



Father Paul's Weekly Email

June 21

More than one rider writer has commented on the irony of naming the month of June after perhaps the most fatal of the seven deadly sins — PRIDE. I recently read an interesting article about another deadly sin — ENVY — that is the cause of great unhappiness for those of us who experience it. Aristotle noted that envy is sorrow over the good of another. The targets of our envy usually are someone near us in our age, our location, and our profession. We tend to envy people who are like us and who have enjoyed some good fortune in life.

Pope, Theologian, Saint, and Doctor of the Church Gregory the Great (c. 540–604) observed that envy can give rise to a host of other maladies. These include gossip, detraction, delight over the misfortunes of others, and even hatred. Think about it:

- **Gossip.** If we feel envious over someone's good fortune, we might mention how they're not so great at what they do, even while using true examples. We knock someone down a peg because that's where they belong.
- **Detraction.** If that approach is not successful, one might share those shortcomings more publicly, beyond close acquaintances. This would be detraction. Such a tactic takes away some of their reputation that "should" really be ours.
- **Schadenfreude.** If none of that works, one might still hope—as bad as this sounds—that the person experiences a reversal. If the envied person experiences misfortune, one delights in it—because it puts them back where they deserve, as if meting out what is due to them.
- **Hatred.** Finally, if gossip or detraction or misfortune fail to do their work, the person might become an object of hatred. They become offensive to think about as a reminder of what could have been and "should" have been yours.

We need to disentangle our genuine desires from what everyone else wants and thinks we should want. That's a mistake. Some will be more famous than others. Some will make more money. Some will be more successful. But if we can be grateful for who we are, what we have, and what is our ultimate goal (to live with God forever), we will live happier lives. Nothing is finally and totally our own. "For we brought nothing into the world, just as we shall not be able to take anything out of it." (1 Timothy 6:7)

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

Cell: (304) 433-7472. Email: pjw424@gmail.com
<https://www.blessedsacramentwv.org>
<https://faithinwv.org/latest-bulletin/>
<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/062324.cfm>

Attention Please

Blessed Sacrament will be Hosting a **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** - July 22 - 26, 2024. 5:30- 7:30 p.m. Vacation Bible School will consist of a week of fun, learning, and growing in faith. The theme this year is Splash Canyon — God's Promise on Life's Wild Ride. It features an array of river-related bible stories paired with lessons, a reference to the Catechism, and a Mighty Saint's Story. Here's who we need to make this a success.

- children to come, learn, and have fun - preschoolers, 1-2, 3-5 graders;
- adults who will have their own track;
- youth volunteers to help things run smoothly;
- adult volunteers to register children each day, teach or help a teacher, run games, assist with arts and crafts, decorate, and prepare food.

Volunteers can help every day or days fitting their schedule. For more information or to volunteer, please contact the Blessed Sacrament Parish Office bsccwv@gmail.com or Mike Granata mikegranata3@gmail.com

Forms are available in the Gathering Space for children and volunteers.

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY — Time is running out. Please make sure we have accurate contact information for you, approve your picture from the last directory to be reused, or sign up for one of three remaining sessions with our photographer extraordinaire Mike Switzer. We hope to have our new directory as complete and accurate as possible. There is a chance someone might call you next week to check the information we have.

FURTHERMORE - Mark wants us to come to see what the Apostles saw—that God alone has the power to rebuke the wind and the sea. This is the point of today's First Reading. If even the wind and sea obey Jesus, shouldn't we trust Him in the chaos and storms of our own lives? As with the Apostles, the Lord has asked each of us to cross to the other side, to leave behind our old ways to travel with Him in the little ship of the Church.

In their fear today, they call Him, "Teacher." And it is only faith in His teaching that can save us from perishing. We should trust in Christ, and trust like Christ—who was able to sleep through the storm, confident that God was with Him. We should live in thanksgiving for our salvation, as today's Epistle tells us — as new creations, no longer for ourselves but for Him who died for our sake.

— Scott Hahn <https://stpaulcenter.com/audio/sunday-bible-reflections/in-the-storm-scott-hahn-reflects-on-the-twelfth-sunday-in-ordinary-time/>

CARBONATED GRACE***

Four women were sitting discussing their sons. The first proudly stated that her son was a bishop, so when he enters a room, people address him as "Your Excellency." The second, not to be outdone, said that her son is an archbishop, so when he enters the room, people address him as "Your Grace." The third quietly stated that her son was a cardinal, so when he enters the room, the people say: "Your Eminence." The fourth

woman said: Well my son is 7 feet 2 inches tall and weighs 430 pounds, and when he walks into a room people say: My God!”

***Ann Lamott calls laughter carbonated grace