
Blessed Sacrament Weekly Email - October 11, 2024

A farmer hired a carpenter to help him restore his old farmhouse. The carpenter's first day on the job was a rough one. He arrived late to work because he had a flat tire, halfway through the work his electric saw broke, and at the end of the workday his old pickup truck refused to start. The farmer had to drive him home. Arriving home, the carpenter invited the farmer in to meet his family. As they walked toward the front door, the carpenter paused briefly at a small tree, touching the tips of the branches with both hands. He then opened the door and was beaming with smiles as he hugged his two small children and gave his wife a kiss.

Afterward he walked the farmer to the car. As they passed the tree the farmer's curiosity got the better of him. So, he decided to ask the carpenter about what he had seen him do earlier. "Oh, that's my trouble tree," he replied. "I know I can't help having troubles on the job, but one thing for sure, troubles don't belong in the house with my wife and the children. So, I just hang them up on the tree every night when I come home. Then in the morning I pick them up again. Funny thing is when I come out in the morning to pick them up, there aren't nearly as many as I remember hanging up the night before."

Having a trouble tree is the carpenter's way of dealing with daily failures and problems which can sometimes seem overwhelming. Because problems and failures are a part of life, we all need a trouble tree. That is why Jesus, as he sends out the apostles to evangelize the world around them, thought it wise to provide them with a trouble tree. "If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them" (Mark 6:11). In other words, if you try to teach the people in a particular village and you meet with failure, do not let the failure get you down. Shake off the dust from that village, go to a new village and start again on a fresh page. Shaking off the dust from their feet is their own way of hanging their problems on the trouble tree.

A trouble tree is something most of us can use. You can have one no matter where you live, even if it's only in your imagination.

Fr. Paul

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This Sunday's Readings
Wednesday Bible Handout
This Sunday's Bulletin

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<https://www.blessedsacramentwv.org>
<https://faithinwv.org/latest-bulletin/>
<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/101324.cfm>

Hygiene Sunday



On the second Sunday of each month, parishioners are encouraged to donate hygiene products (especially sanitary napkins, shampoo, deodorant, and tooth paste and brushes). Our Tithe Fund uses monetary donations to purchase items for these kits. A hygiene kit is used to hold personal care items that clean, comfort, and groom a person's body. Our hygiene kits are used by women and men in addiction recovery or emergencies.

Attention Please

LUNCH BUNCH on Thursday, October 17th following noon Mass. Our menu this month will be baked ham, so think about your favorite dish to make, and bring it and a friend! Any and all dishes are welcome, and we will trust God for a delicious meal.

WHO SHOULD CATHOLICS VOTE FOR? how should Catholics decide who and what to vote for on Election Day? The US Conference of Catholic Bishops addresses this challenging topic with its "Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship" document. Deacon Tony will lead a discussion of what the USCCB teaches of the criteria Catholics should discern before casting their votes. The presentation will happen on October 20th between the Sunday Masses.

POEM Salted

*Everyone will be salted with fire.
Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it?
Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.*

—Mark 9.49-50

Jesus doesn't enjoin us to become salt;
as he says in a different sermon, we already are salt.

Salt is what it is, and can't be made more salty;
it can only lose its saltiness by being diluted.

To keep your saltiness is to be true to who you are,
to stay faithful to your hopes, your heart, your soul.

To have salt is to speak the truth when it's hard,
to know what you trust and trust it when it's scary.

To be salted is to stay open to the Spirit that comes to us,
that breathes in us, that burns with fire in us,

the Spirit that lives in each other person as well,
that makes us all one, which is the root of our peace.

To have salt is not to erase or dominate others

but to bring out the best in them, especially when it s hidden.

Everyone will be salted with fire, seasoned with love—
everyone—flavored with beauty, preserved by the Spirit.

Trust that,
and live that way.

— Steve Garnaas-Holmes www.unfoldinglight.net

MYSTIC MORSELS

- In a magnificent Bengali proverb, it is said that the Lord is always waiting for us with his arms open wide; and for every step we take towards him, he takes seven towards us. (Eknath Easwaran)
- This shift from trying to be special to seeking what is special in everything marks the way under the way. (Mark Nepo)

PRAYER Keep Us in Peace

O Lord our God, keep us in peace
during this night and at all times.
Keep our hearts and thoughts secure
in holy reverence for you,
so that we may be protected at all times
from the snares of the enemy.
And let us offer blessing and glory
to the Father
and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
now and forever and
unto the ages of ages. Amen.

— Armenian Prayer

CARBONATED GRACE

The Notre Dame football team was traveling to a much-anticipated game against one of its chief rivals. A reporter met them at the airport and cornered the team's head coach. "It has been widely reported that your football squad always travels with a priest to pray for the team's success. I would love the opportunity to interview the Chaplain. Would you mind introducing me?" the reporter asked.

"No problem!" the coach eagerly replied. "Tell me, which one do you want to meet? The Offensive, Defensive, or Special Teams Chaplain?"