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NEWSLETTER

MAY

2018



COUNT IT ALL JOY, MY BROTHERS, WHEN YOU MEET TRIALS OF VARIOUS KINDS, FOR YOU KNOW THAT THE TESTING OF YOUR FAITH PRODUCES STEADFASTNESS.

We can get caught up in the two ends of the spectrum that are part of every faithful Christian's life. We either experience great joy, the uplifting graces of the Holy Spirit poured out on us, or we end up on the road to martyrdom. Is that all there is to the Christian life?

These seem like diametrically opposed sets of circumstances until we realize that most of the martyrs faced their tortures and death with great joy, even humor. Really, the struggle in a Christian's life is that we live much of it in the middle.

In considering our lives, lived in the middle, we may ask: How do I sacrifice what I want for what God wants? How do I proclaim God's truth when the world, even my family, will hate me? How can I face day-to-day life with faithfulness? Those questions plague us - but thanks be to God, He offers us a way forward by example.

Of course, Jesus stands first and foremost as one who came from the middle boldly. He proclaimed truth, to those, like us, who were in the

middle, who faced daily challenges of faithfulness. He offered real truth that took them from the middle to the heights of heaven. He gave them strength for their ordinary lives because the promise was oh so much more. Yes, the popular folks rejected Him, but the Father welcomed Him. This is our hope.

This month we look to the example of Mary. Talk about lives in the middle. Plain, ordinary folks like us - struggling day to day with ridicule, mockery, and exile. Mary, referred to by her community as worse than a prostitute. Joseph, seen as not man enough. Jesus - an illegitimate child. They faced the worst kind of ridicule and rejection, yet lived lives in the middle, working day-to-day, faithful to God at the deepest of levels. Their struggles, much like ours. They answer the essential question: How do I get by faithfully?

As we live in the middle, let us look to their example, courage, and to God's unfailing help. Let us count our ordinary struggles and our lives in the middle as a joy in Jesus.

Gospel Concert - May 19th



The first ever Gospel and Spiritual Concert ever held at Holy Name parish is scheduled for Saturday, May 19th from 2pm until 5pm.

Bishop Rev. Dr. Judy Murphy-Jack of Friends of Friends Universal Community Mission Church/Institute, and we, invite you to attend this Universal Praise in Classical Spiritual and Gospel Music, Skits, Liturgical Dancing and Poetry. There will be eighteen artists including three members of our parish performing.

Refreshments will be served. Please come to this worthy event and share with us this experience. Invite friends and family. All are welcome to support this beautiful event.

Basket Social Thank You

Our 16th Annual Basket Social was a wonderful event. We raised over \$6,300 before expenses. We deeply thank all who attended, the Rotterdam Senior Citizens Center for the use of their facilities and a



special thank you to all the generous donors who prepared baskets, those who prepared and worked, cooked, and pitched in. We had 99 baskets for auction. Through these efforts, graced by God, we are able to support the good work we do in our parish and community. God is doing great things for us!!!!

Mother's Day

♥ God BLESS You Mom! ♥

On May 13th we honor all mothers, grandmothers, godmothers, and those special women in our lives that exemplify the goodness of motherhood in our lives. We also remember all those who do not or have not had a positive relationship with their mother.

The Blessed Virgin Mary is referred to as the *Theotokos*, Greek for "God bearer." In the English speaking world of today, we speak of Mary as the "Mother of God." Mary's acceptance of the gift of motherhood was necessary for our salvation. So too, the good Christian

mothers of the world bear God to us and bring us to Him through their example, teaching, and love. They cooperate with our Lord to lead us to faith in our Savior.

Let us pray for God's blessing on our mothers who are with us and for those who have gone on to their eternal rest. Let us also help and pray for all those (too many in our day) who do not or have not had a positive relationship with their mother. May they receive Mary's special care and see her as standing forth as their heavenly mother in a very special way.

EVENTS GALORE IN MAY

Solemnity of the Ascension

The church celebrates the Solemnity of the Ascension on the 40th day after Easter as is recorded in the Acts of the Apostles. Why is this day important to us? It isn't only that Jesus is returning to His rightful place of honor in heaven. Rather it shows us that Jesus, who emptied Himself and came as a man, who lived, ate, laughed, cried, suffered, and died as a man, Whose human body was glorified in the resurrection also ascended in that glorified body into heaven. This is our assurance that we too will rise and live in heaven eternally with Him in our glorified bodies. The parish will hold Holy Mass on Thursday, May 10th at 7pm in celebration of the Solemnity.

Mother's Day

During Mary's month of May, the nation celebrates Mother's Day and so do we as Church. The crowning of the statue of the Blessed Virgin along with special prayers and Holy Mass offered for our mothers living and deceased will be held on Sunday, May 13th. We will also have a special breakfast for moms, grandmothers, godmothers, and those special women in our lives that morning. Please start that day in church in prayer as a special thanksgiving for mom.

Men's Spiritual Retreat

When was the last time you did something new? Something different? How about something new in a familiar place, something familiar in an old place? The men of the United Y.M.S. of R. would like to formally invite you to the First Men's Spiritual Retreat, "The Making of a Godly Man," to be held May 17-19 at historic Spojnia Farm in Waymart, PA. The registration Deadline: May 13, 2018. This retreat is aimed at men, and is open to P.N.C.C. and non-P.N.C.C. members alike; Y.M.S. of R./non-Y.M.S. of R. members, clergy, whomever... In fact, we are hoping for a few different viewpoints on the Christian Faith. Our invitation is open, and we hope the call is received.

There will be a few familiar speakers, some guided exercises, get-to-know-you sessions, time of silence and prayer and the sharing

of ideas. Mix in some relaxation, a few beanbags and horseshoes, a deck of cards and that should round out a great shared time together.

The retreat begins Thursday late afternoon and ends Saturday with Mass & lunch. This should allow traveling clergy to be back to their parishes for Sunday Mass.

Look – we know it can be tough to embrace one's spirituality, and that your immediate response to this may be, "No way!" But, that is the precise reason we are calling for you to retreat: to allow some exploration of your spirituality. "Going to Church" can mean so much more than Sunday Mass, coffee hour and a meeting.

Please consider attending and bringing a buddy from church or from your neighborhood or circle of friends. It will be good- it has to be. It is something God has been calling us to do for years, and we finally said yes. We hope you will as well.

Gospel Concert

As noted earlier in this newsletter - on Saturday, May 19th from 2-5pm. Be there!

Holy Mass for Healing

Our next monthly Holy Mass for healing accompanied by anointing will be held Monday, May 21st at 6:15pm. Come join us.

Memorial Day

The Holy Church joins the nation in the solemn remembrance of

Memorial Day. We will gather for Holy Mass at our parish cemetery (or in our parish church in the case of inclement weather) on Monday, May 28th at 10am for Holy Mass. In doing so we pray for all of those who have died in combat defending our nation and all of our veterans who have also been called to their eternal rest.

Summer Events

Planning is underway for the summer events including:

- The **73rd Annual National Bowling Tournament** will be held In Waymart, PA and will be hosted by the United Y.M.S. of R. in Conjunction with parishes in Dickson City, PA, Dupont, PA, Duryea, PA, Scranton, PA from June 8th through 10th. If you would like to put a team together and go, please see Fr. Jim for registration documents. They are also available online at



- <http://www.ymsr Bowl.org>.
- **Kurs 2018** with the theme "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." will be held at the Bishop Hodur Retreat and Recreation Center, Spojnia Farm, Waymart, PA from June 30th through-July 7th.
- **Convo 2018** - Anointed Lifeguards - will take place from

July 23-27, 2018, but the deadlines for registration is mid-May for a discount. Get your applications in.

- The United Y.M.S. of R. **4th Annual Golf Outing** will be hosted by Y.M.S. of R. Branch 20 at Holy Mother of the Rosary Cathedral, Lancaster, NY. The golf outing will be held on August 18th. Stay tuned for additional information.

See Fr. Jim and sign-up to go. These are great events!!!

Milestones to Celebrate:

Birthdays

- 1 Kimberly DonVito, Roni Bylina, Mary Tate
- 2 Eileen Kupiec
- 9 Melissa Morrison
- 12 James DeMidio
- 16 Loryn DonVito
- 19 Brenda Boyland
- 22 Cameron Goehrig
- 24 Marilyn Hietala, Angie Bray
- 25 Karoline Trela, Jack Hamilton
- 26 Karen Maliszewski
- 27 Jayson Caden
- 28 Marianne Węglinski

Anniversaries

- 22 Kenneth & Jennifer Brown

Wishing you all many years! Sto Lat!

God bless you!

To all who prayed, sacrificed, abstained, and who join in the weekly Eucharist, the greatest act of thanksgiving ever. God bless you!

To our wonderful altar servers, our organist and choir director Liz Battaglia, and to all who have contributed to coffee hours and the ministry of hospitality.

To Donna and Linda for their special work. To every parishioner, visitor, and member -- you are a blessing and a treasure. Thank you!!!

Gracias
MERCI
ARIGATO
thank you

Bishop Joseph Padewski, Martyr

On Tuesday, May 10th, we commemorate the 67th anniversary of Bishop Joseph Padewski.

Bishop Padewski was born in a small farming village near Radom in Poland. He emigrated to the United States in 1913 and moved to Detroit. He was ordained to the priesthood on December 16, 1919 by Prime Bishop Francis Hodur.

In 1942 Bishop Padewski was arrested by the Nazis and was held at the Montelupich prison in Krakow. He was then transferred to the Tittmoning POW Camp in Germany where he was held for 18 months. Through the intervention of the Swiss Red Cross he was freed and returned to the United States in March 1944. Between 1944 and 1946 Bishop Padewski served as pastor of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Czestochowa Church in Albany, New York.

Bishop Padewski returned to Poland on February 20, 1946 to resume his duties as Bishop of the Polish branch of the PNCC. Shortly after his return, in this atmosphere of Stalinist terror, he was arrested, interrogated, and tortured. Bishop Padewski died under torture on May 10, 1951.

Bishop Padewski, martyr for the faith, pray for us.

Planning For:

Remember - Holy Mass is held every Sunday at 9:30am and 11:30am

- May 1: Feast, Ss. Philip & James, Apostles.
- May 3: Solemnity – Finding of the Holy Cross, Polish Constitution Day.
- May 6: 6th Sunday of Easter. Normal Holy Mass schedule.
- May 10: Solemnity of the Ascension. Holy Mass at 7pm. 67th Anniversary, Martyrdom of Bishop Joseph Padewski
- May 13: 7th Sunday of Easter. May Crowning. Mother's Day. Normal Holy Mass schedule. Mother's Day Breakfast.
- May 17-19: Men's Retreat, Waymart, PA.
- May 19: Gospel Concert, 2-5pm. Armed Forces Day - honor our service members.
- May 20: Pentecost Sunday. Normal Holy Mass schedule.
- May 21: Healing Mass at 6:15pm.

Parish Committee Meeting follows.

- May 23: Commemoration of the Martyrdom of Jerome Savonarola.
- May 27: Solemnity of the Holy Trinity/Trinity Sunday. Normal Holy Mass schedule.
- May 28: Memorial Day - Holy Mass at the Parish cemetery (weather permitting) at 10am
- May 31: Solemnity of Corpus Christi.
- June 1: Sacred Vocations Month begins - pray for vocations and for those studying for the priesthood and diaconate.

Parish Organizations and Ministries

Did you know that our Parish has many organizations that need you? Ask Fr. Jim how you might help.

Why not communion in the hand?

It is the longstanding teaching of our Holy Church, in unity with the tradition of the early Church, that communion is given by intinction (the Body of Christ is dipped into His Precious Blood), on the tongue, and NEVER in the hand. For those who cannot receive the Precious Blood for health reasons, the Host - the Body of Christ - is placed on the tongue.

Unfortunately, and very improperly, the Roman Church places the host into people's hands. This is deeply

and profoundly incorrect and sacrilegious. But why?

The best place to start is with what is being received. What are we receiving, taking into ourselves?

Pew Research and other pollsters are finding that the vast majority of Roman Catholics no longer believe in the real presence of Jesus in the Host and Precious Blood. They receive so casually as to now discount the fact that what they take is sacred - the very presence, body, soul, humanity and divinity of Jesus. They have forgotten that He is there - He has become little more than a metaphor or a symbol. It is so sad that they have written off His reality. For most Romans, the Host and the Cup are no better than a bit of bread and a beer.

If indeed, we are receiving the Precious Body and Blood of Jesus, doing so in the hand increases risk that the elements will be profaned in some way. We have all seen news stories of those who took the Host home and put it for sale on eBay or used it in some unholy way. At a more basic level, there is the risk that particles of Jesus' Body will be dropped and stepped on or cling to someone's hands as they go to the restroom. Does anyone really want that? Is the risk worth it?

Reception on the tongue, from the bishop, priest, or deacon maintains the reality of that which is being done is set apart, special, and sacred. It is never a casual encounter or something to be taken

lightly. It is a sacrament - an encounter with the very Sacredness of God.

Speaking of set apart, why only the hands of a bishop, priest, or deacon? It is precisely for that reason, those hands are set apart, and most particularly the hands of the bishop and priest. The Roman Church, again, improperly, uses unconsecrated hands of alleged "Special Ministers of Holy Communion" or "Eucharistic Ministers" to distribute the sacrament. This takes on deeper implications. If just anyone, why not everyone, what is so special anyway?

A bishop and a priest's hands are consecrated as are all the vessels that contain the Precious Body and Blood of your Lord, as are the church building and Altar. Consecration goes back to Old testament times. Consecration means to be exactly that - set apart for God's use. Jesus Himself was consecrated as recorded in Luke 2:22-23: *And when the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every male that opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord")*. Ordination makes those hands, vessels, buildings, and altars sacred and suited to God's special work and purpose. We understand it as the Church always has: Holy things dedicated to holy purposes. Even Merriam-Webster gets it:

Consecration: to induct (a person) into a permanent office with a religious rite; especially: to ordain; to make or declare sacred; to devote irrevocably to the worship of God by a solemn ceremony.

In another sense, this loss of sacredness, a failure to acknowledge calling to a special purpose, further exacerbates the crises of vocations in Churches. A vocation, apart from holiness, any sense of being set apart for God's purpose in a special and unique way, is just a job. Why not get a job that at least pays better? There's nothing special here. I can do charity work elsewhere.

All of this is never to say that a priest's hands or those of a bishop are "better" in some subjective sense. We are not children - one saying they are better than another. We do know objectively that everyone's hands are suited to different purposes and work together with an individual's set of skills and ability to do things others cannot or will not do.

What consecration does is set apart the hands of the one ordained, the vessels prepared, the altar and building. It is set apart to do God's special sacramental work. They hold the Body and Blood of Jesus - something never taken lightly or casually. They protect and defend the sacramental reality of Jesus. They are special in a very objective way and the reason we do what we do.

May - Rosary time?

Um, no. Two months of the year have a special dedication to Mary's intercession, May and October. In May we typically offer prayers seeking Mary's intercession for our needs. We honor her in a special way through the tradition of May devotions and a May crowning. October is particularly devoted to the Rosary as the Solemnity of the Holy Mother of the Rosary occurs on October 7th.

The key to both these observances is our clear understanding of what Mary did in saying yes to God - fully and completely accepting His will without concern for any risk to herself, and her faithful journey with her Son, Jesus, ministering to His needs and the needs of the early Church. Those facts are something we should never neglect to observe, to thank her for, and to commemorate. Jesus gave her to us by His words from the Holy Cross. Therefore, she watches over us and aids us from heaven.

Whether-or-not we use the rosary for prayer, or take part in special devotions, let us acknowledge that Mary is present to us in a special and unique way. Let us honor her this month as our heavenly mother and always respect her action for us. Let us also avoid and reject any notion of "apparitions" or false doctrines in her regard.

May 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Feast – Ss. Philip & James, Apostles.	2	3 Solemnity – Finding of the Holy Cross Polish Constitution Day	4	5
6 6th Sunday of Easter – Holy Mass at 9:30am and 11:30am. Lectors: Marilyn Hietala/Claudia Bertasso. Memorial Holy Mass – Albany PACC, 4pm	7	8	9	10 Solemnity of the Ascension Holy Mass at 7pm Commemoration of the Holy Martyr and Bishop Joseph Padewski,	11	12
13 7th Sunday of Easter and Mother's Day – Holy Mass at 9:30am and 11:30am. Lectors: Larry Panfil/Claudia Bertasso May Crowning at 9:30am. Mother's Day Breakfast	14	15	16	17 Men's retreat –Waymart, PA.	18 Men's retreat –Waymart, PA.	19 Men's retreat –Waymart, PA. Gospel Concert at Holy Name, 2pm to 5pm. Armed Forces Day
20 Pentecost Sunday – Holy Mass at 9:30am and 11:30am. Lectors: Joe Kaczynski/Claudia Bertasso.	21 Holy Mass and Anointing for Healing at 6:15pm Parish Committee Meets	22	23 Commemoration of the Martyrdom of Jerome Savonarola	24	25	26
27 Trinity Sunday – Holy Mass at 9:30am and 11:30am. Lectors: Marilyn Hietala/Claudia Bertasso	28 Memorial Day – Holy Mass at the Parish cemetery (weather permitting) at 10am	29	30	31 Corpus Christi		

EVENTS

June Upcoming

- Sacred Vocations Month
- Father's Day
- Seniorate Corpus Christi
Celebration

Bowling Tournament
Kurs Begins