

Father Paul's Weekly Email

September 8, 2023

There are many different ways the Roman Catholic Church is organized. A parish is what most people think about when asked how they experience Church. Every parish ought to have both a Pastoral and a Finance Council to work with and advise their Pastor. Each parish is part of a Vicariate which is a group of parishes and missions in a particular area of the Diocese. The Vicar hopes to engender missions and parishes to support one another and work together in different ways. Each parish has two representatives for the Vicariate Pastoral Council.

Blessed Sacrament Parish is part of the Charleston Vicariate and Father Don Higgs is our Vicar. One of the responsibilities he has is to visit all the Pastors and discuss with him the state of the parish. One question wonders whether the parish is in a mission mode or a maintenance posture. It is obvious to your staff and lay leaders that we must work together to grow the church.

Community outreach and a hospitable welcome to visitors and newcomers are essential for growth. Faith Formation for children, youth, & adults helps one grow in knowledge. The Order of Christian Initiation for adults is designed to explain our Catholic Faith to people who are considering joining the Church. Both are getting ready to begin again. Here are ways you can help the work and efforts in these essential parts of parish life.

- invite and bring someone to the O.C.I.A. Inquiry Group at 6pm on Sept. 11
- volunteer to help with our Sunday Faith Formation Program between the Masses
- pray for all the volunteers and participants in these ministries
- contact Mike Granata to see how you can help on Sundays mikegranata3@gmail.com

Phone: Office (304) 744-5523	Cell: (304) 433-7472	Email: pjw424@gmail.com
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/091023.cfm	
Wednesday Bible Handout	https://blessedsacramentwv.org/download/september-13-2023/?wpdmdl=1440&refresh=64fa0f97138891694109591	
This Sunday's Bulletin	https://blessedsacramentwv.org/download/september-10-2023/?wpdmdl=1441&refresh=64fa0f9708cc21694109591	

I will **NEVER** ask anyone to buy gift cards for me to give away.

I will **NEVER** be stuck in a foreign country since I have no Passport.

I will **ONLY** send you an email from pjw424@gmail.com

I will **ONLY** text you from my cell phone (304) 433 7472

NO Blessed Sacrament Staff member will **EVER** ask you to buy a gift card for them.

Only do so if he or she puts the cash in your hand!

I gratefully accept **INVITATIONS** to breakfast, lunch, and dinner in people's homes or at restaurants.

PRAYER

Sorrow for a Wasted Day

O Lord,
in Your hands are held life and death,
by Your power I am sustained,
and by Your mercy I am spared,
I ask that You look down upon me with mercy.
Forgive me that I have until now neglected the duty
which You have given to me.
I know that I must give account of these wasted days and hours
that passed away without any effort to accomplish Your will.
Make me to remember, O God, that every day is Your gift,
and ought to be used according to Your wish.
Help me repent of my negligence,
So that I may obtain mercy from You,
and pass my remaining days upholding Your commands
and accomplishing Your will. Amen.
— Samuel Johnson (1709-1784)

MYSTIC MORSELS

Just as the sun shines simultaneously on the tall cedars and on each little flower as though it were alone on the earth, so Our Lord is occupied particularly with each soul as though there were no others like it. And just as in nature all the seasons are arranged in such a way as to make the humblest daisy bloom on a set day, in the same way, everything works out for the good of each soul.
— Saint Therese of Lisieux (1873-1897)

Our task is to offer ourselves up to God like a clean, smooth canvas and not bother ourselves about what God may choose to paint on it, but, at every moment, feel only the stroke of his brush.
— Jean-Pierre de Caussade (1675-1751)

CARBONATED GRACE ***

A woman was shopping at a Target store and came across a silver thermos. She was quite fascinated by it, so she picked it up and brought it over to the clerk to ask what it was. The clerk said, “that’s a thermos . . . It keeps some things hot, and some things cold.” “Wow,” said the woman, “that’s amazing. I’m going to buy it!” So she bought the thermos and took it to work the next day. Her boss saw it on her desk. “What do you have there?” he asked. “Why that’s a thermos . . . It keeps hot things, hot and cold things cold,” she replied. Her boss said, “What do you have in it?” The woman replied, “Two popsicles, and some coffee.”

*** Anne Lamott calls laughter *carbonated grace*