such responses?

If my relationships are toxic and I struggle in friendships. Am I constantly defending myself from accusations, abuse, and aggravations? Then take a serious look within.

The butterfly is beautiful for it feeds on the beauty of flowers.

The fly is foul for it feeds on what is rotten.

It is not what we see that matters; it is how we see it that matters. Seeing is believing and if we look for the sins of others we will see them as foul. If however, we see as Jesus sees, we will see beauty.

Jesus came not to look at our sinfulness, but to forgive us of our sins and make us beautiful. So too, when we forgive another, we see their beauty and offer them forgiveness.

Those who live forgiveness will see the beauty of another, for they see that Christ made them beautiful, in the forgiveness of his love.



Youth Group begins

this THURSDAY!

7:00 PM

Holy Family Hall

Joy Begins with Forgiveness

*"If we find ourselves with a desire
that nothing in this world can satisfy,
the most probable explanation is that
we were made for another world."*

C.S. LEWIS

Creating a positive response to a great need, we serve others in joy and generosity.

We do not become joyful through serving, we are joyful and want to use this fruit of the Holy Spirit to serve others, sharing our joy.

Joy defines a Christian for we see what the Lord has done in our lives and we, in turn, want to share the transformation that took place within and share it with others.

Joy comes from the heart and it cannot be fake for the fruits of joy are obvious: kindness, generosity, and self-control.

Joy cannot be fake for it embraces the pains of life as a time to enjoy God's presence purifying our hearts.

Joy, then, is a choice in which we offer our heart — mercy — to another and in so doing, we imitate Jesus, Who offered Himself so our joy may be complete.

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full (Jn 15: 9-11).

Sadness, which is rooted in sin causing desolation, reflects the divorce that so many live. They are divorced from God, divorced from others, and even divorced from themselves, creating bitterness, resentment, and anger because they refuse forgiveness.

By our fruit of joy, rooted in forgiveness, we see the goodness in others and encourage them to find fulfillment in forgiving—not belittling another for their sin.

If we experience the sin of the other, our joy will offer forgiveness, for we have experienced the great joy of being forgiven first.

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