

SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 2019
THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD
OF CHRIST (CORPUS CHRISTI)

PASTOR'S MESSAGE JUNE 23, 2019

My dear parishioners and friends,

18 years ago, on the day of my ordination to the priesthood, I never imagined that I would one day be compelled to write an article defending the ministerial priesthood. Yet, in the wake of so much "bad press", some Catholics are wondering whether the problems in the Church ALL stem from retaining the institution of a celibate, all-male clergy.

Let's be clear about this, the problems we are experiencing in the Church and in the world around us arise from the inherent tendency in human beings toward sin. J.D. Flynn wrote in a brief article published in the May 24th edition of the Catholic Herald, "It should not surprise anyone to discover wickedness among the ranks of the Catholic priesthood. Everyone with a modicum of self-awareness already knows that wickedness is endemic to the human condition. ... a disposition toward evil seems our perpetual condition, and acting on that disposition seems to come rather naturally." Flynn holds that having the celibate priesthood is not the cause of the problems we are experiencing today; however, the participation of the ministerial priesthood in reforming the Church is essential. "If we want to reform the Church – and all of us should – we can't hope to do so without the grace mediated to us through the sacramental priesthood. The priest who offers Christ's sacrifice at the altar is not de facto more virtuous than the rest of us, more wise, or less sinful. But he is set apart. He is singularly focused on offering the sacrifice of the Saviour, who can set us free from sin. He mediates the grace of that sacrifice in Confession. He initiates us into the mysteries, and he dispenses them – not because he is better than the rest of us, but because Christ has set him apart for our sake."

On this Feast of the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ we read the account of Jesus' institution of the Eucharist, telling his disciples to "Do this... in remembrance of me." And we hear in our gospel passage how Jesus told his disciples to feed the multitude of his followers, then he performed the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fish. Our first reading presents us with the archetypal priest from the Old Testament, Melchizedek the "righteous king", who blessed father Abraham and offered sacrifice on his behalf. Brothers and sisters, the Eucharist is the ultimate act of sacrifice, because it is the sacrifice of Jesus himself. Priests are set apart by God and by his Church to continue the sacrifice of Jesus on behalf of his people.

I think the question of whether or not the Church needs the ministerial priesthood is a broader issue than solving the momentary problems we are facing today. I believe it gets to the issue of whether or not without the institution of the priesthood we can remain faithful to our identity as the Roman Catholic Church.

*Fondly yours in Christ,
Fr. Bruce*

PARISH SUPPORT

Thank you for sharing the gift of your treasure so that we can continue to do God's work here
June 16th
Sunday Collection \$ 4966.00
"They all ate and were satisfied. And when the leftover fragments were picked up, they filled twelve wicker baskets." - Luke 9:17
The story of the Loaves and Fishes shows us that when we share what we have, even if it doesn't seem like that much, miracles can happen! Do not think that your gift is too small or insignificant! God blesses all the gifts we offer and makes them wondrous.



THURSDAY BINGO GAMES BEGIN AT 12:15PM. WE NOW OFFER BIGGER JACKPOTS, PROGRESSIVE AND 50/50 GAMES. COME OUT AND ENJOY YOURSELF AND WIN SOME MONEY AND HAVE FUN.

BUS TRIP TO THE SANDS, BETHLEHEM

ONLY 4 DAYS LEFT TO PURCHASE tickets for the bus trip to the Sands, Bethlehem, on Sunday, June 30th. Bus will leave at 8:45AM and return at approximately 6:00PM. Tickets are \$35.00 per person which includes \$25.00 back for play. Tickets must be purchased by June 24th. All proceeds will benefit the Epiphany Heritage Fund for the completion of the Rectory kitchen.

- 5:00PM Martin Pesce
- 8:00AM John Bucco
- 10:00AM Ann & Luke Jurovich
- 12:00PM Tomaso Picinic

MONDAY, JUNE 24

*THE NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN
THE BAPTIST*

- 8:00AM John J. Della Rosa, Sr.
- 11:30AM John Mattessich

TUESDAY, JUNE 25

- 8:00AM Stella & Joseph Oliveri
- 11:30AM Ints. of Andy & Eileen Skrivanic

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26

- 8:00AM Arnaldo Lombardo
- 11:30AM James Morin

THURSDAY, JUNE 27

ST. CYRIL OF ALEXANDRIA

- 8:00AM Milena Piccinich
- 11:30AM John & Marie Evers

FRIDAY, JUNE 28

THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS

- 8:00AM Caterina Tarabocchia
- 11:30AM Joyce Grabowski

SATURDAY, JUNE 29

STS. PETER & PAUL

- 11:30AM Martino Picinic
Zedenko Matesic
Antonia Matesic

- 5:00PM Carmela Iannaccone

SUNDAY, JUNE 30

13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- 8:00AM Christopher Johnson
- 10:00AM Ottavio Martire
- 12:00PM Girard Navarro

ALTAR BREAD

In Memory of

Anthony Tarabocchia



ALTAR WINE

In Memory of

John Picinic

PREPARING FOR MASS

The readings for next Sunday are:

1 Kgs 19:16b, 19-21

Elisha left everything to inherit Elijah's prophetic role.

Ps 16

"You are my inheritance, O Lord."

Gal 5:1, 13-18

A proper use of freedom includes service to others, motivated by love.

Lk 9:51-62

Jesus expects us to leave everything to follow him.

SUMMER RECTORY HOURS

Beginning on July 1st, the Rectory Office will only be open until 7:00PM from Monday-Friday. Saturday and Sunday the Office will be open from 10:00AM-2:00PM. Please note this change.

FOOD PANTRY

Our Food Pantry is in dire need of the following food items **ONLY**: sauce, cereal, oatmeal, instant potatoes, rice (1 lb bags), canned fruit, peanut butter & jelly, Ramen noodles, Chef Boyardee, coffee and tea. **DO NOT BRING ANY SOUP, VEGETABLES OR PASTA AT THIS TIME.** Thank you for your continued generosity.



CHRIST THE TEACHER SCHOOL

A 2018 National Blue Ribbon School

We will continue to have open registrations, provided there is availability, for Grades PK-3 year old program to Grade 8, from Monday-Friday, 9:00AM – 2:00PM, and invite you to make an appointment. Please note that being a parishioner offers you the opportunity of a discounted tuition rate. Please contact the school at 201-944-0421 or email us at info@christtheteacherschool.org for a tour.

THE PIVOTAL PLAYERS

On Thursday, June 27th, our parish adult faith formation program will continue with Bishop Robert Barron's series, The Pivotal Players. This is Bishop Barron's follow-up series to Catholicism. This month, the focus of our adult faith formation series is the celebrated 16th century sculptor and painter, Michelangelo Buonarroti. Michelangelo is not a saint; however, his prodigious artistic contributions make him worthy to be considered one of the "pivotal players". The church professes that the love and appreciation of beauty is a valid way to come to God because through humanity's creative endeavors we may glimpse the power and the glory of God's creation. Our monthly program is held at 1:00PM on Thursday in the newly renovated Rectory Conference Room (downstairs, next to the Food Pantry).

SHARING GOD'S BLESSINGS ANNUAL APPEAL

Our Archdiocese has been blessed with many hard-working, holy and dedicated priests who serve Christ and His people. There is no doubt that without the support of the Annual Appeal, forming such men would not be possible. Did you know that there is still time to support the 2019 Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal? Epiphany has received \$33,146.00 in pledges. Envelopes are at the church doors. Thank you to those parishioners who have already shown their support and generosity

DON'T MISS THE EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME!

Join Fr. Bruce on a journey to Oberammergau, Germany for the 2020 Passion Play, Rome and the Vatican. Our tour is set for July 16-23, 2020. We will fly from JFK airport to Munich. Then on to Oberammergau where, since 1624, every ten years the town has performed the Passion Play, recounting the last few days of Jesus' life before his death and resurrection. After spending a day in Innsbruck, Austria, we will travel on to Rome for three days, including the Papal audience in St. Peter's square on Wednesday! The price for the trip begins at \$4,298 for double occupancy and it includes airfare from New York, admission fees for museums, First Class Hotel accommodations and gratuities, program fees, daily breakfast and dinner, deluxe motor-coach transportation, and the Passion Play tickets for the performance in two parts (there is a break mid-way for dinner). Don't miss the opportunity for this experience of a lifetime! For more information, brochures are available in the Rectory and at the doors of the church. Make your reservation now!

REGISTRATION FOR THE 2019-2020 CCD CLASSES

Registration for the 2019-2020 CCD year will be held after all the masses on this weekend -June 22-23 in the Church Hall. Please bring your child's Baptismal Certificate (if not baptized at Epiphany). Registration fees are \$100 for sacramental grades 2 and 8 and \$85 for non-sacramental grades. Please call the rectory with any questions.

HEALING MASS

There will be a Healing Mass on Saturday, June 29th at 11:30 AM. All are welcome to attend.

CONGRATULATIONS

We wish to congratulate the following parishioners who won our William H. Cron Memorial Scholarships. The College Scholarship was won by Paul Major, Jr., who is attending Rutgers University, New Brunswick. The High School Scholarship was won by Chayse Jones, who will be attending St. Peter's Prep, Jersey City. We wish both these parishioners much success in their future endeavors.

SUMMER ENRICHMENT COURSES

Immaculate Heart Academy, Township of Washington, is hosting co-ed summer enrichment courses beginning July 8th-August 1st, grades 6th – 12th. Classes are Monday-Thursday, 9:00AM-12 Noon. Courses: Broadcasting, Intro to Geography, Creative Writing, Personal Leadership, Intro to Calligraphy, Intro to Algebra, watercolor and more. For info and to register visit www.ihanj.com or contact Kelly Tweed – 201-445-6800 or email ktweed@ijahn.com

CAMP ACORN

Do you have what it takes to change the world one person at a time? Everything you need is in you. Discover it today at Camp Acorn! Camp Acorn is an enrichment program for individuals with developmental disabilities. Become a volunteer counselor today and participate with our campers in activities like cooking, swimming, horticulture, sports, art, computers and more. Volunteering at Camp Acorn is flexible and you do not need to call ahead to reserve a spot. Just stop on by! The program starts Thursday, June 27th. As a volunteer you'll spend the day as a one-on-one counselor with a camper, going through the activities and being a friend. It's an experience that stays with you for a lifetime!

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF THE PARISH

Ann Callagher, Peter Bertinato, Caroline Craven, Felicia Martello, Arianna Cappola, Doris Levy, Cindy Simeone Reynolds, Baby Juliette Payne, Brian Hone, Cora Shaffer, Kathleen Warren Meserole, Baby Michael, Clyde Harger, Cesar Valdecantos, Kay Tak, Michele Spino, Evelyn Rodriguez, Barbara Snow, Mary Iannaccone, Doris Portillo, Teresita Zafra-Santos, Ann Marie Applegate, Geraldine Fox, Tatiana Flores, Rosalie Connors, Christopher Nash, Pat Romano, Donna Carrajat, Roberto Tarabocchia, Tony Martello, Little Gabriel, Rachel Rocks, Timmy Cappola, Sean O'Connor, Vladimir Drobikov, Vinka Uselj, Louanne Mitchell, Kathy Lennon, Colleen Meyers, Domenick Deodino, Marie Maraia, Rosemarie Liversidge, Patrick McLoughlin, Tony Aquilone, Concetta Giustra, Christine Caruso, Patrick Bove, Camille Moglia

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DECEASED OF THE PARISH

Lorraine Cotter, Sean Huster

**“WHEN THINGS GET TOUGH
ALWAYS REMEMBER FAITH DOESN'T
GET YOU AROUND TROUBLE, IT GETS
YOU THROUGH IT!”**