



Taste and see the goodness of the Lord

August 19, 2018 • Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wisdom is often identified with Christ and with the Holy Spirit. Both are present in today's readings, one as a metaphor, the other as a doctrine. "To the one who lacks understanding, [Wisdom] says, Come, eat of my food, and drink of the wine I have mixed!" She urges us, "Forsake foolishness that you may live; advance in the way of understanding."

Jesus urges us to be united with him in an intimate way in his flesh and blood in the Eucharist. We are blessed with the quality of wisdom, if only we recognize this and welcome our Lord into our hearts.

WELCOME ME AND LIVE

"How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" In those days, before our understanding of the Eucharist, before the Last Supper when Jesus offered himself to his disciples in the bread and wine, this may have been a reasonable theological question, as well as a logical one. They did not understand. They did not have the wisdom

to see the metaphor, or to know that further understanding would be forthcoming.

But to those who were open to Jesus' words, the bread of life was offered and accepted as the way to life eternal. They may not have understood that Jesus was speaking of eternal life, not our physical life on Earth, that would be given forever, but they were captivated by the metaphor and believed. "Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life." It is possible to be puzzled and still believe.

So what does this mean for us today? Wisdom is something we sorely need in our world, and it is one of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Partaking of the Body and Blood of the Lord is to gain wisdom as well as eternal life, to participate in the life of God, the Trinity, and of each other in love and caring. We must abandon our foolish ways and believe.

Today's Readings: Prv 9:1-6; Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7; Eph 5:15-20; Jn 6:51-58

Copyright © 2018, J. S. Paluch Company, Inc., 3708 River Road, Suite 400, Franklin Park, IL 60131-2158 1 800 621-5197. With Ecclesiastical Approval.

SAINT MARY PARISH
10 St. Mary's Lane, Cecil, PA 15321
"A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust"

Rev. Stan M. Gregorek, Pastor
Deacon Leonard M. Thomas, Jr.

Weekly Mass Schedule

Monday through Saturday: 7:30AM
Saturday (Vigil): 4:00PM Sunday: 8:00AM & 10:30AM

Confessions

Saturday: 11:30AM-12:30PM or by appointment.

Child Abuse Hotline: 1-800-932-0313
Children/Youth Services: 412-473-2000

Parish Office: 412-221-1560
Fax: 412-221-9544

Religious Education: 412-221-0595
Church Hall: 412-221-9771

Deacon Len Thomas: 724-206-3210

Email: stmarysch@comcast.net

Website: www.stmarycecil.org

Facebook: facebook.com/saintmarycecil

First Diocesan CCD



Parish Business Office Hours

Monday through Thursday: 9:00AM-3:00PM
Friday: 9:00AM-1:00PM
Closed Daily: 12:00PM-12:30PM

ON MISSION FOR
**THE
CHURCH
ALIVE!**

The One Who Feeds on Me Will Have Life Because of Me – The Gospel readings these weeks focus our hearts and minds on the Eucharist, the source and summit of the life and mission of the Church and the central mystery of our faith. The Eucharist as the source of life is true both for us as individuals who are fed by Jesus in Holy Communion and strengthened for the work to which God calls us, as well as for the Church as the Body of Christ as together we reflect the love of God in the world. There would be no Catholic Church without the Eucharist, nor would we be able to share in the life of God without his real and true presence in our lives. Our efforts *On Mission for The Church Alive!* are meant to draw us ever deeper into the mystery of the Eucharist so that we may be built up as the Body of Christ in the world. May our lives and our faith be nourished through our participation in this most wonderful sacrament. Visit onmissionchurchalive.org to learn more and to stay informed.

What is Marriage?

Marriage is a commitment between a woman and a man to love and support each other in good times and in bad, until they are parted by death. For those who are able to conceive naturally, marriage is also a commitment to be open to the gift of children, and to cooperate with God in raising a family. The couple's commitment is blessed by God, in part through the prayers and support of the Christian community. God is present in a marriage between two baptized persons giving them the love and the strength to live up to their vows. That is why marriage is a Catholic sacrament. However, marriage between a Catholic and a non-Christian—someone who has never been baptized—can also be recognized by the Catholic Church.

Bible Study on the Sacraments?

Join us for a 6 week Bible Study on the Sacraments on **Tuesday nights in the new Holy Child Resource Room from September 4 through October 9 from 7:00-8:15 pm.** "The Bible and the Sacraments" is a rich and beautiful study produced by the St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology which explores the mystery of the Seven Sacraments of our Catholic faith as revealed in Sacred Scripture and the teaching of the Church through the ages. There is no cost other than an optional workbook for \$10. To register, contact Grant Franjone at 412-916-0248 or grantfranj@gmail.com.

**THURSDAY NIGHT
LIGHTS**

Featuring Kris Frank
on "The Father's Love For Us"
August 30th at 7:00 pm
@ Holy Child Lawn
Appetizers and Drinks will
be available!
(B.Y.O.B.)

"See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are!" -1 John 3:1

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Sometimes the heat of summer translates into unrest in a city's streets. In the summer of 1834, popular sentiment against the presence of the Ursuline nuns near Boston reached a boiling point. An influx of Irish laborers had an impact on the work force in the city, and a deep-seated resentment against Catholics fueled the fire. The nuns supported themselves with a school, and most of the young women students were drawn from patrician Protestant families. Nevertheless, rumors fed by the saga of an unhappy junior sister and a later episode of a senior sister fleeing the place increased tensions. The city's selectmen were given a tour by the disgruntled sister, who by then had returned, and found all things in good order. That didn't please the mob, and the mother superior didn't help matters when she said that the bishop had platoons of Irishmen at hand, twenty thousand strong, to do marauders harm. By August 11, the convent had been invaded, ransacked, and burned to the ground. The nuns fled to Maine and Canada. The diocese attempted to recover losses, but the commonwealth offered only ten thousand dollars, which was rejected. Years later, a legislative bill for the state to rebuild the convent and school was roundly defeated. Yet the enterprise of Catholic education had great resilience, and in 1946, more than a hundred years after the riots, the Ursulines returned to Boston to re-establish an academy that endures to the present day.

--Rev. James Field, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co.

THIS EUCHARISTIC FEAST

Some things about human nature don't change, even over the course of centuries. When we celebrate a holiday, we have a meal; when we celebrate a significant event, we have a feast. In today's first reading, Lady Wisdom is setting a feast, a sign of celebrating the covenant that Israel has with God. Israel's central remembrance of its saving Exodus covenant is the Passover meal. So it is natural--and not coincidental--that the Christian celebration of the new covenant sealed by the blood of Christ on the cross happens at a meal, our Eucharist, offered first by Jesus in the context of Passover remembrance. It is easy for us, sometimes, to forget the very long and rich religious and human origins of our Eucharistic feasting on the bread and cup that are the Body and Blood of Jesus. Today, and for the next few Sundays that we hear the "Bread of Life" discourse from John, let us bring to mind the loving covenant that God makes with us, and be filled with great joy at this marvelous feast that we have come to attend! Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

CATHOLIC HOSPICE

SEEKING Part-time RN and LPNs – SOUTH HILLS

Serving those at end of life is the most rewarding gift. **Catholic Hospice**, upholding Pope John Paul II's teachings as set forth in the Vatican's Declaration on Euthanasia of 1980, is seeking part-time RNs and LPNs to join its growing team. Don't just have a job – serve in a ministry that is true to mission of respecting life even with terminal disease. Resumes can be faxed to 724.933.6225 or emailed to bstroud@catholichospicepgh.org. For more information call 724.933.6222.

Family Dance Party

Helping Hands is planning a **Family Dance Party** on **Saturday, September 15th** in the social hall of St. Barbara Church at **7:00 PM**. **Enjoy a nice evening of family fun**. Let's Twist Again, do the Hokey Pokey, Chicken Dance and more! Ask the DJ to play your favorite! 50/50 Raffle and Great Door Prizes! A sundae bar, popcorn, soft drinks and other light refreshments will be provided or BYOB. Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Cost: Family with 2 adults \$15.00

Family with 1 adult \$10.00. ~ Individual adult \$10.00
Presale of tickets will start August 25th. Tickets will also

be available at the door. For additional information please contact Pam Fantoni at 412-276-3266. Come and help us celebrate our third year of good will ministry!



LET'S PARTY!

Parenting Pointers: "All the things that have happened to me have been important in making me who I am. To wish that certain things didn't happen is to wish that I am not myself." (Author unknown) Help your child unravel the mystery of how mistakes and problems teach life lessons to be used for future success. ~©2017 by Susan Vogt, www.SusanVogt.net

Marriage Moments: "God created man in the image of himself, in the image of God he created him, male and female he created them." (Genesis 1:27) Pronouns can be confusing and so can the differences between males and females. How does your spouse fit gender stereotypes? How not? More importantly, how does he/she reflect something of the Divine to you? ~©2017 by Susan Vogt, www.SusanVogt.net

The Meaning Behind the Mass:

4-Part Series with Fr. Joe Freedy -
September 13th/14th & 20th/21st - 11:15am -
B/4 the noon mass at
Holy Child Church, Bridgeville

Have you ever wondered why we do what we do at Mass? The Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life, yet only 22% of Catholics attend Mass regularly. Many see Mass as a duty to perform rather than an opportunity to encounter the living God. We can't love what we don't know. Every gesture, every word, every vestment, every part of the Mass has deep meaning. What would it be like to love attending Mass? Come and hear Father Joe explain the meaning behind the Mass and understand why this is the Church's greatest treasure. Put it on your calendar.

THE GIFT OF GRACE

The gift of grace increases as the struggles increase.
--St. Rose of Lima

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

"The Gospel of John"

Beginning Tues. evenings Sept. 18th at 7:30 p.m. **OR**
Thursday mornings,
Sept. 20th at 9:30 a.m.

Study to be held in **St. Barbara Hall**

Cost is \$38.00 payable ASAP to "Holy Child Parish".

Registration forms will be at the doors in all three churches or online at

<https://holychildrcparish.org/the-gospel-of-john>.



The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults*

(RCIA) is a journey where you can experience the Catholic faith community. It is an opportunity for questions to be answered and for learning about the teachings and traditions of the Catholic Church.

Some of the things you will receive throughout your journey:

A Bible and a copy of the Catechism of the Church.

Are you:

- A person who has not been baptized and would like to learn more about the Catholic faith, with the possibility of becoming a member of the Catholic Faith?
- A Baptized Christian of another denomination who would like to learn about and possibly to embrace Catholic tradition?
- A Baptized Roman Catholic who has not received Eucharist or Confirmation and would like to become a full participant in the life of the Church?
- Or someone who is a member of the Church but want to learn more.

The Christian Initiation process offers an environment of support and guidance as you discover God is working in your life. **Fr. Gregorek will be starting a new class in September of this year.** Please contact the Parish Office at 412-221-1560 to sign-up for the first step in your journey!

Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you.

-- John 6:53

***Our Parish Share Obligation* this year was \$52,037. Thanks to our very generous parishioners, we have paid off \$44,806 of this debt to date. We still owe \$7231. Thank you to those who have donated!! If you have not had the time or opportunity yet, please help if you can.**

MINISTERS SCHEDULE FOR August 25/26			
	4:00PM	8:00AM	10:30AM
Reader	Joanne Vukotich	Pauline Manko	Denise Rankin
EMHC's	Ed Povirk Kathy Popich	Lou Valente B. Heirendt	Trish Mann Carol Love
Altar Server	Ben Veres Ethan Head	Sarah Powell Sophia Powell Sidney Powell	Sophia Kitzmiller J. Kitzmiller Gio Barbarossa

August 12, 2018 Offertory/Cap. Imp.

	4:00PM
	8:00AM
	10:30AM

**Please consider becoming a member of the
Legion of Mary**

Have you noticed the free blessed rosaries at the entrances of our church? Have you had the pleasure of attending a baptism at our parish, and wonder, who are these people who assist Father or Deacon in this sacrament? Have you ever felt a calling to pray, console, and give to others? The Legion of Mary may be for you! The Legion of Mary is a lay organization that meets once a week in the Marian Room, prays the Rosary, and accepts "assignments" to assist our pastor with spiritual works of mercy, such as visiting the sick, shut-ins, and new parishioners. If you are yearning for a way to live the Christian life more fully in serving others, please consider coming to one of our meetings, held every Wednesday evening in the Marian Room at 6:30pm. There is no obligation to join by just attending a meeting- come and see what we are all about!



Mass Intentions for the week



<p><u>Sunday</u> <u>August 19</u> 4:00PM 8:00AM 10:30AM</p>	<p><u>Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time</u> +Michael Kuzemko (Dorothy Dulick) +Roberta Ketter (John Alan & Stacy Kosky) +All Living & Deceased Priests & Religious (Dale & Sharon Kreuer)</p>
<p><u>Monday</u> <u>August 20</u> 7:30AM</p>	<p><u>Saint Bernard</u> +Steve & Alvina Horcick (Donna Horcick, Mike & Janet Kosky)</p>
<p><u>Tuesday</u> <u>August 21</u> 7:30AM</p>	<p><u>Saint Pius X</u> In Memory of: Bill & Cecyle Klaphake's Anniversary (Wife, Cecyle)</p>
<p><u>Wednesday</u> <u>August 22</u> 7:30AM 6:30PM</p>	<p><u>The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary</u> +Ann Golden (Kathy Popich) Legion of Mary Meeting/Marian Room</p>
<p><u>Thursday</u> <u>August 23</u> 7:30AM</p>	<p><u>Saint Rose of Lima</u> Communion Service</p>
<p><u>Friday</u> <u>August 24</u> 7:30AM</p>	<p><u>Saint Bartholomew</u> +Dorothy Martinsen (Mother, Ursula)</p>
<p><u>Saturday</u> <u>August 25</u> 7:30AM 4:00PM</p>	<p><u>Saint Louis, Saint Joseph Calasanz</u> +Johanna & Nicholas Heirendt (Ken & Barbara Heirendt) +Marcella Pozzi (Marty & Carm Nugent)</p>
<p><u>Sunday</u> <u>August 26</u> 8:00AM 10:30AM</p>	<p><u>Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time</u> +Eileen Bradley (Buzzy & Dolores, Diana & Jack) +Tony & Marian Vercek (Tony Vercek Family)</p>