



Father Paul's Weekly Email

June 14

On this day in 1936, English essayist, poet, playwright, novelist, and theologian died. Chesterton wrote around 80 books, several hundred poems, some 200 short stories, 4,000 essays (mostly newspaper columns), and several plays. He was a literary and social critic, historian, playwright, novelist, and Catholic theologian and apologist, debater, and mystery writer. His best-known character is the priest-detective Father Brown. He was a convinced Christian long before he was received into the Catholic Church, and Christian themes and symbolism appear in much of his writing. (source: Wikipedia)

Chesterton's Fence is a simple rule of thumb he created that states you should never destroy a fence, change a rule, or alter a tradition if you do not understand why it was created in the first place. The principle assumes that fences have a purpose, were carefully planned, and cost time and money to erect. Someone must have had a reason for thinking that a fence would be a good idea. So before getting rid of it, find out why it was built in the first place.

I would like to share some more of his wit and wisdom.

- The Christian ideal has not been tried and found wanting; it has been found difficult and left untried.
- When it comes to life the critical thing is whether you take things for granted or take them with gratitude.
- The Bible tells us to love our neighbors, and also to love our enemies; probably because generally they are the same people.
- Coincidences are spiritual puns.
- It is the test of a good religion whether you can joke about it.
- To love means loving the unlovable. To forgive means pardoning the unpardonable. Faith means believing the unbelievable. Hope means hoping when everything seems hopeless.
- Do not be so open-minded that your brains fall out.
- Angels can fly because they take themselves lightly.

Phone: Office (304) 744-5523

Parish website

Faith in West Virginia

This Sunday's Readings

Wednesday Bible Handout:

share-06-19-24/?wpdmdl=1909&refresh=666cd8b3e445b1718409395

Cell: (304) 433-7472.

Email: pjw424@gmail.com

<https://www.blessedsacramentwv.org>

<https://faithinwv.org/latest-bulletin/>

<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/061624.cfm>

<http://blessedsacramentwv.org/download/bible->

Now Hear This

CAMP LEON will be held near Huttonsville from June 16-24. There will be 100 campers as well as many adults and youth helpers. The camp costs about \$400 per camper. Some are able to pay, but others cannot. Donations for scholarships or to help defray the cost will be accepted and appreciated. Just place your gift in an envelope or write "Camp Leon" in the memo on your check made out to Blessed Sacrament Parish.

LUNCH BUNCH is on Thursday July 20. It begins with Mass at noon followed by a meal. All are invited.

POEM Seed growing
*The realm of God is as if
someone would scatter seed on the ground...*
—Mark 4.26

God has scattered the seed of God's Word
all around this world.
Watch for it...

God's will is a seed scattered in this life.
It grows without your knowing.
Watch for it...

God has scattered the seed of God's grace
in you.
Watch for it...

You are a seed God has scattered into the world.
In what way might you bear fruit?
Watch for it...

The love you bear into the world is a divine seed.
You won't see it grow where it is scattered.
Trust it...

— Steve Garnaas-Holmes

www.unfoldinglight.net



MYSTIC MORSELS

Prayer is a plant, the seed of which is sown in the heart of every Christian, but its growth entirely depends on the care we take to nourish it. If neglected, it will die.

— Blessed Catherine McAuley (1778-1841)

There is not a flower that opens, not a seed that falls into the ground, and not an ear of wheat that nods on the end of its stalk in the wind that does not preach and proclaim the greatness and the mercy of God to the whole world.

— Thomas Merton (1915-1968)

CARBONATED GRACE***

A teacher told her young class to ask their parents for a family story with a moral at the end of it and to return the next day to tell their stories. In the classroom the next day, Joe told his story first, "My dad is a farmer and we have chickens. One day we were taking lots of eggs to market in a basket on the front seat of the truck when we hit a big bump in the road; the basket fell off the seat and all the eggs broke. The moral of the story is not to put all your eggs in one basket." "Very good," said the teacher.

Next, Mary said, "We are farmers too. We had twenty eggs waiting to hatch, but when they did we only got ten chicks. The moral of this story is not to count your chickens before they're hatched." "Excellent!" said the teacher again, very pleased with the responses so far.

Next, it was Barney's turn to tell his story: "My dad told me this story about my Aunt Karen ... Aunt Karen was a flight engineer in the war and her plane got hit. She had to bail out over enemy territory and all she had was a bottle of whiskey, a machine gun, and a machete." "Go on," said the teacher, intrigued. "Aunt Karen drank the whiskey on the way down to prepare herself; then she landed right in the middle of a hundred enemy soldiers. She killed seventy of them with the machine gun until she ran out of bullets. Then she killed twenty more with the machete till the blade broke. And then she killed the last ten with her bare hands." "Good heavens," said the horrified teacher. "What did your father say was the moral of that frightening story?" "Stay away from Aunt Karen when she's drunk."

***Ann Lamott calls laughter carbonated grace