




Sacred Heart Catholic Church

October 2014

An Introduction to Fr. Sebastian Tumusiime

One of the most beautiful things about our Catholic faith is that the prayers, the Mass, and the traditions are the same all over the world. There is a comfort to be found in the familiar, and it provides us the opportunity to be part of the Church's mission, no matter where in the world we may be. And now, with Fr. Sebastian Tumusiime here with us all the way from his native Uganda, by way of Canada, we can experience firsthand the universality of our faith that shows how we are all truly one body in Christ.

By now, some of you may have already met Fr. Sebastian, but in case you haven't here are a few quick facts – he is the second of five siblings; having lived all his life near the equator, he finds winter especially difficult; he really appreciates the hospitality found in the Midwest, he loves to watch soccer, his favorite food is prime rib, and his favorite saint is St. Joseph. But to really know Father is to also understand where he is from, and it's a story he likes to share.

Fr. Sebastian grew up in Mbarara, in western Uganda, in the small village of Nsiika, which literally means "the place where fried food is prepared." Incredibly, the majority of people living there are Catholic, so the faith is learned from parents, older siblings, catechists, and



Fr. Sebastian Tumusiime

school teachers. Father says that in Uganda, children grow up knowing the need for prayer, and they learn how to pray at a very early age. In fact, it is common practice for a mother, before breastfeeding her child, to begin with a prayer or the sign of the cross. In Father's case, both his parents were very religious. The family lived six miles from their home parish, St. Joseph's, and his parents made sure they never missed going to church on Sundays.

"In addition to Mass, we always prayed at home," Father says. "At bedtime, we all had to come to the living room and pray evening prayers, which we had to memorize. These would be followed by the Rosary, litanies and, as I remember, the last prayer was always for a happy death – in case we didn't make it to the following day! Then the next day, we had another set of morning prayers."

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Fr. Sebastian Tumusiime *continued from front cover*

So when did Father first begin discerning the priesthood? The idea came, very simply, when he was an altar server – something he took very seriously. Because he didn't own a watch, whenever Father was scheduled to serve, he would leave very early in the morning to ensure that he would arrive to the church on time. He walked the six miles, and the first thing he did upon arriving was to wash the dust off his feet. And it was there, while serving



Fr. Sebastian Tumusiime in Uganda with his mother

at a Mass, that he wondered if it would be possible for him to study for the priesthood. When a friend encouraged him to apply, Father mentioned his desire to his parents who were overjoyed at the news.

“My parents’ faith was crucial in the discernment of my vocation,” Fr. Sebastian says. “I remember how my father’s love for his faith followed him to the workplace. Because of his mastery of languages and his participation in Church life, he was elected catechist and a trustee of the church, and was even given an award for his good work. I admired him, and from him I learned that I wanted to work for the Church.”

So Father applied to the seminary, and he was just one of two applicants, out of 12, who passed the entrance interview. Fr. Sebastian remembers that while he was confident God was calling him to the priesthood, he was less confident on how he would be able to pay for his education. He was keenly aware of his family’s poverty – on the day of his interview, he was wearing borrowed clothes from his older brother – and Father says that it wasn’t until his second year of minor seminary that he even owned a pair of shoes.

“My seminary experience was a difficult time, mainly because I was in arrears on my tuition,” Fr. Sebastian says. “Before the end of the first year in seminary, my father had sold the iron sheets from the roof of our house, thatched it with grass, and used the money to pay for tuition. My father, who was then a peasant, would raise half the money for school and upkeep and tell me, ‘Take this and go.’ Even today, I don’t

know how he managed to raise even that much to care for me and my siblings. My mother never went to school, my father only reached third grade, but I always thank God for parents who wanted their children to have the opportunities they never had. Unfortunately, this is the struggle most of the priests of our diocese go through in their formation.”

Father’s seminary experience – including his years in minor seminary – lasted from January 1983 until July

1997, and after his ordination he worked in various parishes, seminaries, and in the Bishop’s office as a secretary. In 2003, he studied for his MA degree in Pastoral Theology in Nijmegen, the Netherlands, after which he was offered the opportunity to pursue a graduate degree in Canon Law. This explains why Fr. Sebastian has been studying in Canada during the school year, and then working in the Quad Cities during the summer. In the near future, he hopes to complete his studies in Canada and then return to Uganda to work for his diocese.

In looking back through the years, Father says the happiest moment was the day of his ordination, and the most difficult was when his father passed away. While he was able to minister to his father in his last hours, Fr. Sebastian regrets that he wasn’t able to repay his father for all his years of sacrifice. Today, his mother is still living, and this October he will travel to Uganda to spend a few weeks with her.

Finally, despite the struggles with poverty he experienced during his formation, the cultural adjustments of living in a foreign country, the language barrier and the harsh winters, Fr. Sebastian loves being a priest. It is what he was meant to do.

“I always say to myself that even if I do not have much to offer, let me offer at least a smile!” Fr. Sebastian says. “Working with Fr. Mark DeSutter gives me joy and confidence that I will love being at Sacred Heart. I also owe my happiness to Sacred Heart parishioners who have welcomed me and made me feel at home.”

A Letter From Our Pastor

OCTOBER PRESENTS OPPORTUNITIES TO *Celebrate Life*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

October is a month when the church celebrates life. This is Pro-Life Month. We begin the month with the Feast of St. Francis on October 4th. On that day, it is the tradition of the church to bless animals. Usually, in an urban setting, we bless pets. We remember that a Christian respects all creation and treasures it. My family owned a variety of pets as I was growing up – from turtles, to fish, to birds, to dogs, and everything in between. I learned that the existence of these creatures depended on me. The pets, in turn, gave me joy as I played with them and they also gave me companionship when I needed it. These were two great gifts.



As we move through the month of October, the Catholic Church teaches about human life from its conception until its natural end. In the last two years, I have walked through the last stages of life with my parents and my priest mentor. It was difficult, but also it was very meaningful to see how these three dear people affected the lives of those around them. The death of someone who lives their life well is sorrowful, but also uplifting. Their courage inspired me in my struggles. The end of life can be a celebration of the completion of the journey.

We celebrate the feasts of many saints this month, and the month culminates in the All Hallows Eve. On that night, when we are halfway through the fall, we remember the dead who are separated from us by only a thin veil that can be pulled back at any time. The Saints pray for us and we are still in communion with them.

I invite everyone to participate in all of our pro-life events this October. We are often made aware of what the church is against. It is important to remember that church also stands for many positive things, including the respect of all life.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fr. Mark DeSutter".

Fr. Mark DeSutter

Et Nos Unum Sumus: **We Are One Global Family**

We are all made in the image and likeness of God. We are all His children, and as such, one of the greatest things we can do for each other is simply acknowledge that fact and embrace each other as



brothers and sisters. This month, our parish is offering the youth and everyone in our parish the opportunity to do that on a global scale — *Et Nos Unum Sumus* (And We Are One).
it is possible to see how we are all made in the image of God. It also helps us see that we should be helping our brothers and sisters that may be in need.”

During this celebration, there will be tables set up

for people around the world to share their culture, and there will also be people sharing their experiences traveling abroad, as well as vendors and dancers.



“All of these will be important to showing how as one body we can make a difference, that we are all one,” Ivy says.

“Community is one of the most important things the Church can offer,” says Ivy Padula, Director of Religious Education at Sacred Heart. “As Catholics, we are called to community. This is a great opportunity because World Youth Day is a national, and international, celebration.”

Everyone in the parish is invited to join in this wonderful celebration.

Et Nos Unum Sumus will be held in the Sacred Heart Parish Hall on Oct. 26, from noon to 4 p.m. The purpose of this program is to celebrate World Youth Day in the United States and to demonstrate that everyone across the globe is an important member of God’s creation.

“This event is special and important because it celebrates youth,” Ivy says. “It celebrates all the people God created in his image. It is a unique experience to have these many cultures and people all in one place. It gives people an opportunity to learn new things. This also helps everyone, especially youth, see the global community they live in. Every day, youth are able to write to someone across the world, see a music video from South America, or read a tweet from someone in Africa without ever meeting someone living in that country. This event puts a face to the global society in which they live.”

“I am very passionate about teaching others about cultures around the world,” Ivy says. “By learning about other cultures,

In doing so, *Et Nos Unum Sumus* will bring the youth and all who participate a greater understanding of the lives God’s people are living all over the world.

“Every day, youth are able to write to someone across the world, see a music video from South America, or read a tweet from someone in Africa without ever meeting someone living in that country.

“This event will add to parish life because it gives a glimpse of how people throughout the world are living,” Ivy says. “It’s a glimpse of how they are celebrating life – how even with all our differences we are the same, and will open their eyes to what they can see throughout the world.”

This event puts a face to the global society in which they live.” – Ivy Padula, Director of Religious Education

For more information about *Et Nos Unum Sumus* or to volunteer, please call Ivy Padula at 309-762-2362 ext. 210 or email her at ivygoes2church@sacredheartmoline.org.

Fall Festival-Oktoberfest to Offer Fun and Support for School

A great evening of fun, fellowship and support for Seton School is approaching with the Ninth Annual Fall Festival-Oktoberfest set for 6:30 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 18, in Culemans Hall at Seton School.

Beth Behrends and Meghan Welch, co-chairs, have been hard at work with their committee to ensure a good time for all.

“Meghan and I have been friends forever,” Beth says. “It is easy to do it together.”

The event serves as a key fundraiser for the different enrichment programs and equipment at Seton School.

“This year we will have a live and silent auction, heavy hors d’oeuvres with German flair, and a DJ,” Beth says. “The focus is on beer tasting. If you get a commemorative glass mug, you have unlimited beer tasting for the night. We’re going to have a variety of fall beers for people to try.”

One of the top items in the live auction will be a stay in a Fort Myers, Fla. condominium on a country club golf course.

“There’s a pretty wide range of dates to use it,” Beth says.

Other auction items include school-related choices, such as front row seats for the Christmas program. There will also be artwork crafted by students available for bidding and purchase.

Beth, who is in her third year of working on the Festival, says the event is a wonderful opportunity to meet others affiliated with Seton School, as well as the parents of your child’s classmates.

“Seton is such a community and they’re all friendly,” she says. “It’s a great group of people to work with.”

Volunteering to work on the Festival serves as a way to offer stewardship to the school, Beth notes.

“I have a son who is in first grade,” she says. “I want him to know it’s important to do things that benefit others. Community involvement is very important.”

The Festival promises to be a social, casual and fun evening. In addition to the beer tasting, there will be a cash bar.

“For new parents to meet others in the school, or older parents, it’s a great event to hang out and have a great night to support the school,” Beth says.

Tickets are \$25 each, in advance, and can be purchased by contacting the Seton School office at 309-757-5500, or calling Beth on her mobile phone at 309-912-5966. Tickets purchased at the door will be \$30 each.



Oktoberfest
Join us
for an Oktoberfest celebration!
Seton Catholic School
9th Annual Fall Festival
October 18th, 2014
6:30pm - midnight
Culemans Hall
1400 16th Avenue Moline, IL
Seton Campus
Cost per person: \$25 in advance, \$30 at door
make checks payable to: Seton Parents' Club
1320 16th Avenue Moline, IL 61265
for more information call: (309) 912-5966
rsvp by October 8th
● heavy hors d'oeuvres ● cash bar
● live & silent auction ● entertainment
● unlimited tastings with purchase of commemorative stein

“I have a son who is in first grade. I want him to know it’s important to do things that benefit others. Community involvement is very important – for new parents to meet others in the school, or older parents, it’s a great event to hang out and have a great night to support the school.” – Beth Behrends, Fall Festival-Oktoberfest co-chair

OUR ANNUAL Stewardship Renewal

*Commitment
Weekend is
October 4-5. Don't
forget to bring your
Commitment Card
to Mass!*

You have to take care of yourself before you can take care of those you love. This rationale is difficult for many of us to accept. Mothers and fathers routinely place the needs of their children before their own; soldiers at war often throw their own safety to the wind in the interest of protecting their fellow soldiers. The story of Jesus also focuses on giving to others. If Christ calls us to imitate Him – to become completely selfless – then it would seem that focusing on ourselves might counteract our efforts as Christians.

Nevertheless, as we enter into our annual Stewardship Renewal, Fr. Mark DeSutter is asking us all to focus a bit more on ourselves. No, he's not encouraging self-centeredness; he's asking us to examine our own lives and determine the areas that are in need of growth. Before the stewardship way of life can totally transform our parish, it must begin in each of our hearts. As each individual's spiritual life blossoms and grows, so will our parish as a whole. Will you plant the seed of stewardship in your own heart?

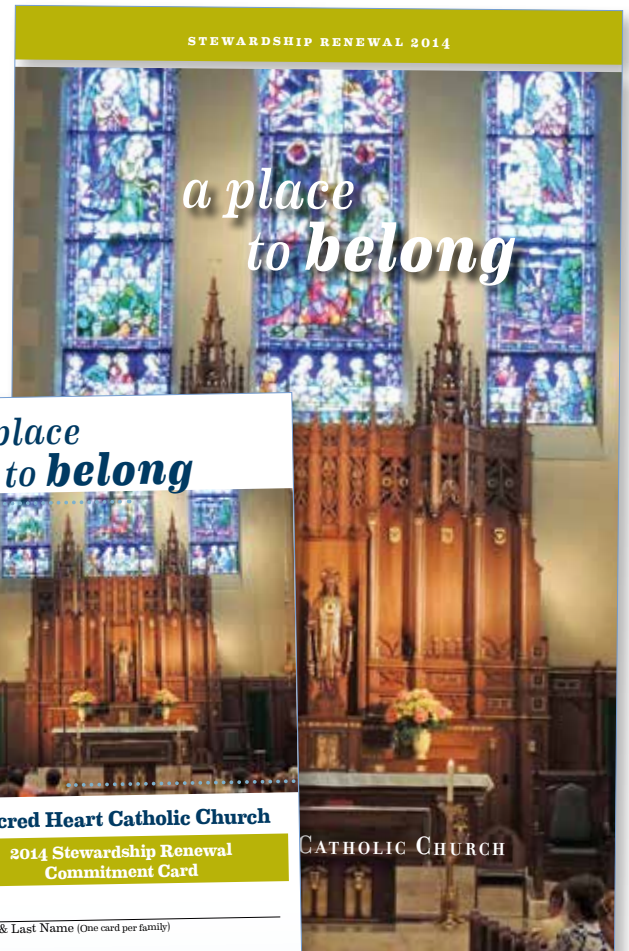
How do I use my Commitment Card?

Your commitment card allows you to make commitments to prayer, parish ministries, and offertory giving. It is designed to be used by the whole family.

Time Section: Except for the ill and homebound, everyone should be able to check "Come to Mass on Sundays and Holy Days." Try to check at least a few other items. Daily prayer should be a priority for every person trying to grow closer to God.

Talent Section: You can either sign up for new ministries or re-commit to your current ministries. Be sure to write your first name next to the ministry! This is especially important if the card is being used by more than one person.

Treasure Section: Clearly print how much money you plan to give each week or month to Sacred Heart.



STEWARDSHIP RENEWAL 2014

*a place
to belong*

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
2014 Stewardship Renewal
Commitment Card

First & Last Name (One card per family) _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Telephone (Important) _____

Email _____

Please bring this card to Mass on
October 4th or 5th, or mail using the
envelope provided. Thanks and God bless you!

Sacred Heart Estate Planning: *Durable Powers of Attorney*

Probably the two most important estate planning documents for the average person are the Will and Durable Powers of Attorney – sometimes collectively referred to as “advanced directives.” Let’s start with a discussion of Durable Powers of Attorney.

What is a Durable Power of Attorney, and why should every person have one?

A power of attorney is where you (as “principal”) give someone else (your “agent” or “attorney-in-fact”) the authority to execute (sign) documents on your behalf that bind you legally. For the power of attorney to be effective, you must have sufficient mental capacity (be competent) to understand the implications of the document. Prior to Illinois passing the Durable Power of Attorney Act (effective Sept. 22, 1987) a properly executed Power of Attorney became invalid once you as principal became mentally disabled (incompetent). This would necessitate the family to petition the court for a guardianship of the person to make health care decisions or guardianship of the estate (formerly known as a conservatorship) to manage your assets. This was costly and time-consuming.

The law now allows the power of attorney to remain valid even during periods of disability – therefore “durable.” This avoids the need for a court appointed guardian or conservator, although these options are still available.

The statute created two forms for powers of attorney – one for Health Care and the other for Property. Each form may be general or limited. A limited power of attorney may give someone the right to sign a deed to property on a day

when you are out of town, or it may allow someone to sign checks for you. A general power is comprehensive and gives your attorney-in-fact all the powers and rights that you have yourself. The documents may become effective upon signing or take effect at a later date – for example, upon your disability. You may designate a certain individual as your agent for one form and a different person as agent for the other. You may only designate one person at a time to act as agent but can appoint a successor agent if you so desire. You can always change your agent at anytime as long as you are competent.

In choosing your agent, caution should be taken to choose someone you trust because their actions are not monitored by the court as are guardianships, although the agent must at all times act in your best interests.

The basic features of a Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care include:

- Organ donation
- Living Will provision where you can indicate whether you want life-prolonging procedures, like artificial respirators, to be withheld if you develop a terminal condition and are near death. Note that even if you have a living will, food, water, pain and comfort medication are still to be provided.
- Choose when the document becomes effective.
- Choose when the document terminates, if other than by your death.
- Appoint a successor agent in the event the agent you designated cannot act.
- May limit an agent’s authority in any manner you desire.

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Power of Attorney

I, _____, undersigned

(legal name)

(social security number)

residing at _____



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Mass Times

Sundays: 7, 9, 11 a.m.
Saturday Vigil: 4 p.m.
Daily Masses (M-F): 6:30, 8:30 a.m.
Saturday Morning: 8:30 a.m.

Confessions

Saturday: 3 to 4 p.m.
and by appointment, call 762-2362

Eucharistic Adoration (St. Francis Chapel)

Wednesday: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
First Friday: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Durable Powers of Attorney *continued from page 7*

• Designate a guardian of your person if needed.
The basic features of a Durable Power of Attorney for Property include:

- Giving your agent general, specific or limited authority to act.
- Designate a guardian of your estate.
- Choose when the document becomes effective.
- Choose when the document terminates, if other than by your death.
- Appoint a successor agent in the event the agent you designated cannot act.

- You do not have to transfer title to any of your assets as you would if you created a trust as your agent steps into your shoes for all purposes that you specify in the document.

Next time, we'll discuss the make-up and purpose of having a Will.

Please note – these articles are not intended to be a guide for the “do-it-yourselfer.” Rather, their purpose is to assist you when discussing estate planning with your attorney, accountant, insurance agent, financial planner or other professional adviser.