

THE GOOD NEWS LETTER

SEPTEMBER 27, 2019

THE EUCHARIST IS THE CENTER-POINT OF THE MASS - BUT WHY?

“The Lamb of God,” “The Bread of Life,” “The Body and the Blood of Christ”... these are phrases we know from the Mass. But do we understand what they mean in the greater and deeper context of Scripture and Church teaching? Acclaimed author and teacher Dr. Brant Pitre rigorously digs down to the biblical roots of the Eucharist, through its foreshadowing in the miraculous events of the Old Testament, the Gospels, and Apostolic teaching. We’ll discover firsthand how Christ’s Body and Blood are an integral and wondrous part of God’s plan for our salvation.



Dr. Brant Pitre is Distinguished Research Professor of Scripture at the Augustine Institute in Denver, CO. He earned his Ph.D. in Theology from the University of Notre Dame, where he specialized in the study of the New Testament and ancient Judaism. He is the author of several articles and the books. Dr. Pitre is an extremely enthusiastic and engaging speaker who lectures regularly across the United States. He has produced dozens of Bible studies on CD, DVD, and MP3, in which he explores the biblical foundations of Catholic faith and theology.

From Fr. Paul: “Dr. Pitre’s Lectio: Eucharist is the most powerful and enlightening series I have seen, teaching the roots and meaning of the Eucharist from the Old Testament to Calvary.”

“It is essential for every Catholic to understand what the Eucharist is since it is at the heart of our faith.” comments Fr. Paul.

Therefore, St. John’s will host a ten-week program on the Eucharist beginning Wednesday evening, October 16th, 6-7:15pm. This is open to all St. John’s and St. Mary’s parishioners. If you wish to bring a friend that wants to know more about the Eucharist, they are welcome also.

Jesus said, “This is my Body” and, “This is my Blood.” Some say they’re merely symbols of remembrance. Others say they’re really the Body and Blood of Christ, but can’t explain how that’s possible. The Eucharist is the center-point of the Mass—*but why?*

The answers are here. Renowned teacher Dr. Brant Pitre guides us through Scripture, history, and Church teaching to illuminate the wonder and miracle of the Eucharist. With deep insight, Dr. Pitre gives a fresh perspective for understanding the mystery that is the Eucharist.

Episode Listing:

1. Source and Summit: Introducing the Eucharist
2. In the Beginning: Garden of Eden and Sacrifice
3. Lamb of God: The Sacrifice of Isaac and the Passover Lamb
4. Miracles of Exodus: Manna and Water
5. Mysteries of the Tabernacle: The Bread of the Presence
6. Miracles of Jesus: Water, Wine, Loaves, and Fishes
7. Bread of Life Discourse: John 6 and the Real Presence
8. The Last Supper and the Cross: The New Passover of Christ
9. The Mass: Emmaus and the Mystery of the Eucharist
10. Revelation: Heavenly Worship and the End of Time

THAT I MAY LOVE THE WEAK

Do you ever get depressed about a situation? The late Archbishop Oscar Romero of El Salvador was quoted as saying: "It is wrong to be said. Christians cannot be pessimists. Christians must always nourish in their hearts the fullness of joy. Try it, bothers and sisters; I have tried it many times and in the darkest moments, when slander and persecution were at their worst: to unite myself intimately with Christ, my friend, and to feel a comfort that all the joys of the earth do not give—the joy of feeling oneself close to God, even when humans do not understand oneself. It is the deepest joy the heart can have." Oscar Romero was gunned down while celebrating Mass. He must have felt horribly threatened, and he could still speak these words. That's holiness. Some have it; others just yearn for it.

Jesus, my Messiah and Lord, I possess so much more than you did in your earthly ministry.

I do not beg for food or search for a place to sleep.

I travel in comfort and clothe myself more for style than necessity.

Allow me to see in your poverty a call to place my trust in God.

Allow me to recognize in your homelessness an invitation to be thankful for what I possess.

Allow me to find in your lack of worldly power a love for the weak and dispossessed among us.

Amen.

--100 Prayers, Reflections by Fr. Leo Piguet



LADIES' NIGHT OUT

The Pregnancy Care Center's annual Ladies' Night Out will be held Thursday, October 10th, at the Event Center in Portland. Doors open at 5pm with dinner served at 6pm. Silent auction will be open till 8:15pm. Our dinner is free to all those attending. Door prizes throughout the evening, dress to be comfortable. Please join us for an evening filled with good food, fun, laughter and fellowship. To reserve your spot call 726-8636.



20,000 PRAYER WARRIORS NEEDED, CAN YOU BE ONE?

A national Rally Rosary will be held on October 12th, the Saturday closest to the day we celebrate the 102nd Anniversary of Fatima's Miracle of the Sun and the last apparition of Our Lady. Locally, there will be a public Rally Rosary commemorating this heavenly event. Times and location will be finalized and publicized in the bulletin. Contact Susan Lannoy for more information.

Reasons why this October 12th rally is so very important are to have thousands of people pray the Rosary in public as a sign of our love for the Holy Church, Our Lord and the Blessed Mother, to do public reparation for the public sins of procured abortion and other sins of impurity that offend God and His Law, to ask graces for our personal sanctification and for the conversion of our loved ones, for the true peace of Christ to come upon the world, through the practice of the Fatima message, and to draw abundant graces upon us and the world at a time when God is so terribly offended by terrible sins and blasphemies. Visit www.fatima.org.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

Every year, something special happens on the third Sunday of October, World Mission Sunday joins all Catholics of the world into one community of faith. At Mass that Sunday, we recommit ourselves to our common vocation, through Baptism, to be missionaries, through prayer, participation in the Eucharist, and by giving generously to the collection for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. Envelopes are in your packets.

In a world where so much divides us, World Mission Sunday rejoices in our unity as missionaries by our Baptism. And it provides an opportunity to support the life-giving presence of the Church among the poor and marginalized in more than 1,111 mission dioceses.

HELP FOR STRUGGLING MARRIAGE

Are you living a busy life and don't really have time to talk to your spouse? We have a gift to share with you; it's called a **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend**. The Weekend will give you the opportunity to examine your lives together. A time to share your feelings, hopes, joys and frustrations without the interruption of family commitments, TV, internet and phone calls, rather it is a time to get to know your spouse all over again and rediscover your deep love for each other.

What is a **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend**? It is a positive, renewing experience for couples that have a good marriage, but want to make it even better! This is a time for you and your spouse to spend time together and learn about the tools to nourish your Sacrament in a new way. Future Marriage Encounter Weekends will be at Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, Indianapolis, from 1-3 November 2019, and from 24-26 April 2020, and at Mount Saint Francis Centre for Spirituality, New Albany, from 14-16 February 2020. Visit www.wwme.org for further information.

Quote from a couple who made a Marriage Encounter Weekend: "Not only did we experience a deep sense of unity and joy during the Weekend, but the intimacy and excitement continued after."



As we welcome and celebrate autumn, take a walk and gather nature's gifts of fall glory—colorful leaves, acorns, twigs, and such. Use these to adorn your family prayer table or prayer corner. Add a candle in a fall color, a Bible, and a cross or crucifix. Pray the Glory Be or sing a hymn that celebrates God's gifts of creation.

ANNUAL NATIONAL LIFECHAIN

LIFE CHAIN is a peaceful and prayerful public witness of pro-life individuals standing for 60-90 minutes praying for our nation and for an end to abortion. It is a visual statement of solidarity by the Christian community that abortion kills children and that the Church supports the sanctity of human life from the moment of conception until natural death.

This year's LifeChain will take place Sunday, October 6, 2019 at the CROSSroads of State Roads 3 and 26, 2:30-3:30. Signs will be available as early as 2:00. As in past years, each participant is invited to take a sign and spread out from the intersection 20 steps apart and, facing the direction of the traffic, praying for those lives affected by abortion. From lifechain.net:

You'll be a light in a darkened world as you help put an end to abortion through prayer!
Bring your whole family! Rain or shine!
Water, lawn chairs, umbrellas and strollers are welcome and encouraged!

ST. JOHN'S YOUTH GROUP ACTIVITIES

St. John's ChrisTeens kicked off another year of faith, service, and fun on Sept. 18, 2019. The youth did a sweep of the church neighborhood gathering trash, completed bible study activities, and of course food and games. It's not too late to come and join. The next meeting is Oct. 20 right after religious ed classes. They are planning activities throughout the year to deepen their call to service. Please keep these youth in your prayer.





CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

ANNIVERSARIES:

None reported

BIRTHDAYS:

5 Anya Uggen

8 Corey Hardesty

15 Marilyn Blankenbaker

22 Kiara Shields

22 Shea Aulbach

23 Serena Merkel

29 Mark Aulbach

If you would like to be included in the birthday and anniversary listings, please drop us a note. We would be happy to share it through *The Good News Letter*.



Nedra Lips was awarded the “Golden Pineapple” for her festival attire.



The students were excited to participate in the fun and games.

ALOHA PHOTOS

Check out photos from St. John’s Aloha Party held the end of August to welcome Fr. Paul, to celebrate the beginning of another school and religious education year, and to say so-long to summer. Thank you for great attendance (over 80)—a great time was had by all—partly in thanks to the superb weather!



Karen Shields was eager to serve root beer floats.



Adam Aulbach, adorned in grass skirt and lei, waited in line for the luau feast.



SEPTEMBER CHALLENGE BY K O F C

“Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. Which of you wishing to construct a tower does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if there is enough for its completion?” (Gospel for Sept. 8, Lk 14:27-28)

In more than four decades as a priest and bishop, I’ve been involved with building a number of new churches and schools. We often start by “dreaming big.” Then reality hits: What are we willing to spend? Jesus is asking each of us a similar question about our life of faith. In our lifelong journey to become saints, are we regularly sitting down to consider the cost and fully prepare ourselves to pay it? My brothers, above all other things, may we always prepare to carry our crosses and give our entire lives to Christ.

SEPTEMBER CHALLENGE by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori:

This month, I challenge you to learn more about the life of one of the martyrs and how he or she was prepared to pay any price to follow Christ. Second, I challenge you to participate in the Faith in Action Into the Breach program or read *Into the Breach* on your own with a particular eye toward how we can best prepare to carry our crosses.

Questions for Reflection:

What cross is Christ asking you to carry in your life? Are you willingly taking up the cross and seeking to follow Christ or trying to avoid the cross? In what concrete ways can you imitate the martyrs’ total commitment to Christ?

--Knights of Columbus.org

If you feel you have been a victim of sexual misconduct by a cleric, contact Victim Assistance Minister, Doris May, at 765-464-4988 or report the incident at <https://dol-in.org/reporting-an-incident>.

WOULD YOU PRAY FOR A PRIEST

- Oct. 1-Pope Francis I
- Oct. 2-Bishop Timothy Doherty
- Oct. 3-Fr. Paul Hudson, St. Mary Dunkirk and St. John the Evangelist Hartford City
- Oct. 4-Fr. Martin Sandhage, St. Augusta, Lake Village
- Oct. 5-Fr. Daniel Shine, St. Boniface, Lafayette
- Oct. 6-Fr. Robert Sell, St. Ambrose and St. Mary, Anderson
- Oct. 7-Fr. Chris Shocklee, St. Bernard, Crawfordsville, Wabash College Newman Apostolate
- Oct. 8-Fr. Stephen Snoich OSB, St. Augusta Lake Village
- Oct. 9-Fr. Travis Stephens, St. Louis de Montfort, Fishers
- Oct. 10-Fr. William Summerlin, St. Elizabeth Seton, Carmel
- Oct. 11-Fr. Stanislaw Tabor, All Saints, Logansport
- Oct. 12-Fr. Clayton Thompson, St. Joseph, Delphi
- Oct. 13-Fr. Eric Underwood, St. Lawrence, Lafayette
- Oct. 14-Fr. Pete Vanderkolk, Sacred Heart of Jesus, Fowler & St. Mary, Dunnington
- Oct. 15-Fr. Mark Walter, St. Mary & St. Ambrose, Anderson
- Oct. 16-Fr. Dick Weisenberger, St. Joseph, Lebanon
- Oct. 17-Fr. Paul White, retired
- Oct. 18-Fr. Bob Williams, retired
- Oct. 19-Fr. Dominic Young, St. Ann Lafayette
- Oct. 20-Fr. Derek Aaron, St. Maria Goretti, Westfield
- Oct. 21-Fr. Sean Aaron, Holy Spirit, Fishers
- Oct. 22-Fr. Raymond Akeriwe, St. Patrick, Kokomo
- Oct. 23-Fr. Raymond Alaneme, St. Mary Lafayette
- Oct. 24-Fr. Tim Alkire, St. Boniface Lafayette
- Oct. 25-Fr. Kenneth Alt, Holy Trinity, Trinity
- Oct. 26-Fr. Matthew Arbuckle, St. Joan of Arc, Kokomo, Monastery of the Poor Clares
- Oct. 27-Fr. Patrick Baikauskas, St. Thomas Aquinas West Lafayette
- Oct. 28-Fr. Jim Bates, retired
- Oct. 29-Fr. Joshua Bennett, St. Francis of Assisi, Muncie
- Oct. 30-Fr. Robert Bernatos, St. Joseph Kentland, St. John the Baptist Earl Park, Sts. Peter and Paul Goodland
- Oct. 31-Fr. Gerry Borawski, retired

WOULD YOU PRAY FOR A PRIEST?

UNDERSTANDING THE MASS

This month's topic to understanding the Mass covers the reception of Holy Communion.

Whoever is in communion with the Roman Catholic Church and is not prohibited for some very good reason may receive Communion in any Catholic parish. However, Catholics should not receive communion from a Protestant church and likewise a Protestant should not receive Catholic Communion as this would be a sign of unity of the Real Presence of Jesus and the miraculous change that takes place at Mass that does not yet exist between Catholics and Protestants. Although participation through prayer and hymns are permissible. Someone who has been excommunicated (a penalty separating a person from communion) or who is living in a state of serious sin cannot receive Communion until the penalty has been lifted or the sin absolved through confession.

Children should be old enough to understand what they're doing before they receive Communion, typically by age 7.

To prepare for Communion, one should not have any sins weighing down your conscience; if so, you should attend confession first to receive absolution. Further, one should observe the Communion fast of no food or drink at least an hour before reception. Water and medications are an exception. This fast is a sign of repentance and to purify ourselves spiritually to receive Jesus.

Christ is fully present in both the consecrated bread and the wine. Therefore, if you only receive the bread or only receive the wine, transformed into the body and the blood, you receive Jesus fully; however, you do not receive extra graces for both. Sometimes illness or allergies prevent reception of one or the other.

Catholics are allowed to receive Communion twice a day as long as it is received through different Mass duties such as morning daily Mass then again in the evening for a Vigil Holyday Mass or such circumstance. Even though we strive daily for greater intimacy with Jesus, we don't ever want to take him for granted. We must never lose our sense that Holy Communion is a great event, an encounter with God—with the flesh and blood of Jesus Christ. That's why there's a limit. To be considered a practicing Catholic, one must receive Communion at least once a year, sometime during the Easter season (Easter Vigil to Pentecost Sunday)

--excerpted from *Understanding the Mass* by Mike Aquilina

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR OCTOBER—ST. MARY'S

Oct. 6: **Reader:** Laverne Watson **Gifts:** Jeff & Lisa Geesaman **Communion Ministers:** Amy Grady & Connie Hartnagel **Greeter:** Phil & Jane Crouch **Counters:** Kathleen Inman & Angie Burress

Oct. 13: **Reader:** Ted Kolodka **Gifts:** Phil & Jane Crouch **Communion Ministers:** Colleen Bicknell & Dan Watson **Greeter:** Colleen Bicknell **Counters:** Dan Watson & Jane Crouch

Oct. 20: **Reader:** Sandy Doyle **Gifts:** Christa Stigleman **Communion Ministers:** Laverne Watson & Loretta Wilson **Greeter:** Phil & Jane Crouch **Counters:** Kathleen Inman & Angie Burress

Oct. 27: **Reader:** Bob Banser **Gifts:** Amy & Brad Grady **Communion Ministers:** Kelli Grady & Susan Louck **Greeter:** Colleen Bicknell **Counters:** Jane Crouch & Danette Hamilton



LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR OCTOBER—ST. JOHN'S

Saturday 5:00 pm **Reader:** Jason Lenz **Gifts:** Sonya & Fred Hoffman **Announcements:** Vince Cimino **Greeter:** Mary Ford **Communion Ministers:** Anna Cimino, Lisa Rinker, Serena Merkel

Sunday 8:30 am **Readers:** Religious Ed 6, Susan Lannoy 13, 20, 27 **Gifts:** Religious Ed 6, Claire & Tom Aulbach 13, 20, 27 **Greeters:** Jessica & Brian Kitterman Family **Announcements:** Becky Cain **Communion Ministers:** Tom Alfrey 6, Rachel Shields 13, 20, 27, Karen Shields, Eric Aulbach

**St. Mary Parish and
St. John the Evangelist Parish**

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Lord's Day Liturgy

SATURDAY: 5:00 pm at St. John's

SUNDAY: 8:30 am at St. John's

10:30 am at St. Mary's

- Weekday Liturgy: Please consult inside the bulletin. -

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: Oct. 18, 2019

Editor: Diana Holsten

**OCTOBER—THE MONTH OF
THE ROSARY**

The month of October each year is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary. This is primarily due to the fact that the liturgical feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated annually on October 7. It was instituted to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary in gratitude for the protection that she gives the Church in answer to the praying of the Rosary by the faithful.

The use of knotted ropes to count prayers or scriptural verses (including the Lord's Prayer and the Jesus Prayer) is an ancient practice and is even found in non-Christian cultures. Most probably, the Christian recitation of 150 such prayers was intended to mirror the monastic prayer of the Liturgy of the Hours in which monks prayed all 150 psalms each day.

The structure of the rosary as we know it today developed significantly from the 12th to the 14th centuries as the larger collection of 150 prayers was further divided into groups of 50 and separated by biblical verses or themes (now referred to as mysteries). It is these mysteries, like a grouping of common roses in a garden, that gave the name *rosary* to this prayer form.

The rosary is a living prayer form and continues to develop even in recent times. An invocation known as the Fatima Prayer was commonly added in the early 20th century. In 2002

Pope John Paul II added a new set of five reflections called the Luminous Mysteries which encourage additional meditations on the life of Jesus.

The rosary is an invitation to experience the grace of Mary's spiritual motherhood as she leads us to her Son, Jesus. For this reason, it has been an invaluable source of countless spiritual graces for the saints. Remember, every time you pray the rosary you are given the privilege and honor of pronouncing the holy name of Jesus more than 50 times.

The wealth of spiritual graces offered through the rosary comes not from the multiplication of prayers (see Matthew 6:7) but from the imitation of Christ through obedience to the Father's will, according to the example of the Blessed Mother.

Maybe October would be a good month to turn off the radio or podcast as you commute to work or school and pray the rosary instead. See what graces the Lord wants to pour into your life from the rose garden of this daily meditation.

--excerpted from nwcatholic.org

Throughout October, prior to each Mass, St. John's parishioners are invited to arrive early (4:25 on Saturday or 7:55 on Sunday) to unite in prayer through the Rosary. Individuals and groups will take turns each weekend to lead the prayers. Bring your rosary and join in the prayers in order to draw closer to Jesus and Mary by meditating on the great mysteries of our salvation.