

Email from Father Paul (June 30, 2023)

Did you ever notice how we can be so certain about something only to be stunned to learn otherwise? There are lots of examples from the history of our country. George Washington did not own up to cutting down a cherry tree because of his inability to prevaricate or lie. The Thirteen Colonies that became the United States first declared independence from England on July 2. It wasn't announced until July 4 and wasn't actually signed until sometime in August.

Many people wrongly believe that Adam and Eve were kicked out of the Garden of Eden for eating an apple. Others just know that Saint Paul was riding a horse on the road to Damascus when the Risen Lord appeared to the great persecutor of the early Church, causing him to fall to the ground. Neither of these commonly held beliefs is true. Jesus never said, "Money is the root of all evil." Jesus actually blames **love** of money.

Saint Jerome famously said, "Ignorance of scripture is ignorance of Christ." Our Director of Religious Education Mike Granata, Molly Linehan-Belcher, Rick Brennan, and I will take turns facilitating a Wednesday evening Sunday Gospel Bible Sharing discussion at 6:30 pm in the Library or on Zoom. A one sheet handout is available for pickup at Sunday Mass, online at our website, or my email on Monday when requested.

Handouts are being prepared for Wednesday evening discussions on the coming Sunday Gospel. There are some copies available for those who are not online through the internet. The idea is to read the material ahead of the Wednesday discussion. There is a link below to that handout. If you sign up with your email address, we will email the handout on Monday mornings. The handout includes the Zoom link.

Phone: Office (304) 744-5523
Parish website
Faith in West Virginia
This Sunday's Readings

Cell: (304) 433-7472 Email: pjw424@gmail.com
<https://www.blessedsacramentwv.org>
<https://faithinwv.org/latest-bulletin/>
<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/070223.cfm>

POEM: Let Your God Love You

Be silent.
Be still.
Alone,
Empty
Before your God.
Say nothing.
Ask nothing.
Be silent.
Be still.
Let your God

Look upon you.
That is all.
God knows.
And understands.
God loves you with
An enormous love,
Wanting only to
Look upon you
With love
Quiet.
Still.
Be.
Let your God
Love you.

In Edwina Gateley, There Was No Path So I Trod One (Wheathampstead: Anthony Clarke, 1996)

MYSTIC MORSEL

Pray as though everything depended on God.
Work as though everything depended on you.
— Saint Augustine

CARBONATED GRACE ***

Happy Inde -PUN- dence Day

Q. Why aren't there any Fourth of July knock-knock jokes?
A. Because freedom rings.

Q. Why don't firefighters get the Fourth of July off?
A. Because fire works.

Q. What was the favorite food of General Washington's army during the Revolutionary War?
A. Chicken Catch-a-Tory.

Q. Which colonists told the most dad jokes?
A. Punsylvanians!

Q. What's the name of the cat who famously yelled, "The British are coming! The British are coming!"?
A. Paw Revere

*** Anne Lamott calls laughter *carbonated grace*