

Sacred Heart of Jesus Roman Catholic Church

Mission Statement

The Roman Catholic Faith Community of Sacred Heart of Jesus welcomes all! Guided by the Holy Spirit, we proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ through Eucharist, Worship, Education and Service.

We are committed to build the Kingdom of God in our world.

Sacred Heart is not just a parish—it's a way of life.

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil—5:00pm
Sunday
8:00am, 10:00am, 12 Noon
Monday—Saturday at 9:00am
Holydays
Eve of Holyday at 7:30pm
Holyday at 9:00am & 12 Noon

Devotions

Rosary: Monday—Saturday before 9:00am Mass

Miraculous Medal Novena:

Mondays after 9:00am Mass

Thursdays: Holy Hour for Vocations 1-2pm
Exposition, Rosary, Benediction

First Friday:

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Sacred Heart Novena after 9:00am Mass
Benediction at 10:00am

First Saturday:

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament,
Rosary-Fatima Devotions after 9 am Mass,
Benediction 10am

Confession

Saturdays 3:30pm—4:30pm/ Or by appointment

Baptism: is celebrated at 12pm on the Second Saturday and 2pm on the Third Sunday of each month. Call to inquire & register.

Marriage

Arrangements must be made six months prior to the wedding. Contact rectory for details.

Anointing/Communion for the Sick

Anointing of the seriously ill: call rectory.
Communion for the homebound: call S. Kathleen.

Rectory Office Hours—Daily

open 9:45 to 1pm closed 1pm to 2pm
open 2pm to 4:30pm
By appointment Saturdays and evenings



Sacred Heart of Jesus Church

215-35 38th Avenue

Bayside, NY 11361

718-428-2200 718-428-5840 (fax)

www.sacredheartbayside-queens.org

www.facebook.com/SHBayside

Twitter: @SHBayside

Pastoral Staff 718-428-2200

- Rev. Msgr., Thomas C. Machalski, Jr., Pastor
- Rev. Kieran Udeze, Parochial Vicar
- Sr. Kathleen Masterson RSM, Pastoral Associate
(718-631-4804 & press 6) siskate913@gmail.com

School

- Mrs. Alexandra Conlan, Principal 718-631-4804

Religious Education

- Mrs. Georgette Lyons, Director 718-631-1307

Music Ministry

- Mrs. Angelina Fusco, Director 718-428-2200

Parish Pastoral Council

Mrs. Marianne Cooney, Facilitator

Parish Secretary

Ms. Catherine Sorge 718-428-2200

Sunday Mass Assistance

Rev. Msgr. Richard Marchese

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time - January 28, 2024

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 27th

5:00 Kaitlyn Grogan (Grogan Family)

Sunday, January 28th

8:00 Pauline Salmon (Peg Franco)

10:00 Collective Mass

Barbara Haslbauer (Family)

Louis & Jennie Mulazzi (Izzard Family)

Enrique Veliz (Wife & Family)

Charles DeBenedettis (SHCA Board)

12:00 Philip Curtin (Carol Marian)

Monday, January 29th

9:00 Joseph Dumas (Briggulio Family)

Tuesday, January 30th

9:00 Joseph Dumas (Briggulio Family)

Wednesday, January 31st

9:00 Dec. Members of the Espinel Family
(Pastor Family)

Thursday, February 1st

9:00 Gail Califano (Husband, Michael)

Friday, February 2nd

9:00 Bolivar Jalon (Pastor Family)

Saturday, February 3rd

9:00 Joseph Dumas (Briggulio Family)

5:00 Dennis Donoghue (Family)

Sunday, February 4th

8:00 Parishioners of Sacred Heart

10:00 Collective Mass

George Tumasonis (Lyons Family)

Helen O'Dwyer (Mary Ricci)

12:00 Anthony Mirro

(Ralph & Theresa Montagna)



Please
remember
in your prayers those who are ill
especially

Millie & Frank Pennachio, Trina Den,
Marion Colegari, Mason McCulloch, Fanta
Figueroa, Frank Caselli, Msgr. Marchese &
John Izzard



PRAY FOR OUR
DECEASED



The Bread & Wine &
The Altar Candles and
Sanctuary Lamp
for this week's liturgies

are offered
In Memory of
Gail Califano
(Husband)



BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

The Bereavement Group will meet on
Tuesday, February 6, 2024, at 7:30 pm
in the Church Hall. Meetings are held on
the first Tuesday of each month. For
information contact Sr. Kathleen
Masterson at 718--631-4804 & press 6.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Item 1

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK BEGINS!

This week we celebrate, along with all the other Catholic schools throughout the United States, CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK. The theme of this year's celebration is: CATHOLIC SCHOOLS: FAITH. EXCELLENCE. SERVICE. Catholic schools have a specific purpose to form students to be good citizens of the world, love God and neighbor and enrich society with the leaven of the gospel and by example of faith.

As communities of faith, Catholic schools instill in students their destiny to become saints. Academic excellence is the hallmark of Catholic education intentionally directed to the growth of the whole person – mind, body and spirit. Finally, service is fundamental to Catholic education and the core of Catholic discipleship. Service is intended to help form people who are not only witnesses to Catholic social teaching, but also active participants through social learning.

We salute our students, staff, faculty, principal, Board members, Alumni, parents and friends who make Sacred Heart Catholic Academy the **AWESOME** place that it is! So, let us CELEBRATE and GIVE THANKS ESPECIALLY AS WE CELEBRATE OUR CENTENNIAL!

We are grateful that in the course of our celebration this week The Most Reverend James Massa, D.D., Auxiliary Bishop of Brooklyn will visit our Academy on Wednesday, January 31st.

Pass along the good word about Sacred Heart Catholic Academy. We have room for more students for the Fall! For more information call the Principal, Mrs. Conlan at 718-631-4804.

Item 2

WELCOME BISHOP CHAPPETTO!-We welcome the Most Reverend Raymond F. Chappetto, D.D., Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus of Brooklyn as our main celebrant and homilist as we begin our celebration of Catholic Schools Week and gather as a parish family to give thanks to Almighty God for the blessings He has bestowed on all associated with Sacred Heart. School now Academy throughout these 100 years.

Item 3

The painting of the church and the refurbishing of our pews has begun. Please bear with us as this work is in progress. There may be times when certain areas of the church are roped off and you will not be able to sit in your favorite seat- please just be patient with us..... the beauty of the church after all the work is complete will be well worth it!

Item 4

DUE TO THE WORK TAKING PLACE IN THE CHURCH THE THURSDAY AFTERNOON HOLY HOURS at 1:00 P.M. ARE CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. THE CANCELLATION IS NECESSARY SO THAT THE WORK CAN BE COMPLETED AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING.

Item 5

Friday, February 2 is Candlemas Day, also known as the Feast of the Presentation of Jesus Christ and the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary; it is a day on which we commemorate the presentation of Jesus at the Temple. It falls on February 2, which is traditionally the 40th day of and the conclusion of the Christmas–Epiphany season. On Candlemas, candles are blessed and then used for the rest of the year; for Christians, these blessed candles serve as a symbol of Jesus Christ, who referred to Himself as the Light of the World. These blessed candles are lit at times of prayer and at the difficult moments of life- like during a severe storm or when the priest is coming to bring Communion to the gravely ill or dying. Blessed candles are available up at the altar after Mass on that day and the following Sunday for your use at home. There are two candles in the box and the suggested offering for the box is \$7.00.

Item 6

Friday, on the Feast of the Presentation, the Church celebrates World Day for Consecrated Life, a day of thanksgiving and prayer for the men and women who have responded to the Lord's call to live consecrated lives- sisters, nuns (yes, there is a difference between the two * see below for an explanation), brothers, religious order priests and members of secular institutes. We give thanks to God for their "YES" and for the witness of their consecrated lives. We pray that many more young people heed the voice of the Lord and respond to His call and follow Him by living consecrated lives in our world. A special promise of prayers and thanks to the Sisters of Mercy who staffed our school for many years for their witness and for their YES to the Lord's call. Thank you, Sisters!

Item 7

Saturday, February 3 is the Feast of St. Blaise. On this day it is a tradition to have your throat blessed. We will bless throats after ALL the Masses on the weekend of February 3-4 for your convenience. The Blessing of Throats will also take place during the 9:00 A.M. Mass on Saturday, February 3.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK
Continued

Item 8

MASS OF REMEMBRANCE-IN HONOR of INFANTS LOST BY MISCARRIAGE, STILL BIRTH, NEONATAL DEATH OR OTHER. FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2024- 7:00 P.M. – St. Joseph's Co-Cathedral, 856 Pacific Street, Brooklyn, NY 11238.

Those wishing to have their infant's name included in the Mass intention are asked to contact the Co-Cathedral Parish Office by phone-718-638-1071 or email: info@stjosephs-brooklyn.org.

Item 9

MARK YOUR CALENDARS WITH THESE SPECIAL DATES:

February 9- Bayside St. Patrick's Day Parade Dinner Dance at Leonard's of Great Neck-
(this dinner dance is sponsored by the Bayside St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee NOT the parish!)

February 14- ASH WEDNESDAY- LENT BEGINS

ASHES WILL BE DISTRIBUTED AT THE MASSES AND LITURGY of the WORD SERVICE ONLY!

THE ASH WEDNESDAY SECHEDULE IS AS FOLLOWS:

9:00 A.M.- MASS

12 P.M.- MASS

3:00 P.M.-LITURGY of the WORD SERVICE

7:00 P.M.- MASS

March 11-12-13- Parish Lenten Mission- Msgr. Thomas Caserta

**March 24- PALM SUNDAY- BREAKFAST with the EASTER BUNNY
EGG HUNT on GREAT LAWN of the RECTORY**

April 6- BAYSIDE ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE – MASS here at Sacred Heart parade to follow on BELL BOULEVARD

April 29-30-May 1- TRIDUUM in Honor of ST. PEREGRINE – Closing Mass of the Triduum- Most. Reverend Nicholas DiMarzio, Ph.D., D.D.,- Bishop Emeritus of the Diocese of Brooklyn-- Celebrant and Homilist

Item 10

**WE ARE OVER GOAL!
WE ARE OVER GOAL!**

WE have gone over goal in ACA 2023. I cannot, as your Pastor, thank you enough for your generous response to the annual appeal.

Our goal was the same as last year- \$91,954.00.

190 have pledged \$145,690.00 and paid \$118,065.71.

THERE ARE 10 OPEN PLEDGES- PLEDGES THAT ARE NOT YET PAID IN FULL- AMOUNTING TO \$27,624.29. PLEASE PAY OFF YOUR PLEDGES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE- THE END OF ACA 2023 IS FAST APPROACHING. AS YOU CAN SEE THAT IS A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF MONEY AND THE PARISH CAN CERTAINLY USE IT TO HELP PAY OFF SOME OF ITS LARGER BILLS.

IF YOU ARE NOT CERTAIN IF YOU HAVE AN OUTSTANDING PLEDGE YOU CAN CONTACT THE ACA OFFICE OR ME DIRECTLY.

IF YOU HAVE NOT PARTICIPATED YET PLEASE CONSIDER DOING SO. ALL THE MONIES DONATED NOW COME BACK TO THE PARISH IN FULL SINCE WE ARE OVERGOAL AND ALSO INCREASE OUR RANK IN GIVING AMONG THE PARISHES OF THE DIOCESE! AS WE APPROACH THE END OF ACA.

PLEASE PAY OFF YOUR PLEDGE AS WE DRAW CLOSER TO THE END ON THE ANNUAL APPEAL SO THAT WE CAN RECEIVE ALL THE MONEY BACK THAT WE ARE OVER GOAL

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Continued

Item 11

117 parishioners and friends have contributed to the appeal regarding the installation of the new A/C system, the fence around the parking lot and the eventual installation of the security cameras., thus far donating \$106,175.00. THANK YOU to all who have contributed to this project thus far. May God reward you for your goodness.

Item 12

When making your last will and testament please remember your parish. Your parish will be grateful to you and remember you in our prayers.

Item 13

Pass along the good word about Sacred Heart Catholic Academy. Registration is going on now! For information call the Principal, Mrs. Conlan at 718-631-4804.

Special dates/celebrations this week:

January 28- **FOURTH WEEK** in **ORDINARY TIME**

**CATHOLIC SCHOOLS
WEEK BEGINS**

**100th ANNIVERSARY MASS OF
THANKSGIVING-SACRED
HEART of JESUS SCHOOL now
ACADEMY**

**Feast of St. Thomas Aquinas-
Msgr. Tom's Feast Day**

January 31- St. John Bosco

February 1- Black History Month begins
National Freedom Day

February 2- Feast of the Presentation
of the Lord
World Day of Prayer for
Consecrated Life
First Friday

February 3- St. Blaise
St. Ansgar
First Saturday



**Congratulations on
The celebration of the 100th
Anniversary of Sacred Heart of
Jesus School /
Academy
&
the start of Catholic Schools
Week**



CLOW MASS

*"Sometimes, moreover, if the place itself and the nature of the community permit, it will be appropriate to celebrate the **Liturgy of the Word**, including a homily, with the children in a separate, but not too distant room. Then, before the **Eucharistic Liturgy** begins, the children are led to the place where the adults have meanwhile celebrated their own liturgy of the word."*

—Directory for Masses with Children, #17

The above permission, which appeared in 1973, lies behind a phenomenon which has emerged in many Catholic parishes over the past few years, namely the celebration of a separate **Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW)** during Sunday mass.

Please join us on the following Sundays at the 10:00 mass.
What is CLOW?

During mass, after the opening prayer, children Pre-K through 6th grade, are invited to go to the church hall to hear the readings of the day proclaimed and explained in age appropriate language. The children rejoin their families during the preparation of the gifts at the offertory. *Younger children are often accompanied by their parents.*

Join us on the following Sundays:

February 11, March 10, April 21, May 12, (Mother's Day) June 16

SPECIAL NEEDS PARENTS GROUP MEETING

We invite parents/guardians with children/adults with all special needs or IEP's to join us to share and exchange ideas in an informal setting. We will be meeting at 10:00 AM on:

Tuesday, February 13th
Tuesday, March 19th

For information please contact Georgette Lyons at 718-631-1307 or email at shreligiousdbay-side@yahoo.com

FAMILY MASS

Our Family Masses are held on Sunday at the 10:00 am Mass. The Family Mass schedule is listed below:



**February 4, March 3,
April 7, May 5,
June 2.**

Please join us in the Church Hall after mass.

Light refreshments will be served.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Classes are ongoing.



Our program is for children in public or private schools. The Diocese requires two years of religious instruction to receive the Sacrament of Communion and Confirmation. This program is for children 1st thru 8th grade, older children and special needs children.

If you wish to register a child for classes, submit the registration form electronically from the Parish website, or call Mrs. Lyons, Director of Religious Education at 718-631-1307 or email shreligiousedbayside@yahoo.com.

Heart to Heart Ministry

Women's Brunch Retreat

A Muffin..and a Cup of Love

Guest Christian Musician ALVERLIS

Saturday, Feb., 10, 2024 9:45am to Noon

Location:

American Martyrs Parish, Sullivan Hall

79-43 Bell Blvd. Bayside, N. Y.

Parking entrance at corner Bell Blvd & Union Tpk.

Please RSVP to Sr. Ave Clark

At 718-428-2471 (Speak directly to her)

FLUSHING FIRST FRIDAY CLUB

The Flushing First Friday Club will meet on **February 2nd at 12:00 Noon**, Verdi's of Whitestone for the Celebration of Mass, immediately followed by lunch. Cost \$45.00 Speaker will be Very Rev. Joseph R. Gibino, S.T.M. Ph.D, Pastor St. Charles Boromeo and the Vicar for Evangelization & Catechesis in the Diocese of Brooklyn

AA BEGINNERS MEETING ST. JOSAPHAT CHURCH, BAYSIDE

Are you having trouble at work or in your relationship at home? Do you think alcohol might have something to do with it? Are you afraid the answer may be yes?

AA Beginners Meeting Every Friday evening from 7:30 to 8:30pm

at St. Josaphat Church, 34-32 210th St., Bayside (enter 210th St.) Please call 914-393-3122 for info.

ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY

The St. John's University Speech and Hearing Center will be offering **FREE** speech and hearing screenings. They also will offer "Hearing Aid Help" this is a free service and is available for anyone who has a hearing aid and may be experiencing some difficulty in caring & use.

The above will be offered from January 29th through April 25th, 2024

The office is located at
152-11 Union Turnpike, Flushing, N. Y.
Please call to set up an appointment at
718-990-6480

PILGRIMAGE TO MOTHER ANGELICA, EWTN & SHRINE OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT!

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APRIL 16—19, 2024

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PER PERSON)

Pilgrimage Cost Includes:

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All Gratuities

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CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Christmas Flower collection. Your generosity enhanced the beauty of our Church during the Christmas season.

Dr. & Mrs. Nicasio I. Arana

In Memory of Felix Medel, Marcelina Medel, Danilo Medel & Imelda Medel

Eliana Arcila

In Memory of Orlando Arcila & Rosalba Agudelo

Joseph & Judy Becker

In Memory of Joseph G. & Mary Becker, Christopher Becker, William & Alma Ritman, Sarah Anne Becker, George Blomquist & Jadwiga Stefanska

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Belczynski

In Memory of Sylvester Evangelista

Mary & Jim Bitetto

In Memory of Anne & James Shields, Noreen & James Bitetto

Ms. Loretta Boehm

In Memory of Drew

Mary Borrero

In Memory of Fernando Borrero

Ann Brady & Family

In Memory of Hugh & Pat Brady, Rowland Family & Rose O'Conner

Mrs. Rita Brennan

In Memory of Enriquita Mourino

Michael Califano

In Memory of Gail Califano

Mrs. Romolo Catalano

Mr. Raul Chappell & Family

Cecelia Peng-Clapso

In Memory of Noah & Rose Peng, Michael & Jennie Clapso, Paul Clapso & Zheng-Hu Peng

The Cooney Family

Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Dunham

In Memory of The Deceased Members of the Dunham & Babich Families

Mrs. Sylvester Evangelista

In Memory of Sylvester Evangelista

Patricia A. Farrell

In Memory of Edward J. Maloney, Gottlieb Risch, Thomas J. Farrell & Mary Maloney

Mr. & Mrs. Desmond Flynn

In Memory of Desmond Flynn, Sr. & Doree Flynn

Mrs. Thomas A. Freeman

In Memory of Thomas Freeman, Adele & Alfred Freeman, Josephine & Luigi Della Femina, Andrew Abraham & John Russell Freeman

Sandi Furci

Mr. & Mrs. Edward Gonzales

Georgia Gretchyn & Family

In Memory of Virginia Fisher

Ms. Maryanne Grossi

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Heavey

In Memory of Heavey Family, Glynn Family, Maureen Brosnan, Daniel O'Sullivan & Catherine Raitano

Mrs. Kathleen Hoag

In Memory of James & Alice Williams, John Hoag & Rita & Ed Hoag

Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Kenny

In Memory of John & Ann Jennings

Mr. & Mrs. Fred Kho

In Memory of Choa Sy Long, Robinson Cie, Adela Yu, Po Tee Ong Kho & Kho King Ting

Mr. Charles Leiser

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Lobosco

Mr. & Mrs. John Lo Giudice

Mr. & Mrs. Jon E. Lontok

Mrs. Edie Miozzi

Mr. & Mrs. William Montgomery

Deceased Members of the Keane & Montgomery Families

Emily Mosberg

Harold Mosberg, Deceased Members of the Conticelli Family

Mr. & Mrs. Peter McGuirk

In Memory of Joan McGuirk & Jim McGuirk

Dorothy & Joseph Nemeth

In Memory of Deceased Members of the Born & Nemeth Families



**CHRISTMAS FLOWER
DONATIONS
CONTINUED**

Mrs. R. O'Donohue

In Memory of Lt. Col. Raymond O'Donohue

Ria O'Donnell—In Memory of John O'Donnell

Victor Gorman—In Memory of Florida Paez

Mr. & Mrs. Marc Palumbo

In Memory of Sean Misciagna, Helen Santangelo, Ann Smigelski & Rose Lo Macchio

Mr. & Mrs. George Pastor

In Memory of Octavio Pastor, Paquita De Pastor, Max Dos Santos & Leonor De Jalon

Ms. Nina Principe

In Memory of Vincenzo Modica & Family & Vincenzo Gulino & Family

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Sauer

In Memory of Carmela Fristachi, Joseph N. Fristache, Catherine Sauer & Robert T. Sauer

Dr. Helen L. Schleimer

In Memory of Lilli & Frank Schleimer & Antoinette & Michael Scicutella

Dr. Angela Scicutella

In Memory of The Scicutella Family, Leo Family & Schleimer Family

Diana Toro-Sepulveres

In Memory of Lucila Tofino De Toro

Ms. Roberta M. Stark

In Memory of The Living & Deceased Members of the Stark Family

Mrs. Cathy Tempesta

In Memory of Mary & Chic Gippetti

Ms. Margaret Toro

In Memory of John & Noreen Gillholey, Gloria Toro, John & Eileen Gillholey & Margaret McNulty

Thomas J. Valenti

In Memory of Antoinette & Gabriel Valenti

Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Warman- In Memory of Mary McCall

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Wieczorek

In Memory of Fr. Edward Wieczorek

Ms. Alice E. Williams

In Memory of Newcomb Family, Gardocki Family, E. F. Stration Family & Williams & Hoag Families

SENIOR CLUB

Our senior club meets every other Wednesday in the lower church from 11:30 to 3 PM. Enter on 215th Place. Mark your calendars for the following meeting dates:

January, 31

February, 14 & 28

March, 13 & 27

April, 10 & 24

May, 8 & 22

June, 5 & 19

SOCIAL HOUR takes place from 11:30 to 12:30 with coffee, tea and pastries available.

GENERAL MEETING

begins at 12:30 with announcements and a true 50/50 drawing.

BINGO AND OTHER VARIOUS Table Games begin at 12:45 and continue until closing at 3:00PM

**FOR INFORMATION CALL
SISTER KATHLEEN AT
718-631-4804 & Press 6**

THIS WEEK ON **FORMED**

Week of January 28, 2024



A Bible Study on the Joyful Mysteries: The Presentation

What is the importance of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple? Join Dr. James Prothro and Dr. Ben Akers as they unpack this great mystery and how it can apply to your spiritual life.



Exorcisms: What Catholics Need to Know | Chris Stefanick Show

Scripture says, "Be sober and alert. Your opponent the devil is prowling like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, solid in your faith." In other words, the Christian life involves spiritual combat. But a lot of Catholics aren't really familiar with this idea. So to start unpacking it, we're talking to Fr. Chad Ripperger, an exorcist priest.



Saint John Bosco: Mission to Love

Flavio Insinna gives a winning performance as John Bosco, the great priest and educator of youth. Beautifully filmed in Italy, this epic movie dramatizes the many challenges that he had to overcome from his childhood all the way to founding his religious order.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.
Visit [signup.formed.org](https://www.formed.org) and select our parish name.

They Liked Listening to Him!

This Week's Readings at Mass

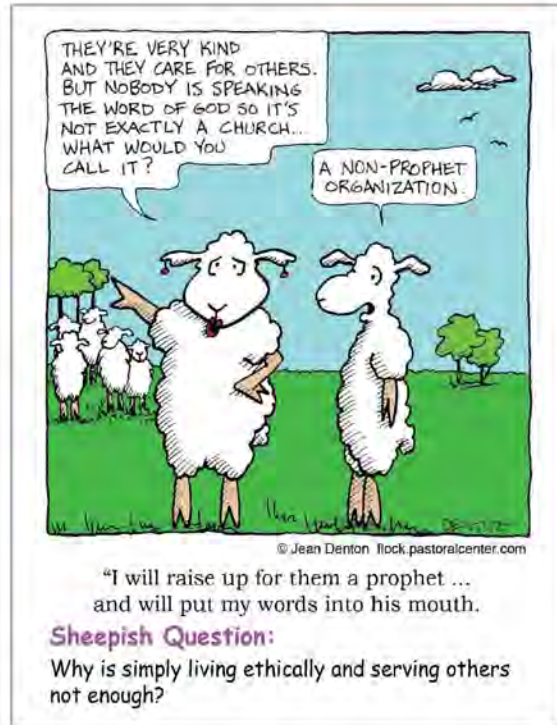
- ▶ Deuteronomy 18:15-20 - A prophet like Moses
- ▶ 1 Corinthians 7:32-35 - The state of virginity
- ▶ Mark 1:21-28 - Cure of a demoniac

It's easy to be impressed by all the miracles Jesus worked: he healed the sick, raised the dead, gave sight to the blind, and fed thousands starting with only a small amount of bread. What we might not always catch from hearing the gospels is what an amazing speaker and teacher Jesus was.

We've probably all had a mix of good, average, and bad teachers in our day. The bad ones might have bored us as they taught something that didn't seem very relevant. Maybe they didn't seem interested in us as individuals. Maybe they were rigid in the classroom. Perhaps they talked like know-it-alls and didn't have patience with students who "didn't get it" or didn't follow their directions exactly.

Then there are the great teachers. They are excited about what they are teaching, and they get the students excited about it too. They care about their students as individuals. They offer support and encouragement, but also expect a lot from their students, who usually rise to the occasion. Great teachers win

the respect of their students by "walking the walk" rather than just "talking the talk."



In this reading Mark gives us a glimpse of what people thought of Jesus as a teacher. For someone who didn't have all the fancy education that the scribes and Pharisees had, Jesus amazed and astonished the crowd with his words. The gospel doesn't tell us exactly what Jesus taught that day, but whatever it was thrilled and excited his listeners. They recognized him as having authority beyond the religious leaders who usually preached during their synagogue services. On top of that, Jesus matched his teaching with his actions when he healed the man with an unclean spirit. No wonder his fame spread throughout the whole region. People recognize a great teacher and leader when they see one.

Questions of the Week

- 1 Talk about great teachers you've had in your life. What made them so good? Can you imagine Jesus having these same qualities as a teacher?
- 2 What do you think the difference was between Jesus teaching "as one having authority" and the teachings the people were used to by the scribes?

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