

Father Paul's Weekly Email

October 6, 2023

On October 6, 1927, *The Jazz Singer* debuted as the first so-called “Talkie Movie.” This marked the beginning of the end of the Era of Silent Films. The shift from silent films to talkies was a huge deal for actors in the late 1920s. Many silent film stars found it difficult to “find their voice” and place in this new Hollywood medium, which completely changed the game of on-screen performance. But while the talkies ended a lot of careers, several actors succeeded — and prospered — in the transition. Lionel Barrymore, Joan Crawford, Greta Garbo, Stan Laurel, Oliver Hardy, and Boris Karloff became and remain famous to movie aficionados today.

Change can be and is often very difficult. The very young and the very old seem to like and handle change with reluctance and difficulty. This is especially true for those with dementia. However, any alterations in institutions are usually rejected and reviled at first before finding acceptance. When I was in elementary school, the Mass was in Latin, the priest had his back to the people and spoke softly enough that only the altar servers could hear him. Yet, history reveals that the language for liturgy was in Greek until the Fifth Century. It was changed to Latin because that was the everyday language spoken by those living in Western Europe.

History, archeology, and architecture clearly indicates that a rigid approach to who did what, where, when, and how Mass was celebrated simply doesn't work. Over time, what was a beautiful treasure becomes tarnished like old silverware or picks up additions much like ships are slowed down by barnacles. The transition from one Priestley to another can sometimes be dramatic and traumatic because of different personalities and gifts. Very often how a priest preaches, presides, and leads have to do with the opinions and experience each one of us have.

No doubt there were people back in the day who firmly believed having sound in movies was more expensive and unnecessary. Yet, sound made the story more accessible. Change is inevitable, but openness is not. Remember God's promise: “It is the LORD who goes before you; he will be with you and will never fail you or forsake you. So do not fear or be dismayed.” (Deuteronomy 31:8)

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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/100823.cfm	
Wednesday Bible Handout	https://blessedsacramentwv.org/download/bible-share-10-11-23/?wpdmdl=1475&refresh=651f01b8f3faf1696530872	
This Sunday's Bulletin	https://blessedsacramentwv.org/download/october-8-2023/?wpdmdl=1476&refresh=651f01b8e6a971696530872	

Headlines and Happenings

HIKE FOR HUNGER is underway as our Youth Group is trying to raise \$2,000 for Heart and Hand. Your help is needed and will be appreciated. Check the bulletin.

THANKSGIVING FOOD-DRIVE for Heart and Hand and the Coalburg Food Pantry is scheduled for the weekends of October 21-22 and October 28-29.

ON THANKSGIVING DAY there will be a 10am Mass in the Church and a Covered Dish Turkey Dinner at 2pm in the Parish Hall. More information is coming soon.

WINTER MASS SCHEDULE begins on Saturday November 4. Mass on Saturdays begin at 4pm to allow those who find it difficult to drive at night get home safely. The Sunday Mass schedule remains at 9:00 and 11:30am. **PLEASE NOTE**, with the recommendation of the Pastoral Council, when the Winter Schedule ends in the Spring, the new Mass time for Saturday will be at 5:00 pm.

POEM: When you see a sunset,
Do you say to yourself,
It's too bright?
There's not enough color?
Probably not!
You just accept it
And maybe thank God for the sunset.
When you walk through a forest,
Do you say to yourself,
These trees are too tall?
There are too many leaves?
They are the wrong shade of green?
Probably not!
You just accept it
And maybe thank God for the forest.
You are one of God's Children.
You are greater than any sunset
Any forest.
Why do you beat yourself up
Instead of knowing how wonderful you are?
— Author Unknown



MYSTIC MORSELS

Be happy. Be content—always, everywhere, in all circumstances— because every circumstance is a gift of love for you from the Eternal Father... Remember who loves you, and be encouraged today and every day in Christ, gentle Jesus.
— Catherine of Siena (1347-1380)

One of the hardest lessons in life is letting go. Whether it's guilt, anger, love, loss or betrayal. Change is never easy. We fight to hold on and we fight to let go. If you've been hurt until it breaks your soul into pieces, your perspective in life will definitely change, and no one and nothing in this world could ever hurt you again.

– Mareez Reyes

PRAYER

Lord, you understand me, you know my every thought,
my brain is not a mystery to you.
Enter into my mind, Lord, guide and direct my thoughts.
Be before me when I speak,
be beside me when I act,
be within me when I listen,
that I might possess the wisdom born of love,
for you are love, the love which understands everything.

– Frank Topping

CARBONATED GRACE ***

"Mom," a small girl asked, "How come men don't ever go to heaven?"
"Of course men go to heaven," her mother replied. "Why do you ask that?"
The child said, "Because all the angels I've ever seen don't have whiskers."
The mother explained, "That's because most men get to heaven by a close shave."

"A small boy knocked on my door on Halloween night and said, "I'm a werewolf. Trick or Treat." "But you're not wearing a costume," I said. "You've got your everyday clothes on." "Yeah, well," the boy replied. "it's not a full moon yet, is it?"

** Anne Lamott calls laughter *carbonated grace*