

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:

A Jesuit once told me that for an Experiment, while in Formation, he was to go to Mexico and live with a family. He objected, saying he didn't speak Spanish and so could be of little use to the people. His Superior said, "Exactly!" The Jesuit was told he needed to learn how to receive. This Sunday we celebrate Corpus Christi, the feast in which we receive the Lord's body, the sacrament of His love. Like my Jesuit friend, when we think of the Christian life we most often focus on our actions. In the little introduction for this Sunday in the missalette, the author lists examples of injustice in our world that the Christian is called to respond to in some way. While certainly true, it also, in a way, puts the cart before the horse. If we seek a world that is more just and loving we first need to receive love in our hearts in order to share it.

The devotion which Catholics have always given to the Eucharist over the centuries is an indication of the unique place the Sacrament holds in our faith. In the Scripture, when Jesus gives the sacrament at the Last Supper, he gives us the key to understand and receive the gift of his body and blood when he says "Do this in memory of me." When these words are proclaimed in the Mass and every time we come up to receive the Eucharist, the Lord invites us to remember the origin and meaning of this sacramental gift.

When we come forward to receive the Eucharist there is no more time to get our lives in perfect order. So we come up as we are. As we come to receive we remember what the Lord has done. We know that following the Last Supper he experienced agony in the garden, that he was arrested, questioned, humiliated, beaten and crucified. It is precisely this that the Lord asks us to remember, and we remember not a story that deepens our sense of guilt, rather his experience which frees us to love through his sacrifice. His sacrifice is Christ's most beautiful expression of love for each of us. A love we are asked to receive – a gift it is hard for us to receive. We often think of our faults and our failings, we often struggle remembering those things we could have and should have done but did not. But our focus should not be on ourselves, but on him. One of my favourite moments in the Mass is when the Eucharist is elevated and we all say "Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed." It is special because when I look at the Eucharist at this moment, so too do I see the ceiling and roof of Lourdes. We are saying that we are unworthy for the Lord to come under our roof and yet the moment those words are spoken the Risen Lord is present under our roof. It seems to me that our focus on our faults and failings or sins of omission are not really helpful. Nor is it an appropriate response to the gift the Lord is offering.

Like my Jesuit friend we need to learn to receive. There are no ulterior motives, there are no subtle qualifications, and there are no restrictions. Our God comes to each of us and offers himself as he is, that is, perfect love. As Catholic Christians we are a Eucharistic people. And as a Eucharistic people, it means we are a people rooted and grounded in his love. The Church we seek to build and community we hope to mold must then be marked by love. The world we seek to heal must also be marked by love. On the Solemnity of Corpus Christi we can see and know a little bit more clearly who we are in God's life: we are the ones for whom he gave his life; we are the ones for whom he has proclaimed, and proclaims, he has love. As we come forward at Communion this Sunday, let us receive his gift, let us receive his love.

God Bless and Take Care! *Fr. John*

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Morning Retreat: Being a Man After God's Own Heart: "A Spirituality of Fatherhood"

Join us Saturday June 28 from 9am to noon for a Morning Retreat hosted by Fr. Doug and Sr. Mary. This time of prayer and reflection will take place in the Library. The theme of the Retreat is "**Being a Man After God's Own Heart: A Spirituality of Fatherhood,**" and the presenters will include Jojo Dizon, Joe Egan, and Armand Marquez. The Retreat is free, but we ask you to please sign up by calling the Parish Office at 416-924-6257 or email us at parish@ourladyoflourdes.ca All are Welcome!

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Novena to the Sacred Heart:

You are invited to join us in a Novena to the Sacred Heart, **June 18-26. The novena will take place here in the church at 4:30pm pm Monday to Friday and 4:00 pm on Saturday and Sunday.** If you are unable to join us in the church, but would like to pray the Novena at home, here is the Novena Prayer:

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, we place our trust in you, fearing all in our weakness, hoping all things in your goodness. Let you alone be our love; the protector of our lives; the stay of our weakness, the source of strength, in our inconsistency; the One who forgives all our faults; the assurance of our salvation and refuge at the hour of our death. Amen. Sacred Heart of Jesus, we place our trust in you. Amen

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Parish Picnic - Mark the Date! The picnic will take place **Saturday, August 16** in the afternoon. Details will follow in upcoming bulletins. Put the date in your calendar and plan to be there.



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MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, June 23

8:00 am Briant Duncan + [Sue and Ken Phillips]
 12:10 pm Deceased Relatives + [Eileen Casey]
 5:15pm Victoriano Go +[Lody Manlapaz]

Tuesday, June 24

8:00 am Salud & Tony Espiritu + [Gloria Torio]
 12:10 pm Maria Sibayan + [Caridad Tomas]
 5:15 pm Leslie Szabo & Salvador Figueroa + [Vilma Figueroa]

Wednesday, June 25

8:00 am Art Monnette + [Sr. Mary Babic]
 12:10 pm Mary Funmi, Thanksgiving [Funmi Aina]
 5:15 pm Stanley Walker Schatz's Family Intention [Mary Jane]

Thursday June 26

8:00 am Kelly Balicki's Hope for a Successful Surgery
 [Mary Agnes Balicki]
 12:10 pm All Souls & All Saints [Anabelle & Eleno]
 5:15 pm Georgio & Assunta Porretta + [Patty, Mary & Rachel]

Friday, June 27

8:00 am Bebe Asuncion & Jose Valencia + [Friend]
 12:10 pm All Souls in Purgatory [Oliver Family]
 5:15 pm Conor O'Connor + [Una O'Connor]

Saturday, June 28

8:00 am Thanksgiving [Connie Saavedra & Family]
 12:10 pm Ridley Thomson + [Luisa Ninahuilca]

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Jolly Sebastian, Irene Hart & Terry Depodesta

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Communal Sacrament of the Sick Celebration

Join us for a communal celebration of the Sacrament of Healing on **Thursday, June 26 at 3:00pm**. Seniors, as well as those with chronic illnesses or in need of surgery, are invited to experience the sacrament at this time. If you need transportation, or know of someone who does, please call the Parish Office at 416-924-6257.

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Our Lady of Mount Carmel Niagara Falls Pilgrimage

Join St. John the Baptist Parish, for their annual Pilgrimage to the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Niagara Falls on Saturday, July 12 9am-6pm. The cost is \$30. Please bring your own Food. For more info or for tickets, call Carlos 416-360-7005, Luz at 416-604-9519 or Cicely at 416-759-3976.

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GOD BLESS OUR GRADUATES: You are asked to remember in your prayers all our young people who are completing grade school and high school at this time and those who graduate this month. We pray also for their teachers and support workers who have served them so well.

Thank You For the Hostas and the Rose Bushes: We have had a great response from you for Hostas and white rose bushes to replace the ones lost over the winter and we now have all that we need. Thank you for helping us and appreciating our work in the church gardens.

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All Inclusive Ministries (AIM): Join AIM for their regular 4th Saturday Mass next Saturday, June 28 at 7pm in the church. All are Welcome!

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CWL Scholarship and Bursary Awards: The recipients of these Catholic Women's League awards are from St. Joseph's College School. Valedictorian, Kadeshia James was awarded a \$400 scholarship and Salutatorian, Lovely Juson was awarded a \$100 bursary. Congratulations to both these High school graduates. The awards were made possible through the generosity of the CWL, Lourdes chapter and the parish community. Thank you!

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Day of Reflection on the African Heritage Mass Theme

The Signs of the Times: the Impact of Pope Francis!
 Saturday July 5th from 10 am to 2pm in Lynch Hall.

There will be a possible DVD viewed

Fr. Michael Meunier will be with us. Everyone is most welcome. For information call: Sister Hazel: 416-920-0132; Bernadine: 416-504-1507

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Sacramental Preparation: Are you hoping to have your child baptized in the near future? Are you looking to prepare for the Sacrament of Marriage? Perhaps you, yourself are, or someone you know is considering becoming a Roman Catholic? For details on preparation for any of the Sacraments, call the Parish Office at 416-924-6257.

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BEAUTY FROM OUR FAITH

"You, however, are the Body of Christ and His members. If, therefore, you are the Body of Christ and His members, your mystery is presented at the table of the Lord, you receive your mystery. To that which you are, you answer: 'Amen', and by answering you subscribe to it. For you hear: 'The Body of Christ!' and you answer: 'Amen!' Be the a member of Christ's Body, so that your 'Amen' may be the truth.... Behold what you are, become what you receive."
 ~ St. Augustine

| Lourdes @ a glance: the week of June 22-28 | | | | | | |
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| Sun 22 | Mon 23 | Tues 24 | Wed 25 | Thurs 26 | Fri 27 | Sat 28 |
| <i>Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ</i> | <i>Novena to the Sacred Heart</i> 4:30pm [church] | <i>Novena to the Sacred Heart</i> 4:30pm [church] | <i>Novena to the Sacred Heart</i> 4:30pm [church] | <i>Communal Sacrament of the Sick</i> 3pm [church] | <i>Feast of the Sacred Heart</i> | Baptisms 10:30 am |
| <i>Novena to the Sacred Heart</i> 4pm [church] | | | | <i>Novena to the Sacred Heart</i> 4:30pm [church] | | Morning Retreat 9am- noon |