

Seventeenth Sunday of Ordinary Time— July 26, 2020

SAINT MARY'S & SAINT ELIZABETH'S CATHOLIC CHURCHES

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VICTOR DVORAK -DEACON

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“The Kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it.” A great concert pianist was once asked why he practiced daily. He said, “If I skip one day, I notice it. If I skip a second day, the critics notice it. If I skip a third day, audiences notice it.” The same might be said of our commitment to daily prayer. When we miss it one day, our soul notices; we lack peace. When we miss a second day, our friends notice it; we aren’t the same. When we miss three or more days, everyone notices, because we start to struggle with the fundamental Christian virtues. Is Jesus Christ our pearl of great price? Do we long for time with Him every day in prayer? If we commit ourselves to daily communion with Him in prayer, we will become more like Him and the people in our lives will benefit as we share the fruits of our prayer life with them.

Familiaris Consortio (cont.)

The Church’s Teachings and Norms, Always Old Yet Always New

29. Precisely because the love of husband and wife is a unique participation in the mystery of life and the love of God Himself, the Church knows that she has received the special mission of guarding and protecting the lofty dignity of marriage and the most serious responsibility of the transmission of life.

Thus, in continuity with the living tradition of the ecclesial community throughout history, the recent Second Vatican Council and the magisterium of my predecessor Paul VI, expressed above all in the encyclical *Humanae Vitae*, have handed onto our times a truly prophetic proclamation, which reaffirms and reposes with clarity the Church’s teaching and norm, always old yet always new, regarding marriage and regarding the transmission of human life.

For this reason, the Synod Fathers made the following declaration at their last assembly: “This Sacred Synod, gathered together with the Successor of Saint Peter in the unity of the Faith, firmly holds what has been set forth in the Second Vatican Council (cf. *Gaudium et Spes*, 50) and afterwards in the encyclical *Humanae Vitae*, particularly that love between husband and wife must be fully human, exclusive, and open to new life (*Humanae Vitae*, 11; c.f. 9, 12).



On the road again: I will be away from the parishes this weekend, at Trinity Youth Camp near Peli-can Lake. Please welcome Fr. Dominic Bouck, who will be offering the Sacrament of Penance and celebrating the Holy Mass in our parishes. Thank him for offering these Sacraments in our parishes for the spiritual well being and growth in holiness of our good people. Fr. Dominic is a chaplain at the University of Mary and the assistant Vocations Director for the Diocese of Bismarck. Please pray for him in these important ministries in the life of the Church.

Stewardship opportunities: We are looking for someone willing to weed & feed the lawn outside of Saint Mary’s Church. If you are an expert in lawn care, please contact Fr. Gary if you can take on this project. Thank you to Ann Wandler and Martina Stagl who have offered to paint the handicapped zones and entry zones around the church property. Thank you as well to the guys of the Saint Pius Verein, who in addition to keeping up Saint Pius Cemetery, have offered to take care of the Saint Mary’s Cemetery as well. May God reward all of you for the generous gift of your time and talents. Oh, one more stewardship project: painting the face of Fr. Gary on the mural of Saint Mary’s Church. Just make sure you get my good side!

A point to ponder: *The greatest test of faith is when you don’t get what you want, but still you are able to say, “Thank you Lord.”*

MASS & ADORATION SCHEDULE

Monday, July 27th

7:30 AM SM—Communion Service

Tuesday, July 28th

7:30 AM SM—+Laura Grundhauser by J. P. Grundhauser & Family

6:00 PM SE—Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

7:00 PM SE—Living & Deceased family of John & Margaret Schneider

Wednesday, July 29th

7:00 PM SM — +Reggie Gentz & +Cecelia Jung by their families

Thursday, July 30th

7:30 AM SM— +Kenneth Stagl by Martina Stagl and Family

Friday, July 31st

7:30 AM SM—+Raymond Mellmer by Ruth Fitterer

12:00 PM—3:00 PM SM—Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday, August 1st

8:30 AM SM—+Dan Frank by Martina Stagl

5:00 PM SM—+Kenneth Stagl by Robert & Cely Stagl

Sunday, August 2nd

8:30 AM SE—+Ed Pechtl by Deran & Tina Lefor

10:30 AM SM—Pro Populo

Please Keep in Your Prayers: Gene Wert, Theresa Tarpo, Todd Leach, JoAnn Urlacher, Zane Sabo, Brad Novak, Josie Steier, Katie Stolz, Hazel Jacobs, Amber Urlacher, Bonnie Benz, Anise Masterson, Nate Hernandez, Andy Prokop, Henley Johnson, Duane Grundhauser, Pete Schaefer, Marilyn Jacobs, Leo Heck, Arlene Rohr, Brenda Barton, Elven Kaufman, Suzette Printz, Linda Reisenauer, Cindy Martin, Howard Schiwal, Theresa Decker, Yvonne Fettig, Kim Kuhn, Don Miller, Bonnie (Krebs) Dick, Dorothy Kohl, Colleen Churchill

Assisted Living and Nursing Home Residents: Marvin Wert, Marilyn Wert, Gilbert & Ruth Buzalsky, Mary Hanson, Joe & Aggie Wandler, Charlotte Krebs, Harvey Herberholz, Archie Jalbert, Sylvia Koppinger, Leona Gordon, Donnella Koppinger, Marilyn Jeske, Willie Emmil, Frances Heick

Our Deceased Loved Ones: +Jim Schneider, +Eugene Heidt, +Richard Jambor, +Chuck Brusich, +Joan Binstock, +Kevin Jacobs, +Betty Biel, +Wenzel Roller, +Shawn Flaherty, +Duane Dobitz, +Dan Frank, +Cecelia Jung, +Benedict Benz, +Kenneth Stagl, +Florentine Bohlman, +Josie Heidt, +Dale Schoeder, +Ed Pechtl, +Magdalen Schorsch, +Dale Reindel, +Adam Schulz, +George Koffler, +Edwin Lefor, +Louise Krebs, +Regina Gentz, +Tina Rixen, +Rose Krebs (SE), +Herbert Emmil, +Joan Madler, +Eugenia Stagl, +Mike Urlacher, +Keith Herold

On the lighter side: A man decided to begin an apiary, a beehive, so he went to a local beekeeper to begin his operation. He paid for a dozen bees, but when he counted them, there were actually thirteen. He told the beekeeper, "I think you gave me one too many bees; there are thirteen here." The beekeeper responded, "No, you can keep that extra one; it's a freebie."

Mark your calendars:

*Lefor K of C picnic has been changed to Sunday, July 26th. All are welcome!

*Seminarian Scholarship Golf Tournament, Monday, July 27th. More information on bulletin board.

*Connect Medical Clinic is going to hold an online event on Thursday, July 30 with amazing speaker Kirk Walden. You can learn how to help expectant mothers and protect their babies — all from the comfort and safety of your own home! If you'd like to be notified as soon as we open up registration for this FREE virtual event, sign up for our email list at our website www.connectmedicalclinic.com/contact

*St. Elizabeth's church cleaners for the month of August are Cindy Martin, Cindy Schneider, and Elvira Reindel

St. Mary's Liturgical Ministers August 1st & 2nd

MINISTRY	Saturday 5:00 PM	Sunday 10:30AM
Lector	Connie J.	Sue S.
Mass Servers	Leonard G.	Mark F.
Eucharistic Ministers		
Gifts		
Rosary Leader	Jim K	Sue S.
Greeters		
Homebound Minister		

Collection Report St. Mary's July 18th & 19th, 2020

Adult		Youth
\$ 1050.00	Envelopes	\$ 5.00
\$ 150.00	Loose Plate	
\$ 1205.00	Total	
\$ 5209.70	Monthly Total	

Saint Elizabeth's Liturgical Ministers August 2nd

Sunday 8:30 AM	
Lector	Dorita
Mass Server	
Eucharistic Ministers	
Gifts	
Greeters	
Ushers	Elvie & Dustin

Collection Report St. Elizabeth's July 19th, 2020

Adult		Youth
\$ 325.00	Envelopes	\$ 10.00
\$ 179.00	Loose Plate	\$
\$ 514.00	Total	
\$ 1588.00	Monthly Total	

Eucharistic Miracles: *Paris, France*

In the year 1290, Paris, France, was honored with a remarkable Eucharistic miracle. A poor woman had nothing of value, except a dress, which she pawned to obtain a little money for living expenses. With the approach of Easter Sunday, she yearned to be well dressed for the great feast day, but since she did not have enough money to claim for her dress, she visited the pawnbroker and asked if she could have it for just one more day. The pawnbroker, described as a non-Christian, was curious about the Host received by Christians at the Holy Mass. He informed the woman that she could have her dress completely if she would bring him a consecrated Host which she would receive in Holy Communion.

Consenting to this shameful proposal, the poor woman attended the Holy Mass and received the Sacrament. After secretly removing the Host from her mouth, she delivered it to the home of the pawnbroker, who placed it on the table. Then in the presence of the woman and of his own children, the man drew out a penknife and repeatedly stabbed the Host.

Suddenly, blood in great streams gushed out from the cuts, splashing the woman and the children. Shocked by the flow of blood, the man threw the Host into a nearby fire, where it fluttered among the flames, completely unaffected by the fire or the heat. Then, thoroughly frightened, he snatched the Host from the fire and in another attempt to destroy it, he dropped it in a kettle of boiling water.

The water immediately began to turn red and bloody. Somehow, the bloody water spilled over the kettle, fell onto the floor, and coursed its way down the street, where it attracted the attention of passerby. A woman outside was curious of its origins and entered the house, where she witnessed a vision of Jesus Christ standing before the kettle. In a few moments, the vision disappeared, but in its place, the woman saw the Host suspended in the air. As the Host gradually descended, the woman snatched a nearby vase and received it into the receptacle. Then with great care and reverence, the Host was taken to the Church of Saint Jean-en-Grave, where it was conserved as a precious treasure and was honored with special services, especially on the Solemnity of Corpus Christi.

Today, the miraculous Host is conserved in the Church of Saint Francis, in La Chapelle du Miracle (The Chapel of the Miracle), where it is visited by many pilgrims. The Church has declared the miracle to be authentic and many pilgrims have experienced extraordinary healings in the presence of this treasured Host.



The Covid-19 panic: coming to a fall dinner near you

This past week, the diocese informed us that we could still have our annual fall dinners. That sounds like great news. But wait; there are conditions: the meal must be held outside, hand sanitizer must be available, and there can be no more than five people at one time in the kitchen. What does this mean for our parishes: no fall dinner. How can you count on good weather for October (Saint Elizabeth's) much less November (Saint Mary's)? The diocese does not understand that these fall dinners provide for over one fourth of our parish budget. How can we budget without them?

Therefore, I come to you asking for ideas. Where do we go from here? Can we do an outside meal with tents and social distancing or is this just a pipe dream? Do we rely on meal tickets to be sold in advance and do all takeout? Do we still do part of our fall festivals (raffle tickets, BINGO, silent auctions, etc.) and cancel the meal for this year? Let me know your thoughts. We can't do without these fall festivals. We could try, but then I would have to shut off the heat and the electricity for our parishes. Let's hope we don't have to go there; I kind of like indoor plumbing and not having to read by kerosene lamp.

Thank you for helping us plan for our fall festivals, which really are not that far away. Let's pray for our efforts and let's pray for common sense and courage to return to the Church and society; this would make things a lot easier.



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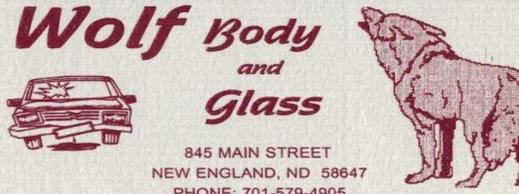


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