

**HEARTS ON FIRE  
SACRED HEART VALUES REFLECTION  
SEPTEMBER: DISCERNMENT**

*The person or group who will share this reflection should gather in a quiet place and begin with a moment of silence (and perhaps light a candle or some other way of being mindful of prayer).*

*All make the sign of the cross together:*  
In the name of the Father, and of the Son...

*One person reads the Scripture passage: Acts 1:15-17, 18a, 21-26*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

**During those days Peter stood up in the midst of the brothers (there was a group of about one hundred and twenty persons in the one place). He said, "My brothers, the scripture had to be fulfilled which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand through the mouth of David, concerning Judas, who was the guide for those who arrested Jesus. He was numbered among us and was allotted a share in this ministry. He bought a parcel of land with the wages of his iniquity.**

**Therefore, it is necessary that one of the men who accompanied us the whole time the Lord Jesus came and went among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day on which he was taken up from us, become with us a witness to his resurrection." So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed, "You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this apostolic ministry from which Judas turned away to go to his own place." Then they gave lots to them, and the lot fell upon Matthias, and he was counted with the eleven apostles.**

The Word of the Lord.

*All read the Parish Mission Statement together:*

**Sacred Heart Parish is a welcoming Catholic community which inspires faith in God through prayer, sacraments and service while living Gospel values as faithful followers of Jesus Christ.**

*One person reads the definition of discernment:*

Discernment means seeking God's will for our decisions by embracing Catholic tradition.

*Spend a few moments in silence answering the following questions (you can write your answers if you like):*

1. What does this value say to you?

2. How do you experience this value at Sacred Heart?

3. How could this value be enhanced at Sacred Heart?

*Spend a few moments sharing your answers to the three questions. If the group has more than four members, share your answers with one other person.*

*Finish this reflection by praying the Hearts on Fire prayer together:*

**Let us pray.**

**Most Sacred Heart of Jesus,  
set our hearts on fire for love of you  
and help our parish to know how to best serve you.**

**Help our parish to**

**follow you,**

**invite participation,**

**renew community,**

**and explore our future**

**by discerning together how we can be your faithful disciples.**

**You have been our inspiration for many years;**

**may we continue to trust in you**

**and place you above all else in our lives.**

**We make this prayer in your holy name,**

**for you live and reign in unity**

**with the Father and the Holy Spirit,**

**one God, forever and ever. Amen.**