

The Pastor's Musings

Dear Family in the Lord,

We bring the Easter Season to a glorious conclusion today as we recall the "birthday" of the Church, the Solemnity of Pentecost, and the embrace of the missionary mandate Jesus left to all who would be His disciples! Scripture tells us that while Mary and the Apostles were huddled in prayer in the upper room, suddenly there was a roaring wind, tongues as of fire appeared, parted, and came to rest on each of them, and these timid and frightened men rushed out into the streets and fearlessly began to preach the Good News of Jesus Christ to all. They were "clothed with power from on high," not validated by a majority vote or action that was politically correct, restrained, and formed into a "vanilla" expectation. Like water, the Spirit was "poured forth into their heart," and "they made bold proclamation as the Spirit prompted them."



Wind, fire, water. Three natural elements used to speak about the eternal gift of the Holy Spirit, lavishly poured out, laden with gifts to release in hearts and souls that welcome the indwelling! We would do well to ponder, as we unwrap in the homily today, what these simple elements teach us about the Spirit.

From that first outpouring to our day, the Holy Spirit has been a permanent presence and tower of strength in guiding, guarding, and directing the course of the life of the Church. The presence of the Holy Spirit is first evident in our lives at Baptism. It was at that moment that the "seed of eternity" was planted within us bringing us into loving relationship with God. Heaven has been placed within our reach, but entrance into the Kingdom does not happen unless we are prepared to make room for the Spirit to direct our lives and release His manifold gifts in our souls.

The starting point for accepting the gifts of the Spirit, and growth in relationship, is to increase our prayer life, which helps put us into loving relationship with God. We begin to hear His voice, sense His nearness, cast off fear, grow in trust, and step out in confidence. We do not "conform our selves to this age, but are transformed" by the Spirit dwelling within us! Remember, the Holy Spirit first came upon the apostles while they were at prayer. Without an attitude of prayerfulness, it is very difficult to discover our unique talents and gifts and the unique role we are called to play in the mission of the Church. Once we discover them, the Spirit prompts us to give as a gift what we have received as a gift!

The feast we keep today invites us to reflect upon our openness and our response to the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in our lives, the identity given us in Baptism, and the gifts sealed in us at Confirmation. Let's be united in praying for one another, our parish, and the Church universal: "Come Holy Spirit, renew us that we might help renew the face of the earth!"

With you on the Journey,

The Week at a Glance

Monday, June 5

Tuesday, June 6

Pivotal Players - 9:00 AM (SJ H)
Pivotal Players - 6:30 PM (SJ H)
Finance Council Mtg - 6:30 PM (VH)

Wednesday, June 7

Prayer Cenacle - 2:00 PM (SC C)
K of C Mtg - 6:00 PM (IC H)

Thursday, June 8

Exposition/Adoration - 8:30AM-5:00PM (SC)
St. Patrick School Mass - 9:30 AM (IC C)
Pastoral Council Mtg - 6:30 PM (EDPC)

Friday, June 9

CERS Group Meeting - 7:00 PM (SC H)
Italian Class - 7:00 PM (EDPC LL)

Saturday, June 10

Rosary - 3:30 PM (IC C)
Women's Ministry Gathering - 5 PM (SC H)

Sunday, June 11

Televised Parish Mass - 10 AM, Channel 98
Music Ministry Rehearsal - 11:45AM (IC C)
Choir Practice Spanish Mass - 12:30 PM (SC)
Rosary - 1:30 PM (SC C)
Spanish Mass - 2:00 PM (SC C)
Bible Study in Spanish - 3:30 PM (SC H)

Sanctuary Lamps

This week, the sanctuary lamp at St. Catherine Church will burn in memory of Rev. Msgr. Lawrence E. Burns.

At Immaculate Conception Church, the sanctuary lamp will burn this week for the intentions of Rev. Maurice T. Lebel, on the 50th anniversary of his ordination, requested by Frances Lebel.

The votives at the Mary altar will burn with a special intention for Sean & Megan, as requested by her godmother, Dot Liberty.

At the St. Joseph altar, the votives will burn with blessings on their 25th anniversary for Catherine & Charles Cullinane, requested by Denis & Ann Hebert.

Traveling Vocation Icon



This week, **Jim & Kristen Broom & Family** will receive the Icon of Jesus Knocking at the Door into their home and intercede in a special way for Joe, Mike, Dan, and all in formation, for those discerning, and for many vocations to rise up from our community.

Intentions For Holy Mass

- Monday JUN 5 St. Boniface**
 8:00AM sc *The Andrews Family, by Maryann Parnell*
- Tuesday JUN 6 St. Norbert**
 8:00AM sc *Hedwig Dial, by Thomas & Kathleen Dwyer*
- Wednesday JUN 7 Feria (weekday)**
 8:00AM sc *Rosemarie Boucher, by her Husband*
- Thursday JUN 8 Feria**
 8:00AM sc *Wynne Grace Mateffy,
 by Cindy & John Guarneri*
 9:30AM ic *St. Patrick School Mass – open to all*
- Friday JUN 9 St. Ephrem**
 8:00AM sc *Marie Underwood, by Maryann Parnell*
- Saturday JUN 10 Feria**
 8:00AM sc *T J Bassett, by the Maloney Family*
Vigil The Most Holy Trinity
 4:00PM ic *Deacon Charles Schladenhauffen
 (7th anniversary), by his Wife*
- Sunday JUN 11 The Most Holy Trinity**
 8:30AM ic *Joseph Gionet, by his Wife & Family*
 10:30AM ic *Ann & Frank Splitz,
 by the McDonough Family*
 2:00PM sc **in Spanish** *Celebrant's Intention*
 4:30PM ic *Pro Populo (For our Parish Family)*

Daily Mass & Spanish Mass Move
 Remember, as of Monday, June 19th, the 8:00 AM weekday Mass will move from its present location at St. Catherine Church to our Immaculate Conception Church. The Sunday 2:00 PM Spanish Mass will also move to Immaculate Conception as of Sunday, June 25th.

To schedule Mass intentions or for sacramental records, please see Marilyn Chavez at the Eileen Daly Pastoral Center, or call 436-4555.

Our reflection of God's generosity to us!

Weekend of May 27/28, 2017

Envelopes/EFT	\$ 8,407.00
Loose	\$ 2,191.01
Total	\$ 10,598.01

Last weekend 228 envelope/35 Online Giving users contributed 79 % of our income.

Poor Box Donations	\$ 1251.65
May Repairs/Maintenance	\$ 1,811.00
Ascension Collection	\$ 3,093.54
Catholic Communications	\$ 945.00

SEMINARIAN CORNER



Greetings! It is with great joy that I write to you this week, as there is much to be a cause of thanks. After being in Brighton for the better part of the year and coming back, it is refreshing to see so many familiar faces, and it is hopeful to see so many new ones. I give thanks for what the Lord is doing in this community. Each time I come back here to Corpus Christi there is noticeable change. I do not merely mean exterior things and buildings, but with regard to you all. The faith, love, and hope of the people of this parish is growing! How good is God!

Speaking of growing, with the completion of this past semester of seminary, I will be advancing to study sacred theology, which will be the focus of the next four years of my formal study. The past two years, the intellectual formation focused on philosophy and what our unaided reason can discover about our origin, being, the cosmos, and ultimately, God – which, as it turns out, is more than most moderns and millennials think! I look forward to continuing formation for the priesthood and, more importantly, in cultivating an ever-closer relationship with Our Blessed Lord and His Mother in my vocation.

This summer, from June 4th to July 31st, I will be on my assignment at the parish in Somersworth and Rollinsford with Fr. Andrew Nelson. There I hope to get acquainted with another parish in the diocese and form new relationships with those whom I will meet and serve. In the meantime, I look forward to seeing you around the parish here. I also want to thank you for your efforts in supporting me spiritually by your prayers and sacrifices, and in your supporting me with your kind and generous gifts. Please pray for me, and pray for those who are perhaps too afraid to consider what the Lord may be asking them.

Prayerfully,
Seminarian Joe Moynahan

Sound System Offering

Next weekend we will pass the basket after Communion to receive any offerings you might be able to make to help make it possible to renew the sound system in our church. The changes will give us a clearer sound; eliminate the problem of the present old speakers, where some work partially and others have given up; and enhance both spoken word and music. A major portion of this project is possible through the generosity of a handful of benefactors, for which we are most grateful. This collection hopefully will take us to our goal to move ahead. Whatever you share will be much appreciated!

Parish News

NEW! Holy Land Pilgrimage

If you are interested in the possibility of taking part in the May 20-29, 2018 Parish Pilgrimage to the Holy Land, please email Fr. Gary at frgary.ccnh@gmail.com to inquire about space availability and process of registration.

NEW! Father's Day Spiritual Bouquet

You can obtain envelopes from the church entrance to enroll men, living or deceased, in our remembrance in the Masses celebrated on Father's day weekend. The larger envelope contains a card and mailing envelope to send, to enroll someone who is living, and the smaller envelope is to enroll the deceased. Please be sure to have the printed envelope back to us **no later than June 14** in order to be included.

NEW! Catholic Charities Appeal

Envelopes and informative brochures are still at the church entrance for this year's annual appeal. Your pledge or one-time gift helps our Diocesan Church to respond to those in need among us as we hear described in the response of the early Christian communities in the Acts of the Apostles. Many count on the programs that this annual appeal makes possible throughout the State. Please prayerfully consider what you can do and return the envelope via the collection within the next week. Thanks to all who have responded generously thus far!



New Hampshire
Catholic Charities

NEW! Pot O' Gold Raffle



Saint Patrick School is having a gift card raffle! We are filling a big bowl ("Pot O' Gold") with gift cards from Amazon, Home Depot, local restaurants, ice cream shops, iTunes, and so much more! Tickets are only \$10.00 each for a chance to win \$800.00 in gift cards, and will be sold until June 15th! Call the school at 436-0739 or stop by to buy your lucky chance!

NEW! Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry has a new temporary home! Until construction on our new Parish Hall/Meeting Center is complete, they will be meeting each **second Thursday, of the month** at 2:00 PM at the Middle Street Baptist Church. Interested in seeing how you can participate? Call Elaine Wilder, 603-436-8379, or Cyndi Gagnon, 603-373-0094, FMI.

20/20 WINNERS

\$25 Winners ~ Week 16

226 Shirley O'Leary
64 Fr. Gary

Families Living the Good News Bring It Home!

A Corpus Christi Parish Program

Many thanks to our Bring It Home families and catechists for a wonderful first year! Thank you to all who responded to our survey. Your responses will help us to better serve you and your family in the year ahead. **Registration opens June 11th for the 2017-2018 year.** Check your email and the bulletin for more information.

Witness the manhunt that changed the course of human history!



"Risen is a movie that you can bring someone to who's not a follower of Jesus. It has the potential to impact one's life in a very significant spiritual way."

Risen accomplishes something quite remarkable: It tells the familiar, timeless story of Jesus' death and resurrection from a fresh vantage point. The movie invites viewers to look at our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, not from an insider's perspective, but from an outsider's; through the eyes of someone with no reason to believe and every reason to be skeptical about the mind-blowing miracles that have just been performed.

Join Us! June 4th ~ 5:00 PM

Snacks and Movie St. Catherine Church Hall

RSVP to Office of Evangelization at 603 436-4555 or evangelize.ccnh@gmail.com.

STEUBENVILLE

Making a Difference

Would you like to make a difference in the life of a teen? Our parish teens need your support! We are currently planning for **Steubenville East**, set this year for July 14 – 16, a spiritually-fulfilling and life-changing weekend for high school teens. We have fifteen teens who would love to attend, but who will need your support/sponsorship to be able to go. (The cost per teen is \$275.)

Please encourage these teens in their journeys of faith by providing the financial support to make their trip possible. Your donations, payable to Corpus Christi Parish, *Steubenville East*, can be dropped into the collection basket at Mass or mailed to the parish office at 2075 Lafayette Road. **Thank you!**

Farewell Gathering

On Friday, June 23rd, at 6:00 PM we will gather at our St. Catherine Church, as we did in April at St. James, to unite in prayer, remember with gratitude, and share a time of memories and fellowship. The Prayer Service will mark the end of the use of that church for Liturgical celebrations and the Blessed Sacrament will be removed. We will continue to use the building for various faith enrichment programs and activities until after the real estate closing on the property at St. James takes place. Once that occurs and we have the cash at hand, we will go ahead with the repurposing of the St. Catherine facility into our new parish hall (upper level) and meeting center (lower level). Save the date! Plan to join us as we look back with thanks and ahead with hope!

Got Pictures?

We are looking for photos of your memorable events that took place in St. Catherine Church (baptisms, first communions, confirmations, weddings, Christmas Fairs, etc.) to use in our Farewell Gathering. If at all possible, please scan your photos (into JPG format) and email them to parishmail.ccnh@gmail.com. If you can't scan them, please drop them off at the parish office in an envelope clearly marked with your name and title/date of the event pictured!

Can You Help?

If you're able to help with either decorating or preparing food for the reception, please contact Kathy Kelleher at 978-943-1972. We will be setting up the hall during the day on Thursday, June 22nd, and will do the food prep during the day on Friday, June 23rd.

Pollen got you down?

Want your car to sparkle & shine?



**Annual Youth Ministry
Car Wash**

June 24th ~ 8am – 1pm

St. James Church parking lot

No Cost (Free-will Donation appreciated)

All proceeds to help offset cost of
the Steubenville East retreat for teens

Upkeep Updates

NEW! Unexpected Project

Recently we completed an excavation project in the sidewalk and front section area of our St. Catherine Church as a result of the City of Portsmouth's discovery of damage in an underground water source pipe. Since the area affected was on our property, it was determined to be our responsibility. We took the occasion of this "must do" project to run gas line, IT lines, and other needed services that would have required opening things up again, so timing was good. We want to thank North & South Construction, especially parishioners Pete and Ben Johnson, for getting on this right away and handling it so efficiently.

NEW! Work on Our Future Office

Work will now be underway at the former St. Catherine Rectory to repurpose it to house our parish offices. A new roof will be installed, some upgrades in plumbing and wiring, conversion from oil to gas heat, as well as interior updating and renewal with flooring and painting. We hope to have all the work complete, as we outlined at the Spring open parish meetings, by mid-summer, and then move our staff from the present space at St. James to our renewed Parish Administration Center.

NEW! Landscaping Upgrades

Through the generosity of a benefactor who wishes to remain anonymous, you will soon see renewed landscaping in the front and back areas of Vianney House (our rectory) and some new plantings and improvements in the front area of the Church. We are most grateful for this generous offer by these folks, sharing their time, talent in this area, and treasure in making this beautification project possible at no expense to the parish.

NEW! St. James Sale Update

The developer who has our St. James property under Purchase and Sale agreement recently held an Info and Q&A night with neighbors who live directly around the property. It was a very informative night, and he received great support from the folks gathered. Fr. Gary also expressed to those gathered that it was our parish's intention to not simply get a fair market price for our property, but to find a use that would blend in nicely with the neighborhood. The condos proposed, the landscaping to be included, and the whole plan was well received and much appreciated, as opposed to a sale that would have brought commercial development to the back yard of neighbors. Katz Development is now moving ahead in the process with city planners and committees and will continue to keep neighbors, both immediate and in the larger area around the property, in the loop.

Video Ministry Volunteers needed:

Corpus Christi Parish has its own TV Mass on local Comcast Channel 98, and a YouTube Channel that broadcasts the Parish weekly Mass for those unable to attend. Help us continue this very important ministry to our homebound parishioners.

We are in need of volunteers to videotape the weekend parish Mass, usually the 4:00 PM Saturday Mass. The Video Team commitment is once per month and no prior video experience is necessary. Training will be provided. If you're interested or if you have questions, please contact Rick Bean at 603-312-1111 or Rick@RickBean.com.