SACRED HEARTBEATS

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SACRED HEART KNANAYA CATHOLIC
FORANE PARISH - CHICAGO

Message from our Vicar

Cost of Decipleship

In today's Gospel, Jesus reminds us that following Him requires a wholehearted commitment. His words about bringing not peace but a sword do not call us to violence; rather, they remind us that the Gospel can sometimes challenge our relationships, priorities, and comfortable choices.

Jesus invites us to love Him above everything else and to take up our cross faithfully. At the same time, He assures us that every act of love and kindness done in His name has great value: even giving a cup of cold water to someone in need will not go unnoticed by God.

As we live this week, let us ask ourselves: Does my faith influence the choices I make each day? May we have the courage to follow Christ faithfully, love others generously, and recognize Him in those who need our help.

Fr. Abraham Kalarickal

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GOSPEL REFLECTION ~ MATHEW 24: 29 -36

Source: Daily Scripture Readings and Meditations

DO YOU TAKE GOD'S JUDGMENTS LIGHTLY OR SERIOUSLY? WHEN JESUS WARNED HIS DISCIPLES ABOUT THE DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM AND ITS HOLY TEMPLE, HE QUOTED FROM THE PROPHET DANIEL WHO PROPHESIED THE DESECRATION OF THE HOLY PLACE IN JERUSALEM AS "AN ABOMINATION THAT MAKES DESOLATE" (DANIEL 12:11). THIS CAME TO PASS AROUND 170 BC WHEN THE KING OF SYRIA, ANTIOCHUS EPIPHANES, DETERMINED TO WIPE OUT THE RELIGION OF ISRAEL. HE CAPTURED JERUSALEM AND SET UP AN ALTAR TO ZEUS IN THE TEMPLE COURT AND SACRIFICED SWINE'S FLESH ON THE ALTAR. HE ALSO TURNED THE PRIESTS' ROOM AND TEMPLE CHAMBERS INTO PUBLIC BROTHELS. JESUS NOW PROPHESIES THAT THE HOLY PLACE WOULD BE DESECRATED AGAIN. THIS TIME THE DESTRUCTION WOULD BE FAR WORSE FOR JERUSALEM AND ITS INHABITANTS. THIS TIME THERE WOULD BE NO DELIVERANCE, NO RESTORATION NOR PURIFICATION. JESUS' ADVICE WAS VERY PRACTICAL - FLEE BEFORE THE DESTRUCTION COMES!

WHEN THE ROMANS DECIDED TO DESTROY JERUSALEM IN 70 AD, THEY FIRST CUT OFF ALL FOOD SUPPLIES TO THE WALLED CITY AND ALLOWED NO ONE TO ESCAPE. THEY THEN WAITED FOR ITS INHABITANTS TO STARVE TO DEATH BEFORE THEY ENTERED THE CITY AND DESTROYED IT AND LEVELED IT TO THE GROUND. ACCORDING TO THE JEWISH HISTORIAN JOSEPHUS, OVER A MILLION INHABITANTS DIED. JOSEPHEUS DESCRIBED IN DETAIL THE SEIGE AND FAMINE. "THE FAMINE CONFOUNDED ALL NATURAL PASSIONS; FOR THOSE WHO WERE JUST GOING TO DIE LOOKED UPON THOSE WHO WERE GONE TO THEIR REST BEFORE THEM WITH DRY EYES AND OPEN MOUTHS. A DEEP SILENCE, ALSO, AND A KIND OF DEADLY NIGHT HAD SEIZED UPON THE CITY. ..AND EVERY ONE OF THEM DIED WITH THEIR EYES FIXED UPON THE TEMPLE." (JOSEPHESUS, WAR OF THE JEWS, 5.12.3)

WHILE DANIEL PROPHESIED THE DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM BECAUSE OF THE STUBBORN PRIDE AND REBELLION OF ITS INHABITANTS, HE ALSO FORETOLD THAT GOD WOULD SEND HIS ANOINTED ONE, THE SON OF MAN WHO WOULD COME ON THE CLOUDS OF HEAVEN TO BRING GOD'S REIGN ON THE EARTH (SEE DANIEL 7:13-15). DANIEL'S VISION DESCRIBES A ROYAL INVESTITURE OF A HUMAN KING BEFORE GOD'S THRONE. THIS KING, WHOSE AUTHORITY COMES FROM GOD, IS GIVEN WORLD-WIDE RULERSHIP AND POWER WHICH LASTS FOREVER. MANY JEWS IN JESUS' TIME EXPECTED THE MESSIAH KING TO COME AT ANY MOMENT. JESUS WARNS HIS DISCIPLES THAT MANY FALSE CHRIST'S (THE GREEK FORM OF THE WORD FOR 'MESSIAH') AND FALSE PROPHETS WOULD LEAD PEOPLE ASTRAY. THE JEWS WERE LOOKING FOR THE RIGHT SIGN TO SHOW THEM WHO THE TRUE MESSIAH WOULD BE. JESUS POINTED TO HIMSELF AS THE DEFINITIVE SIGN OF GOD'S IMMINENT KINGDOM.

JESUS ILLUSTRATED HIS POINT WITH TWO PARABLES OR WORD PICTURES - HOW LIGHTNING STRIKES THE EARTH AND SKY AND HOW EAGLES SEARCH OUT THEIR PREY. WHEN LIGHTNING APPEARS IN THE DARKENED SKY, ITS POWERFUL SURGE OF FLASHING ENERGY AND LIGHT AND ITS PIERCING NOISE STRIKE AWE AND TERROR. YOU DON'T NEED A SPECIAL SIGN TO MAKE IT VISIBLE OR TO SHOW WHERE IT IS STRIKING. IT MANIFESTS ITSELF QUITE CLEARLY. IN LIKE MANNER, WHEN "THE SON OF MAN COMES" IT WILL BE AS CLEAR AS THE LIGHTNING IN THE HEAVENS. JESUS QUOTED A FAMILIAR PROVERB TO HIS AUDIENCE: "WHERE THE BODY IS, THERE THE EAGLES (OR VULTURES) WILL BE GATHERED TOGETHER." EAGLES, LIKE VULTURES, ARE ATTRACTED TO CARRION - DEAD OR DYING PREY. THE BOOK OF JOB DESCRIBES THE EAGLE SPYING OUT ITS PREY FROM AFAR (JOB 39:29). WHAT'S THE POINT OF THIS ANALOGY? IF WE ARE NOT SPIRITUALLY ALIVE IN CHRIST, THEN THE DAY OF JUDGEMENT WILL CATCH US UNPREPARED TO MEET THE LORD WHEN HE COMES TO SEPARATE THE "SHEEP FROM THE GOATS" (MATTHEW 25:31-33) AND THE "WHEAT FROM THE WEEDS" (MATTHEW 13:24-30).

JESUS USED THE IMAGE OF A FIG TREE TO TEACH HIS DISCIPLES AN IMPORTANT LESSON ABOUT READING THE "SIGNS OF THE TIMES". THE FIG TREE WAS A COMMON AND IMPORTANT SOURCE OF FOOD FOR THE JEWS. IT BORE FRUIT TWICE A YEAR, IN THE AUTUMN AND IN THE EARLY SPRING. THE TALMUD SAID THAT THE FIRST FRUIT CAME THE DAY AFTER PASSOVER. THE JEWS BELIEVED THAT WHEN THE MESSIAH CAME HE WOULD USHER IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD AT PASSOVER TIME. THE SIGNS OF SPRING ARE EVIDENT FOR ALL WHO CAN SEE. JUST SO ARE THE SIGNS OF GOD'S KINGDOM AND HIS COMING IN JUDGMENT. THE "BUDDING" OF GOD'S KINGDOM BEGINS FIRST IN THE HEARTS OF THOSE WHO ARE RECEPTIVE TO GOD'S WORD. THOSE WHO TRUST IN GOD'S WORD WILL BEAR THE FRUITS OF HIS KINGDOM. AND WHAT ARE THE FRUITS OF THAT KINGDOM? THE KINGDOM OF GOD ..IS RIGHTEOUSNESS AND PEACE AND JOY IN THE HOLY SPIRIT (ROMANS 14:17).

THIS WEEK AT SHKC:

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2026
8:00 AM MALAYALAM QURBANA
10:00 AM MALAYALAM QURBANA & CCD
11:30 ENGLISH QURBANA

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2026
8.30 AM MALAYALAM QURBANA
7:00 PM MALAYALAM QURBANA

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2026
8.30 AM MALAYALAM QURBANA
7:00 PM MALAYALAM QURBANA
& ST ANTHONY NOVENA

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2026
8.30 AM MALAYALAM QURBANA
7:00 PM MALAYALAM QURBANA

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2026
8.30 AM MALAYALAM QURBANA
7:00 PM MALAYALAM QURBANA
& ST JUDE NOVENA

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2026
8.30 AM MALAYALAM QURBANA
7:00 PM MALAYALAM QURBANA
& SACRED HEART NOVENA

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2026
10:00 AM MALAYALAM QURBANA
& OL PERPETUAL HELP NOVENA

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2026
8:00 AM MALAYALAM QURBANA
10:00 AM MALAYALAM QURBANA
11:30 ENGLISH QURBANA



Bible Readers

SEPTEMBER 20

1ST READING:

ZECHARIAH 10:8-12

8:00 -VOLUNTEER

10:00 - MARY PANAYAPARMBIL

11:30 - EMMELINE KULATHILKAROTTU

2ND READING:

GALATAINS 6:11-18

8:00 - VOLUNTEER

10:00 -SAJI MALITHURUTHEL

11:30 -JACOB MOONUPARAYIL

SEPTEMBER 27

1ST READING:

GENESIS 9:8-17

8:00 -VOLUNTEER

10:00 - SOUMYA KOTTAM KOMBIL

11:30 - ABIGAIL KEEZHANGATTU

2ND READING:

1CORINTHIANS 1:18-25

8:00 - VOLUNTEER

10:00 -ZACHARIAH CHELACKAL

11:30 -RAHM THANICHUVETIL

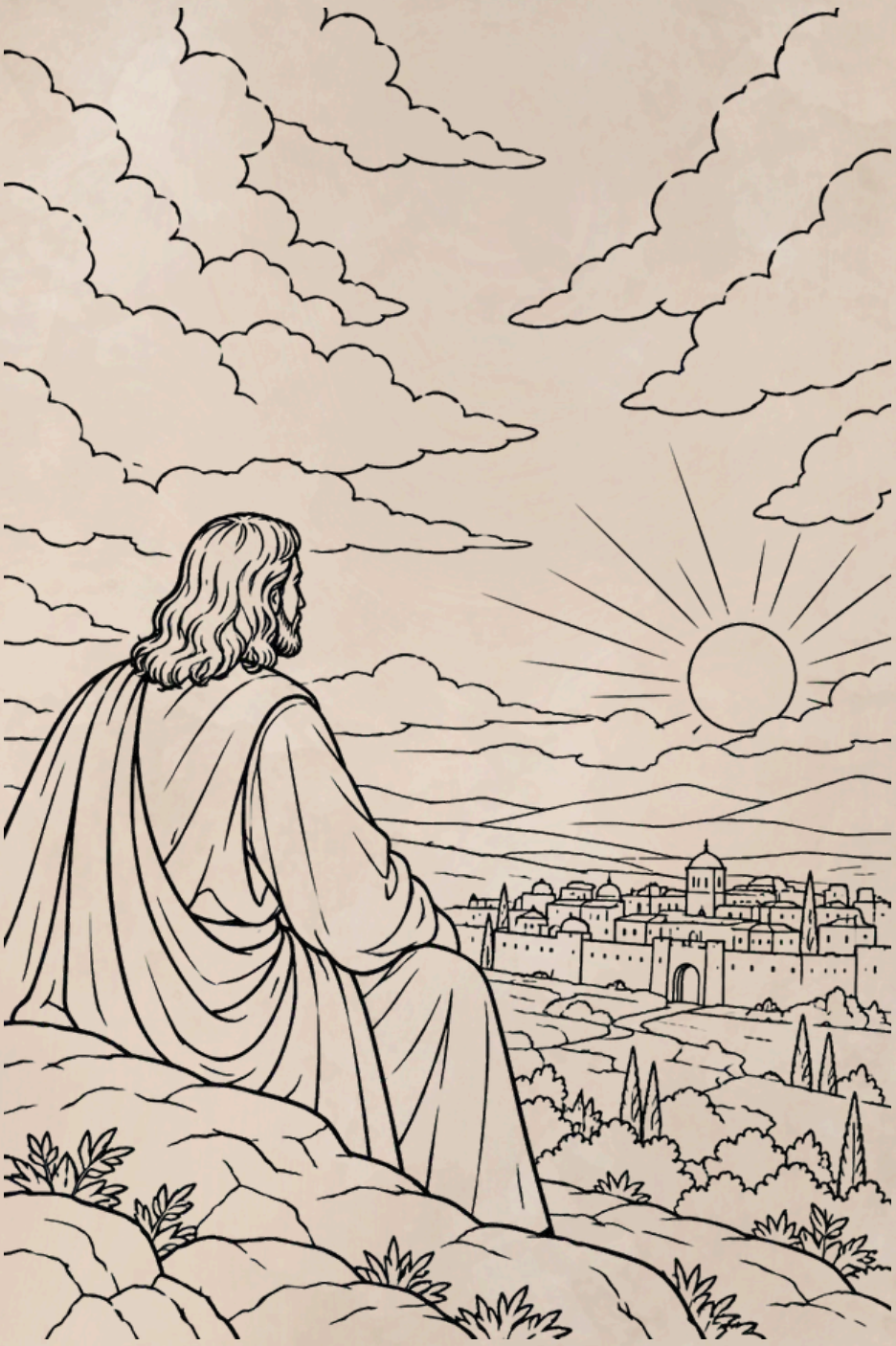
OFFERINGS

September 13th:
Qurbana's: $1545
Novena/Nercha: $41
Facility Usage Donation:$350
TOTAL - $1936

THANK YOU

"Fear not, for I am with you"

~ Isaiah 41:10



SACRED HEART
ANNOUNCEMENTS

- SEPTEMBER 20TH SUNDAY BLOOD DRIVE BY ALL MINISTRYS
- SEPTEMBER 20TH SUNDAY OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE KOODARYOGAM AT KAVALACKAL SINOY & SUNI
- PROSBITERIUM SEPTEMBER 21-24- NO EVENING MASS MONDAY, TEUSDAY AND WEDNESDAY
- SEPTEMBER 27: FEAST OF ST.VINCENT D'PAUL -SECOND COLLECTION
- CCD REGISTRATION -PAY ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION AND REGISTRATION FEE

A message from one of the catechists on Catechetical Sunday- Suja Ethithara

In the book of Sirach chapter 2 verse 2, accept whatever happens to you, in periods of humiliation be patient. For in fire gold is tested, and the chosen in the crucible of humiliation. I started teaching CCD when we started in 2006. If you walk in faith, following Christ is not an easy task. It's saying yes to suffering yes to difficulties. As a mother, wife I went through a lot of difficulties. When my first son was born after an unexpected c-section I remember our pediatrician telling us that this kid might not talk or walk due to his rapid sugar drop. Growing up in India I saw two great grandparents who woke up every day and started their day with Holy Mass. So as a kid it was my habit to tag along with my grandma. So the faith was a deep connection I formed early on in my life. So going back to my son's birth story I remember praying to God, Lord please protect this child with tears in my eyes. So long story short he survived 7 days of NICU with 4 different medications hooked to his tiny feet. Not only he survived and he was the first in every class and currently working as a senior Data engineer in a successful company. Praise the Lord!!! It's St. Theresa of Calcutta who said true love is painful. If you follow Christ don't assume your road of life is going to be easy. We need to walk on the path of suffering but no matter what, remember the Lord God is with you and gives you strength. Being a catechist is a calling, we need to be mindful of the guidance of the Holy spirit. In the book of Genesis, Hagar called God "El Roy" meaning a God who sees me. Our Lord does walk with you and guide you. Whether it's a difficulty at work or at home. So many incidents of protection where things could have gone wrong God supernaturally protected me. Since it's a small piece of writing, I just wanted to mention one incident. It was All Saints day, all 4th graders were dressed as saints. Those who didn't dress up we improvised with a few shawls as Mary or some other saint. I took a picture of the kids in the class room, later I looked at the picture and to my amazement there was a perfect heart surrounded with light that showed up in the picture!! It wasn't a well lit room, and we are Sacred Heart of Jesus, I guess Lord likes the Selfies too!!! I will share that picture.. I hope with this short life I can use the talents and gifts God had placed in me for his glory. St Mark's gospel which tells you Lord's word before Ascension, I'll be with you to the ends of earth is so true. We just don't see the living presence of the Lord walking with us every day. I hope and pray our kids recognize the living presence of the Lord. As a catechist if you guide your teaching that way so they learn to lean on the Lord through difficulties, you did your job!!

Happy Catechetical Sunday

ST. ALPHONSA KOODARAYOGAM PICNIC



Harvest Festival





Day 256 of the Bible in a Year Challenge!

It is easy to be a friend when everything is going well.

But Proverbs gives us a different picture of friendship: “A friend loves at all times.”

Think about the people who have stayed close during the difficult seasons of your life. Someone who called when you were struggling. Someone who listened without judging. Someone who showed up when there was nothing they could really do to fix the situation. Often, those are the people we remember the most.

And this verse challenges us to turn the question around. Who needs me to be that person right now?

Maybe it’s a friend going through a difficult time. A family member we haven’t checked on lately. Someone who seems a little quieter than usual. Or even someone who has disappointed us. We don’t always need the perfect words or a solution to their problem. Sometimes friendship simply means being present.

This week, think of one person who may need you—and reach out. A phone call. A message. A few minutes of your time.

Because a true friend doesn’t only show up for the good moments.
“A friend loves at all times.”



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- Fr Bins Chethalil: 281 818 6518
- Your Parish Priest
- Fr. Mutholath: +1 773 412 6254
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Sacred Heart Knanaya Catholic Church Blood Drive

Sunday, September 20
10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Vitalant Bus
145 E. Grand Ave, Bensenville, IL 60106

SCAN HERE TO SCHEDULE

To schedule an appointment call Vitalant at 877.258.4825, scan the QR code, or visit Vitalant.org and search Blood Drive Code: **100564892**

Prepare: Eat well, hydrate, and bring photo ID.
Appointments encouraged. Walk-ins welcomed.

vitalant
Blood Donation

CHILD PROTECTION NOTICE

Sacred Heart Knanaya Catholic Forane Parish in alignment with the St. Thomas Syro-Malabar Diocese and USCCB are fully committed to protecting our children and youth from abuse and misconduct. We maintain a zero-tolerance policy and strictly follow all child protection guidelines.

If you suspect or have a complaint regarding child abuse, please report it immediately using the contact information below. If you believe a child is in immediate danger or harm, call 911 first. It's all our responsibility to protect God's children.

📞 DIRECT REPORTING CONTACTS

DCFS 24-Hour Hotline (Civil Authorities)
Phone: 800-252-2873

Diocese Safe Environment Hotline
Phone: 224-225-9121

Regional Safe Environment Coordinator
Name: Sabu Mutholam
Phone: 708-307-1795

THE ARCHEPARCHY
OF KOTTAYAM



മാർ തോമസ് ആനിമൂട്ടിൽ

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