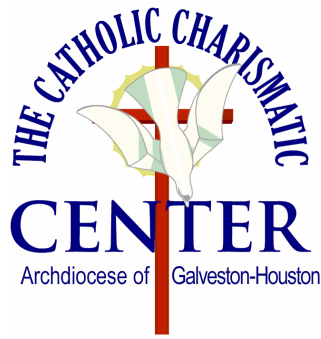


# ALIVE IN THE SPIRIT GATHERING

## CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC CENTER



### BELIEVE THAT GOD LOVES US UNCONDITIONALLY

As we are in the Jubilee year of St. Paul, we will reflect on Paul's Letter to the Romans. Romans 8:28, tells us "We know that in all things God works for good with those who love him, those whom he has called according to his purpose.

*"What is the #1 thing that keeps us from God?"*

There are many things that we could say will separate us from God or take us away from spending time with God: the culture of death, advances in technology, sexual impurity, pornography, etc... Let's first consider that it starts with our not believing in the love of God the Father, not believing that God loves us unconditionally.

AUGUST 8, 2008

PRESENTER: Rev. John Keller

TOPIC: Believe that God  
Loves Us Unconditionally

SCRIPTURE: Let's reflect on Romans 8: 31-39: God's Love in Christ Jesus – (31) If God is for us, who can be against us? You may feel unloved, rejected, and feel you are only loved if you are good; however, we are told that God will not condemn us! (32-34) God gave us his own Son to save us! God declares us not guilty. Jesus Christ who died and was raised to life, and is at the right hand of God the Father pleads with him for us! Jesus, the High Priest and Intercessor, prays for us, calls us by name!

*"Who then can separate us from the love of Christ?" Romans 8:35*

Romans 8:35, tells us that trouble, hardship, persecution, hunger, poverty, danger or death will not separate us from the love of Christ. We can reflect on the anxieties and fears of our day. Do we live in fear? Do we fear the stock market, having inadequate retirement funds, the upcoming elections, high gas prices, losing my job, etc...? ***Nothing can come between God, and us!***

Who has the throne in my heart? Lord God, are you on the throne or are my fears and concerns on the throne of my heart? Will you let fear dominate and take control or let God on the throne? Let's surrender our fear of retirement, starvation, poor health, unemployment, etc..., and focus on God's unconditional love.

*"...In all these things we have complete victory through him who loved us!" Romans 8:37*

Romans 8:38-39 tells us: "For I am certain that nothing can separate us from his love: neither death nor life, neither angels nor other heavenly rulers or powers, neither the present nor the future, neither the world above nor the world below- there is nothing in all creation that will ever be able to separate us from the love of God which is ours through Christ Jesus our Lord."

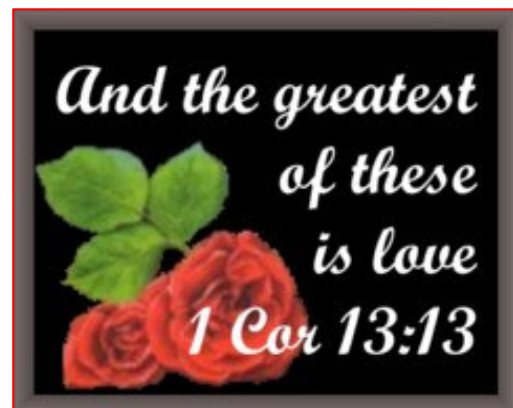
The list can also include the evil that is around us, astrology, and the idols we have allowed to be the center of our lives. We are the only ones who can keep ourselves from getting to heaven. Am I interested in something else over God's love, for example, astrology to direct my life? You are invited to accept God's love. Put God on the throne of your heart, in the center of your life; not to judge or condemn me, but to let God love me. Notice how God loves me throughout the day from the beginning of the day as I make him Lord of the throne (my heart).

#### OTHER SCRIPTURES FOR REFLECTION

Sirach 39:12-21  
Hymn in Praise of God

1 Peter 1:6-12  
"...faith is more precious than gold ..."

1 John 1:1-4  
The Word of Life



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS