

# ● *Father Paul's Weekly Email* ●

May 10, 2024

*Indiana Jones and The Last Crusade* includes a very memorable scene at the end. The Holy Grail — the chalice used by Jesus at the Last Supper — is among the group of chalices and cups made from various materials. The guard who a centuries old knight tells the evil Nazi and then Indiana Jones to choose wisely. The Nazi chooses the most expensive looking chalice and dies instantly. Indiana Jones reasons that Jesus would never use such a vessel and picks a simple looking pottery chalice. He chose wisely and uses the grail to save his father's life.

One of the reasons for so much evil in the world has to do with the free will God has given every one of us who are made in the image and likeness of God. We are human beings in whom God has vested the power of choice: to accept or reject Jesus' invitation to *Come follow me*: to believe or disbelieve that we are God's children now, brothers and sisters of Jesus, filled with the Holy Spirit. The way of God (eternal life) or the way of the world (death) is a free choice each person has to make. Choose wisely:

Choose to persevere ... rather than quit.  
Choose to praise ... rather than gossip.  
Choose to heal ... rather than wound.  
Choose to give ... rather than steal.  
Choose to act ... rather than procrastinate.  
Choose to grow ... rather than rot.  
Choose to pray ... rather than curse.  
Choose to live ... rather than die.



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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](mailto:pjw424@gmail.com)  
<https://www.blessedsacramentwv.org>  
<https://faithinwv.org/latest-bulletin/>  
<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/051224-Ascension.cfm>

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Live, Local, and Late-breaking

Hygiene Sunday — donating toiletries for those in recovery or in need  
Mother's Day Blessing at all Masses  
Senior Sunday 9:00 am Mass  
Pancake Breakfast Extraordinaire 10:15 - 11:15

## SCRIPTURE

I call heaven and earth today to witness against you: I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. Choose life, then, that you and your descendants may live. — Deuteronomy 30:19

## TEACHING

There are two ways, one of life and one of death; but a great difference between the two ways. The way of life, then, is this: First, you shall love God who made you; second, your neighbor as yourself; and all things whatsoever you would choose not occur to you, do not also do to another.

— The Didache (one of the oldest Christian writings outside the Bible)

## PRAYER

A Prayer of Invitation to Christ

Open, O doors and bolts of my heart, that Christ the King of Glory may enter!  
Enter, O my Light, and enlighten my darkness;  
Enter, O my Life, and resurrect my deadness;  
Enter, O my Physician, and heal my wounds;  
Enter, O Divine Fire, and burn up the thorns of my sins;  
Ignite my inward parts and my heart with the flame of Thy love;  
Enter, O my King, and destroy in me the kingdom of sin;  
Sit on the throne of my heart and reign in me alone, O Thou, my King and Lord.  
— Saint Dimitri of Rostov (1651-1709)

## CARBONATED GRACE \*\*\*

A new preacher wanted to rent a house in the country but the only one available was rumored to be haunted. That didn't bother the preacher since he didn't believe in such things. He went ahead and rented the place. Soon the ghost made its appearance. The preacher told his friends about the ghost, but they didn't believe him. They told him the only way they would believe was if he took a picture of the ghost. The preacher went home and called for the ghost. When it appeared, the preacher explained the situation and asked the ghost if it would mind having its picture taken. The ghost agreed. When the picture was developed, the ghost wasn't visible. Feeling disappointed, the preacher called again for the ghost. When it appeared, the preacher showed it the picture and wanted to know why the ghost wasn't in it. The ghost thought a minute and replied, "Well, I guess the spirit was willing, but the flash was weak."

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