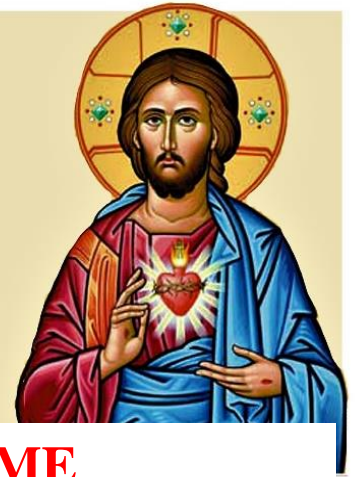


SACRED HEART HEARTBEAT

ENGLISH LANGUAGE
ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH



30th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME
October 27/28, 2018

COMING SPECIAL EVENTS AND CELEBRATIONS

Oct. 26 – End of Daylight Savings Time – Clocks go BACK one hour. (Sweet dreams)

Oct 27/28 – Prayer slips for Souls during November Masses collection begins

November 1 – All Saints Day – Masses at the Jesuit Center at 8:30 AM and 6 PM

Nov. 1 – 10 – Fr. John away on retreat

Nov. 2 – All Soul's Day – First Friday – Adoration following Mass at the Xavier Chapel

Nov. 3 – No First Communion class

Nov. 5 – Feast of All Saints of the Society of Jesus

Nov. 9 – Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

Nov. 10/11 - SECOND SUNDAY COLLECTION

Nov. 16 – Benefit Dinner for the Jesuit Center Theatre Arts Program

Nov. 17/18 – Installation of Lectors, EMHC, and Altar Servers

Nov. 21 – Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Nov. 22 – St. Cecilia (Patron saint of music)

Nov. 24/25 – Solemnity of Christ the King

Distribution of Advent "Baskets"

Special collection for the Care for the Poor program – Christmas projects

Nov. 30 – Feast of St. Andrew, Apostle

Free performance of the Jesuit Center Theatre Arts Program

Dec. 1/2 - First Sunday of Advent

Dec 2 – Sunday Mass at 10 AM during Advent at the Jesuit Center begins

Advent Day of Recollection



Pope Francis'

MONTHLY
PRAYER
INTENTIONS

The Mission of Religious

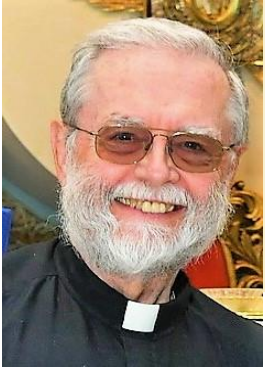
That consecrated religious men and women may bestir themselves, and be present among the poor, the marginalized, and those who have no voice.

The Pope's video about praying for the Church

<https://youtu.be/ecB8ZppHWsw>

The video for this month

https://youtu.be/gCSDirVIF_o



RAMBLINGS

OF THE REVEREND REDACTOR

On the web page last week, I wrote about learning that I was not scared of dying, remembering the day in Nigeria when the man next to me was killed by hired assassins and I was sure I was going to be next. (Does anybody read my writings on the web page? I often wonder.)

I also wrote about how – well, depressing it is to plan programs, make suggestions, ask for input or reactions and get NOTHING back. There was one “Ask Father John” before the summer break, and I kept saying “Please let me know if you are coming” and people kept assuring me that people will show up even if there are no responses. So I went to the house of the couple hosting the evening, and we had delicious food and a couple of drinks and some good conversation – but NO ONE ELSE came! Embarrassing. Disappointing. Depressing.

So in this edition there is a page with suggestions and proposals for Advent. If you are interested in any of these, please let me know. I will take silence as a “No Thank You” vote and that will determine what we might or might not do.

In a couple of weeks we celebrate Christ the King, marking the end of the Church year, and the beginning of Advent. In the weeks of November and then Advent, we know there will be a lot going on. On our own schedule activities pick up, and everybody’s social calendar suddenly has trips, parties, bazaars, and other festive events. I would, of course, make a plea that Sacred Heart Church is on the calendar.

But even more, and more important, is the reminder to keep God on the calendar. It is very easy to get so busy that we don’t pray, that we can’t make Mass or a First Communion class or a meeting. It is terribly easy to be so busy with Christmas preparations that we forget Christ. Hopefully the presence of an Advent “basket” will be a gentle reminder – Advent calendars were always a favorite when I was growing up, and I recommend them. Even as an adult, I hang one in my bedroom, religiously (you should pardon the expression) open one window every day. It takes me back to my childhood, of course, but it also helps keep me focused.

More than once Jesus talked about the importance of our being “like little children,” if we were going to enter the Kingdom of God. The Christmas/Advent season is a great time for adults to not just remember but re-live their own moments of childhood – the anticipation, the participation, the excitement, the joy and always the wonder. Each home should have a Christmas creche – and the Baby Jesus is not placed in the manger until Christmas Eve or Christmas morning. There will hopefully be a children’s Mass on Christmas Eve early and I am trying to arrange a vigil Mass later on Christmas Eve. On Christmas morning there will be a Mass at the Jesuit Center.(No traffic – lots of parking.)

But however the schedule and the dynamic works in your family, now is the time to start planning for “the holidays,” to be sure that God – and maybe even the parish – is on your social calendar.

And let us continue to pray for one another.

Fr. John’s Email: pastorsh@jordanjesuits.org

Fr. John’s Mobile: 079 013-8985 (If no answer, leave a message.)

Website: Jordanjesuits.org **Facebook:** Go to Parish Group and ask to be admitted to the group. You will be.

SAINT OF THE WEEK – St. Alphonsus Rodriguez, Oct. 31

Rodríguez was the son of a wool merchant. When Peter Faber, one of the original Jesuits, visited the city to preach, the Rodríguez family provided hospitality to the Jesuit. Faber prepared the young Alphonsus for his First Communion. When he was 14, his father died and Alphonsus left school to help his mother run the family business. At the age of 26 he married María Suarez, with whom he had three children. At the age of 31 he found himself a widower with one surviving child, the other two having died. From that time on he began a life of prayer and mortification, separated from the world around him. On the death of his third child his thoughts turned to a life in some religious order.

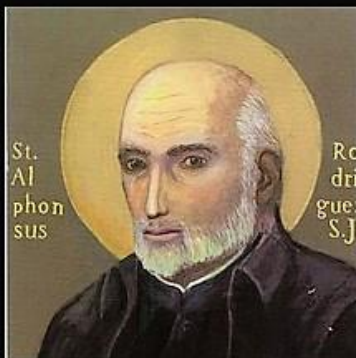
Previous associations had brought him into contact with the first Jesuits who had come to Spain, but he was without education. At the age of 39 he attempted to make up this deficiency by following the course at the College of Barcelona, but without success. His austerities had also undermined his health. After considerable delay he was finally admitted into the Society of Jesus as a lay brother on January 31, 1571, at the age of 40. The provincial is supposed to have said that if Alphonsus was not qualified to become a brother or a priest, he could enter to become a saint.

Alphonsus began his term of probation and after six months was sent to the recently founded college on Majorca, where he remained in the humble position of porter for 46 years, exercising a marvelous influence not only on the members of the household, but upon a great number of people who came to the porter's lodge for advice and direction. As doorkeeper, his duties were to receive visitors who came to the college; search out the fathers or students who were wanted in the parlor; deliver messages; run errands; console the sick at heart who, having no one to turn to, came to him; give advice to the troubled; and distribute alms to the needy. Alphonsus tells that each time the bell rang, he looked at the door and envisioned that it was God who was standing outside seeking admittance. Among the distinguished Jesuits who came under his influence was St. Peter Claver, who lived with him for some time at Majorca, and who followed his advice in asking for the missions of South America. He made his final vows in 1585 at the age of 54.

His Jesuit superiors, seeing the good work he was doing among the townspeople, were eager to have his influence spread far among his own religious community, so on feast days they often sent him into the pulpit in the dining room to give a sermon. On more than one occasion the community sat quietly past dinner time to hear Alphonsus finish.

Bro. Alphonsus became very feeble when he reached his eighties and in his last months his memory began to fail. He was not even able to remember his favorite prayers.

He died on October 31, 1617.



You must strive with all possible care to please God in such a manner as neither to do nor behold anything, without first consulting Him, and in everything to seek Him alone and His glory.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Children's Liturgy of the Word is under way. At the beginning of Mass, all the children (ages 4 to 7, and older children who are helping) come down front and receive a blessing, and head up to the "silent room" for their own Liturgy of the Word. They will return at the offertory and rejoin their parents.

To make this work, we do need three or four more adults who are willing to spend some time with the children sharing the Bible stories with them. And we do ask parents to sign up their children, so we can have adequate materials and teachers/helpers. If you are interested in helping out – please send an email so we can alert you for the meeting of teachers prior to the first class.

MASS SCHEDULE

<u>DAY</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
Mon - Sat	8:30 AM	Jesuit Center
Saturday	5:00 PM	Sweifieh, St. Mary of Nazareth
Sunday	6:00 PM	Jabal Hussein, St. Jean Baptiste de la Salle (Al Razi Street)

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADVERTISING

For the 2019 SACRED HEART CALENDAR

Calendar - 1/2 page 60 JOD, Full page 100 JOD

Deadline November 15

We print 800 copies, for sale and free distribution

3 full pages have already been sold – we may close prior

To November 15 if there is no additional interest

Contact Fr. John for more information, and to make a space reservation. First come, first served.

FUND-RAISING DINNER AND ENTERTAINMENT – November 16

For several years the Jesuit Center has hosted and supported a training and performance program in theatre arts – dance, singing, acting and creating props and scenery for the stage. On November 30th, the final performance of this season will be presented. Over the years, different groups of refugees and others have not only learned about theatre and performance, but also about friendship, discipline, tolerance and overcoming fears and prejudices. It is a wonderful program. This dinner is to raise money to support the cost of the final production. A home-cooked meal, served by the actors and dancers, who will perform throughout the evening. You can bring your own wine (modest corking fee) and other surprises. (If I told you, they wouldn't be surprises!)

If you can't attend, contributions are accepted and welcome. Thank you for your support.

ADVENT ACTIVITIES – for review and approval

(Some of these are simply things that will be available; others are proposals for events or series, and whether or not they are activated will depend on the response. Silence does NOT imply consent but indicates a “No thank you” vote.

What Am I Doing for Advent – A booklet to help you prepare for this sacred and very special season in the Church calendar. It will be available after Mass at Church as announced and for download from the website.

Advent Day of Recollection for Adults – On Sunday, December 2, to help begin this very special season of the year, there will be a Day of Recollection at the Jesuit Center. The group will gather at 9:15 for points, followed by Mass at 10 AM. Lunch is included and the day will end around 3:30. No charge for the day but advance reservations are required.

Tuesday Prayer and Reflection – Each Tuesday evening, to meet to spend time discussing and praying with the infancy narratives as we prepare for Christmas. Ideally should be at someone’s residence more centrally located than the Jesuit Center. An indication of interest will be necessary for this to start.

Saturday Morning Advent reflections – Each Saturday of Advent, following the 8:30 AM Mass at the Jesuit Center, points for reflection as we journey through Advent will be presented, with a time for discussion and shared thoughts, questions and input. Not the same material as Tuesday night.

Sunday Morning Mass at the Jesuit Center – During Advent, there will be a “quiet” Mass (ie, no singing) at the Jesuit Center in English at 10 AM. All are welcome.

Daily Mass – Whatever other penitential practices you might choose, daily Mass, when possible, is a wonderful way to grow closer to God during these days of preparation for Easter, as well as receiving the stimulation of the readings and homilies from the Jesuit priests. Mass is celebrated Monday through Saturday at 8:30

Advent Novena – AN ADVENT NOVENA WITH OUR LADY OF THE NEW ADVENT December 16 – 24 A special novena designed especially to help keep you focused during the final days leading up to Christmas <http://shp.jordanjesuits.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/ADVENT-NOVENA.pdf> or **at the website.**

Novena of Grace to St. Francis Xavier – St. Francis Xavier is an unusual saint, in that he is remembered twice during the Church year, once in March but also in December, and on each occasion, there is a special Novena dedicated to him. Copies are available at the Jesuit Center, but you may also download a copy here: [NovenaofGracebooklet2018](#) or at the website.

The Mass schedule for Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year’s Eve and New Year’s Day will be announced as soon as the times and locations are confirmed.

ADVENT BASKET PROGRAM – Part II

The Advent Basket Program last year was very successful but we did learn a few things. This year – there is no basket and we are only collecting money. The “basket” is a small can, which you can collect from us and take home, and during the Advent season, as you make a sacrifice, collect odd change or paper money - we like paper money of any country or denomination. You can fill the “Basket” and we will collect these at Christmas time, to be used to purchase items for distribution to poor families in the first weeks of the New Year. We learned we don’t have the facilities to store a lot of donated items of clothing and household goods, and by buying in bulk and distributing, we can more effectively meet the real needs of the people we serve. The “Baskets” will be distributed at the Feast of Christ the King, November 24/25.

APOSTOLIC ACTIVITY UPDATE

ALTAR SERVERS – Actually desperate. We have three or four, depending on availability, which means either the ones on the list get overworked or we have no one.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION – We had one person take the recent workshop, so we could badly use several more.

LECTORS – sometimes there is good news, and we currently have a group of trained and experienced Lectors, although most are at Sweifieh. Now – people travel, people get sick and there are weeks when we do scramble. If you would like to take the workshop and become a Lector, especially if you regularly attend Mass at Freres Church, please let me know and we will schedule the workshop.

CARE FOR THE POOR – We have a dedicated and enthusiastic group on this Committee, but new voices are always welcome. We have several programs in process and we can always use help.

MUSIC – Currently on hold until we can get more people who are interested and available.

TEACHERS/CATECHISTS – I hesitate to use either word because I think it scares people away. The Children's Liturgy of the Word can use more volunteers, both adults and older children, so that those with the children can rotate and no one group is away from the Liturgy of the Word too frequently. Several people have suggested more activities with the young people – ie older than "children" but not yet adults. I love the idea – now who will take this and run with it.

A 10 year old little girl was asked by another classmate, "what is it like to be a Christian?". The girl replied, "it's like being a pumpkin. God picks you from the patch, brings you in, and washes all the dirt off of you. Then he cuts open the top and scoops out all of the yucky stuff. He removes the seeds of doubt, hate, greed, etc., and then He carves you a new smiling face and puts His light inside of you to shine for all the world to see."

