

# Email from Father Paul (July 14, 2023)

In the 1930s John Dillinger was a notorious, publicity-seeking bank robber who escaped from jail on several occasions. The F.B.I. named him, "Public Enemy Number One." Knowing that the police and the F.B.I. had records of his fingerprints, he thought he would set about getting new fingerprints so that his presence would not be detected in future. He dipped his fingers and thumbs into a bowl of acid and went through great pain until new skin grew. After a few weeks, Dillinger tested his new fingerprints - only to find that they were identical to his old ones.

Fingerprints are a sign that each person is unique and individual. Even identical twins have different sets of prints. No one else will ever have the same fingerprints as you. Saint Pope John Paul II said: "Before God, each human being is always unique and unrepeatable, somebody thought of and chosen from eternity." Psalm 139:13-14 declares, "You formed my inmost being; you knit me in my mother's womb. I praise you, because I am wonderfully made; wonderful are your works! My very self you know."

No matter our sins and shortcomings or foibles and failures, God loves each and every one of us with an everlasting love. Not only that, but Saint Augustine also declares God loves each of us as if we are the only person in creation. What an awesome thought! What is our response to this good news? Give thanks and praise to God. Love God in return. Get to know God better through prayer, study, and scripture. Be an active member of the Church, sharing your gifts and talents. Love others as Jesus commands and shows us how.

Plans are underway and opportunities abound this Summer and Fall here at Blessed Sacrament Parish. We need both participants and volunteers.

- Vacation Bible School July 24-28 for children, youth, and adults
- Weekly Bible Study and Sharing
- Garden project on our property across the street
- Possible Parish Picnic or Homecoming Celebration
- Sunday Faith Formation opportunities for children, youth, and adults
- Inquiry Class for those exploring possibly becoming Catholic

What is missing?

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**U R**

You are welcome, wanted, needed, and appreciated.

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Phone: Office (304) 744-5523  
Parish website  
Faith in West Virginia  
This Sunday's Readings

Cell: (304) 433-7472      Email: [pjw424@gmail.com](mailto:pjw424@gmail.com)  
<https://www.blessedsacramentwv.org>  
<https://faithinwv.org/latest-bulletin/>  
<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/071623.cfm>

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## ♪ START SPREADING THE NEWS ♪

Today, Sunday July 16 at 10:15 am in the Library will be an informal gathering for an adults interested in learning more about the Catholic Church with the possibility of become Catholic. The **OCIA** (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) is a process to help people explore the Church and grow in relationship with God. Come and see!

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** is coming soon. Read all about it in the bulletin or online. Sign-up. Volunteer. We are taking a deep dive into the Parables of Jesus.

### **POEM**

Faith is an open hand,  
willing and able to receive the many blessings  
being poured upon it.  
It is an open window, able to let the sunshine in,  
allowing the fresh air to come.  
It is the door of the heart through which  
the love of God can freely come to dwell.

Many times, we wait for miracles to have us believe.  
When we do not see any, we say that  
there is no reason to believe anyway.  
But miracles need even faith.  
Miracles are always there,  
coming down from heaven.  
But how do we see it without the eyes of faith?  
— Joyce Soriano

### **MYSTIC MORSEL**

Just as the sun shines simultaneously on the tall cedars  
and on each little flower as though it were alone on the earth,  
so Our Lord is occupied particularly with each soul  
as though there were no others like it.  
And just as in nature all the seasons are arranged in such a way  
as to make the humblest daisy bloom on a set day,  
in the same way, everything works out for the good of each soul.  
— Saint Thérèse of Lisieux (1873-1897)

### **CARBONATED GRACE \*\*\***

Three boys were boasting about how fast their fathers were. The first one said, "My Dad's so fast he can shoot an arrow and run and catch it before it hits the target." The second one said, "Well, my Dad works on high-rise buildings. He's so fast he can drop a brick off the patio of a tenth story apartment and run down and catch it before it hits the

ground." "So what!" said the third boy. "My Dad works for the City Council. He's so fast that he finishes work at 4pm but gets home by 2:30pm."

\*\*\* Anne Lamott calls laughter *carbonated grace*