

Pastor's Note, August 2, Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Come to the Feast!

This past week, parishioner Linda Atkins and I met with an Eagle Scout candidate who wants to do some landscaping upgrades at the Mother of Good Counsel campus for his Eagle Scout project. Upon going over the wish list of items for the project, I asked how the Eagle Scout was going to recruit volunteers to help him with the work. He simply said, "just provide some donuts and pizza and the volunteers will show up!"

We all love to eat and when we come around the table with family and friends we are fed and nourished, not just physically but emotionally, with friendship and love. Whenever we celebrate a big event, having food helps make the event extra special. Every time we attend a daily or Sunday Mass we are fed and nourished with the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

This weekend we celebrate the Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time. The readings this weekend proclaim that God will always sustain us with food and love.

In the first reading from Isaiah, we read how a prophet invites us to enjoy all the good things at a banquet of the Lord. He invites people to draw closer to God by inviting the hungry, thirsty, and the poor to the table of plenty where all will be satisfied. In the Gospel of Matthew, we read the famous passage of the multiplication of loaves and fishes. This passage reading is the only miracle found in all four gospels. God invites all who are spiritually hungry and thirsty to come to him and be satisfied.

Come to the Feast!

Parish Improvements

The Diocese has granted us permission to repair St. Bede School Roof. Schultheis Roofing is due to begin work on the repairs the next few weeks. Funds from the school account will be used for this much needed project.

John Buch Electric replaced the outdated circuit breaker box inside the Mother of Good Counsel sacristy. They installed new light switches to make it easier to turn on and off the lights.

K & L Builders of Export continues to make upgrades on the second floor living area at St. James Rectory. Upon completion, Fr. Matt Hawkins will be living at the rectory with me. Fr. Taylor continues to live at Holy Rosary Rectory and Fr. James and Fr. Augustine continue to live at St. Bede.

We appreciate your continued financial support to St. Mary Magdalene Parish. It is important to use the parish envelopes or participate with the on-line giving so we can continue with the various upgrades at our campuses. Also, since all the former parish checking accounts have now been merged or closed into one checking account, please remember to make all checks payable to St. Mary Magdalene Parish

Looking Ahead

Our second and final session of **First Holy Communion** will take place on **Sunday, August 16 at 2 pm at St. Bede Church.**

The **2020 RCIA Class** will receive their Sacraments of Initiation (First Holy Communion and Confirmation) on **Sunday, August 23 at 11 am Mass at St. Bede Church.**

Confirmation Retreat will take place on **Saturday, August 29 at St. Bede Church.**

Confirmation will be held in two sessions on **September 27 and October 11 at 2 pm at St. Bede Church.** Bishop Zubik has given all pastors the permission to conduct the Sacrament of Confirmation in their parishes this year due to the Covid-19 Pandemic.

RCIA

Do you want to learn more about the Catholic faith? Are you baptized in another faith and would like to be Catholic? Are you baptized Catholic, but need Communion and/or to be Confirmed? The Rite of Christian Initiation Program (RCIA) will be starting next month. Please give me a call at 412.661.7222 or email me at tburke@diopitt.org to discuss.

Feast of the Assumption

The Feast of the Assumption of our Blessed Mother falls on a Saturday this year, Saturday, August 15. This year, it is NOT A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION, but Mass will be held at 9 am at the St. Bede Campus.

Congratulations to **Landon, Lennox, and Leland Wherry** who are being baptized this weekend.

Happy Birthday to our St. Bede School Principal **Sister Daniela Bronka** and **Fr. Augustine Temu** who celebrated their birthdays August 1.

Something to Think About...

No daily meal is complete without the Bread of Life.

With God, All Things Are Possible!

Fr. Tom Burke, Pastor
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