

Email from Father Paul (June 16, 2023)

Harry Tupis was a boisterous, outgoing parishioner who personally convinced more than one hundred men to join the Knights of Columbus at the Church of the Ascension in Hurricane, WV. Now more than ever, the Catholic Church needs more men, women, youth, and children to evangelize — to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ — and help the Church in general and Blessed Sacrament in particular to grow and make a difference in the lives of people and in the world around us.

Pollsters tell us that when people are asked what people look for most in a church community, there are three considerations most important to them. First, they want to feel welcomed in a place where hospitality is a hallmark. Second, the music and singing needs to be well done and meaningful. Finally, church goers want to hear and be inspired by good preaching. Did you know you can help us at Blessed Sacrament improve in all three areas?

Greet people with a smile, warm words, and perhaps a handshake before and after Mass. A parishioner in another parish told me it was two years before any parishioner spoke to her. Saint Augustine declared that to sing is to pray twice. Pick up a hymnal and use it. Join the Singing Choir, become a song leader, let Mary Odin know what musical instrument you play, or join the Bell Choir. Read the Sunday readings ahead of time or come to the Wednesday Night Sunday Gospel Bible Sharing beginning on June 28 at 6:30 pm in the Library or on Zoom. Become good soil for the seed of God's Word sown every Mass in the readings and homily.

We will beginning a new group for non-Catholics who are interested in learning more about the Catholic Church with the possibility of becoming Catholic. The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) will have one introductory session in both July and August. We will be meeting weekly beginning in September through April. For more info or to register please contact Tommy Ross at rossondixie@gmail.com or (304) 590-5003 or call Natalie Zellers in the office (304) 744-5523.

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Parish website <https://www.blessedsacramentwv.org>
Faith in West Virginia <https://faithinwv.org/latest-bulletin/>
This Sunday's Readings <https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/061823.cfm>
This Sunday's Bulletin

“We are God’s people, the sheep of his flock.” Please come and see how enriching our ongoing activities can be.

- Daily Mass most Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at noon
- Wednesday Morning Bible Study at 10 am in the Library
- Wednesday Lectio Divina Scripture Group 1 pm in the Community Room
- Wednesday Evening Bible Sharing at 6:30 pm in Library & on Zoom begins 06/28
- Saturday Morning Men's Bible Sharing at 9 am in Library and on Zoom

POEM Evangelize

Not only in the words you say,
not only in your deeds confessed,
but in the most unconscious way
is Christ expressed.

Is it a beatific smile?
a holy light upon your brow?
Oh no, I felt His presence
when you laughed just now.
For me 'twas not the truth you taught,
to you so clear, to me so dim;
but when you came to me,
you brought a sense of Him.
And from your eyes He beckons me;
from your lips His love is shed,
'til I lose sight of you and see the Christ instead.
— Beatrice Clelland from Portrait of a Christian

MYSTIC MORSEL

When a person is in special need of God's love,
God sends him an opportunity to show love to someone else.
— Rabbi Nachman of Bratislava (1772-1810)

CARBONATED GRACE ***

A teenage boy had just passed his driving test and asked his father when they could discuss his use of the car. His father said he'd make a deal with his son: "You bring your grades up from a C to a B average, study your Bible a little, and get your hair cut. Then we'll talk about the car." After about six weeks, his father said, "Son, you've brought your grades up and I've observed that you have been studying your Bible, but I'm disappointed you haven't had your hair cut." The boy said, "You know, Dad, I've been thinking about that, and I've noticed in my studies of the Bible that Samson had long hair, John the Baptist had long hair, Moses had long hair... and there's even strong evidence that Jesus had long hair." His father replied, "Did you also notice they all walked everywhere they went.

*** Anne Lamott calls laughter *carbonated grace*