

Father Paul's Weekly Email

September 1, 2023

Yogi Berra is one of the most beloved Major League Baseball players of all time. He was also one of the most successful, winning 10 World Series as a player and 3 more as a coach. He is perhaps best remembered for many simple, profound, quirky statements (many of which he actually said)! One of my favorites is: *If you don't know where you are going, you'll end up someplace else.* It is better to have a plan that to win it or make it up as you go along. Plan the work and work the plan.

I am pleased that Blessed Sacrament Parish is soon to begin again our Sunday Faith Formation for children, youth, and adults. From the moment Mike Granata came on board as our Director of Religious Education, our staff and volunteers have been working on a plan.

- choose a curriculum
- recruit volunteers
- seek out and find students
- de clutter the school upstairs and down
- clean and equip the classrooms for our catechists, helpers, and students
- prepare enable the catechists to do this crucial ministry well
- create opportunities for parents and adults to learn as well
- develop a calendar from September through May

Your parish staff is excited about the possibilities. We hope you are as well.

Let me suggest different ways you can support these efforts.

- enroll your students in the program by email mikegranata3@gmail.com or stopping by or calling the office (304) 744-5523
- signing up for adult programs on Sunday morning to help us prepare
- volunteer to help Mike and others get things ready so our catechists focus on teaching
- pray for our catechists & students that the light of Christ may fill their minds & hearts.

Yogi Berra reportedly said: *The future ain't what it used to be.* No one anticipated the Covid Pandemic and it sure has changed our worlds. Still, in many respects, the future we have depends on in large part what we make of it. Let's look at this year of Faith Formation as a **G.I.F.T.** when we can **G**row **i**n **F**aith **T**ogether.

Phone: Office (304) 744-5523

Parish website

Faith in West Virginia

Cats in Church History #1

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://mymodernmet.com/exeter-cathedral-cat-flap/>

<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/090323.cfm>

<https://blessedsacramentwv.org/download/september-3-2023/?wpdmdl=1436&refresh=64f0f57892d6e1693513080>

Live, Local, and Late-breaking

The Wednesday Morning Bible Study is soon to start Questions Jesus Asks by Steven J. Binz. They meet in the Library from 10am until 11:30 am. One of the most striking characteristics of Jesus' ministry is the way he continually asks questions of those he encounters. Jesus' questions can and do evoke new understandings, help listeners see different perspectives, and ultimately, change lives.

This Thursday both the Youth Group and Voice Choir resume meeting at 5pm and 6pm respectively. Youth in grades 6-12 are welcome to come and join in. The choir is always open to new members. Both the Youth Group and Choir have a good time.

STORY There is a story about four men named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, and Nobody. There was an important job to be done, and Everybody was asked to do it. Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that, because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought that Anybody could do it, and Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody, when actually Nobody did what Anybody could have done.

MYSTIC MORSELS

There is no limit to the ways in which God may make himself known. At every turn in our lives there can be a meeting place with God. How our hearts should sing with joy and thanksgiving. We have only to want him now at this moment — at any moment in our lives — and he is there, wanting us, longing to welcome us, to forgive us all that has gone before that has separated us from him.

—Mother Frances Dominica (1942—

Let every one of you have the Holy Scripture and read from it, since these are God's words, they teach us how to live and prepare ourselves for the future life. Pray at home daily, and on Sundays and holidays, come to church, to this holy place which is devoted to service to God, where God's angels abide and pray together with you.

—Saint John Maximovich (1896-1966)

POEM

Radiant is the Wisdom of God,
Full of splendor and beauty,
Full of life,
Of souls hidden,
Of treasures of the holy spirit,
Of fountains of strength,
Of greatness and beauty -
How majestic the vision!
Come, enjoy,
Come, find peace,



Embrace delight,
Taste and see that God is good.
Why spend your substance on what does not nourish
And your labor on what cannot satisfy?
Listen to God, and you will enjoy what is good,
And find delight in what is truly precious.
— Abraham Isaac Cook (adapted) (1865-1935)

CARBONATED GRACE ***

As they were tail-gating outside their team's football stadium, four friends and two fans were talking about the big game soon to begin. John said, "I wish I'd brought the piano to the stadium." Jim asked : "Why would you bring a piano to the football game?" John replied: "Because I left the tickets on it."

Three fans were talking about the sad state of their beloved N.F.L. Washington Commanders. The first said: "I blame the General Manager; if we could draft and sign better players, we'd be a great team." The second fan declared: "I blame the players; if they made more effort, I'm sure we would score more touchdowns." The third sighed deeply: "I blame my parents; if I had been born in a different town, I'd be rooting for a better team."

*** Anne Lamott calls laughter *carbonated grace*