



## THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

**MONDAY, JUNE 27 – Saint Cyril of Alexandria,  
bishop and doctor of the Church**

9:00 a.m. Jack Newman (RIP) by the Maki Family

**TUESDAY, JUNE 28 –**

**Saint Irenaeus, bishop and martyr**

9:00 a.m. Jim O'Reilly (RIP) by Family

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29 –**

**Saint Peter and Saint Paul, apostles**

9:00 a.m. Marjorie Bolte Kelly (RIP)  
by Msgr. Paul P. Enke

**THURSDAY, JUNE 30 –**

**The First Holy Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church**

9:00 a.m. Intentions of Tina Hartman-Davis  
by the Hartman Family

**FRIDAY, JULY 1 – The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus**

9:00 a.m. Tony Hartlage (RIP)  
by Freda & August Sugar  
\*Fr. Victor Wesolowski

**SATURDAY, JULY 2**

5:00 p.m. Filomeno Tadena (RIP)  
by Evelyn Tadena  
\*Bishop Frederick Campbell

**SUNDAY, JULY 3 –**

**FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

8:15 a.m. Living and Deceased Members  
of St. Edward Parish  
10:45 a.m. Will Miller, Jr. (RIP) by the Bell Choir  
\*Fr. Michael Reade, dec.

**\*Pray for all priests, seminarians and priestly vocations.**

### ALTAR SERVERS:

5:00 p.m. Nicholas Arnold, Emily Butt, Jason Butt  
8:15 a.m. Luke Cannon, John Cummiskey,  
Emily Frank  
10:45 a.m. Gerick Brewer, Trey Brewer,  
Luke Ceneviva

## MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST JUNE 26, 2011

Entrance: At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing (#176)

Penitential Rite (p.4)

Gloria (Heritage Mass Setting) (p. 7 & #864)

Responsorial Psalm 147:12-15, 19-20 (p.177)

*Praise the Lord, Jerusalem. Alleluia!*

Preparation of Gifts:

Sing, My Tongue, the Savior's Glory (#24, p.114)

Heritage Mass Setting: (#865-#871)

Communion Song: I Am the Bread of Life (#341)

Sending Forth: O God Beyond All Praising (#550)

### LECTORS:

5:00 p.m. Steve Blubaugh, Cheryl Boggess

8:15 a.m. Kathy Horton, Eleanor Horton

10:45 a.m. Roy Brewer, James Burger

### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

5:00 p.m. Bonnie Devito, Chuck Dilbone,  
Ruby Hall, John Jauch, Mary Klark

8:15 a.m. Chris Carter, Gary Carter,  
Agnes Attebery, Rita Baldwin,  
Lisa Cannon

10:45 a.m. Phyllis Barton, Chris Becher,  
Patricia Belhorn, Lorraine Carlson,  
Chandra Elder, Paul Gassman,  
Rebecca Gassman, P.J. Gassman,  
Gregory Gassman

### GIFT BEARERS:

5:00 p.m. Volunteers

8:15 a.m. Volunteers

10:45 a.m. Bell Choir Members

### HOMEBOUND MINISTERS – 8:15 a.m.

Paula BeVier and Gary & Chris Carter

### SUNDAY NURSERY

The Nursery/Playroom for young children is open during the 10:45 a.m. Mass. To be added to the Sunday schedule of volunteers, contact Melissa or Dave Lammert at 740-927-3656 or [melissamtc75@aol.com](mailto:melissamtc75@aol.com).

### WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Nathan Harris and Alyssa Miller, who were married here at the church on June 25th. May each day of their married life bring them closer to our loving God. The altar flowers this weekend are from their wedding.

### IN SYMPATHY

We pray for parishioner Daniel Van Hoose. May he receive the eternal treasure of everlasting life.

## SUNDAY OFFERTORY COLLECTION

The regular Sunday collection for June 19th was \$7,146.50. The EFT draft on June 20th for regular Sunday collection was \$7,039.08, Preschool was \$11,748.05, and St. Vincent de Paul was \$545.00. A portion of the Rice Bowl Collection from Lent was \$579.45, and is being donated to the McGhee Family of Columbus.

## WELCOME!

You may have come as a stranger to us, yet you are known to Our Lord, Jesus Christ. In His name, we pray you will find peace, hospitality and friendship with us.

### EVENTS/MEETINGS THIS WEEK

#### Sunday, June 26

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ  
Peter's Pence Collection  
Food Pantry Collection  
Middle School Summer Kick-Off – 7:00 p.m.

#### Monday, June 27

Eucharistic Adoration – 9:30 a.m. Monday until  
9:00 a.m. Tuesday – Church  
Bridge Group – 6:30 p.m. – Hall

#### Tuesday, June 28

Men's Group for Rediscovery – 7:30 p.m. – Lounge

#### Wednesday, June 29

Men's Faith Sharing Group – 7:00 p.m. – Lounge  
Ignite Youth Group – Guy's Night/Girl's Night –  
7:30 p.m.

## RCIA

If you know of anyone who is interested in learning more about Catholicism and the Church's process for becoming Catholic, please encourage them to contact Mike Millisor in the Religious Education Office (587-4160 or [reled@saintedwards.org](mailto:reled@saintedwards.org)) for information on the next period of inquiry.

## MSGR. SCHNEIDER ~

### ADDRESS CORRECTION

Please note an address correction for sending Get Well cards to Msgr. Robert E. Schneider: The Villas at St. Therese, Assisted Living – Room 115, 25 Noe Bixby Road, Columbus, OH 43213-1461.

## PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION

Today, we support the Holy Father in his charitable works. The Peter's Pence Collection is taken up worldwide to support the most disadvantaged: victims of war, oppression, and natural disasters and others in need of emergency assistance. Pope Benedict XVI has said, "It is necessary above all that every person be motivated by the authentic spirit of peace" (Homily, January 1, 2011). Cast the peace of Christ upon the world – please be generous in today's Collection.

## HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY

### NEW SUMMER EVENT: GUY'S NIGHT AND GIRL'S NIGHT ~ WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29

We're excited to be launching new weekly events this summer for high school students called "Guy's Night" and "Girl's Night." Come out to St. Edward, from 7:30-8:45 p.m., and check it out as the guys and girls get together separately for an engaging night of fellowship!

*(High school events this summer are for students who were in grades 9-12 this past year, unless otherwise noted. There also will be various events open to incoming freshmen this summer.)*



### CEDAR POINT TRIP – REGISTRATION DUE THIS WEEK!

If you're in high school or are an incoming freshmen, don't miss our all-day trip to Cedar Point on Monday, July 11th! We'll be renting a bus and taking a big group out with St. Francis in Newark. What's even better is that we're getting tickets for the cheap price of \$25.00! That means the total cost including transportation and catered meals will only be \$60.00! *Since we will have limited spots, it will be first-come, first-served.* Invite your friends and sign up by filling out permission forms located in the Gathering Space. Permission forms are due by June 29th (the sooner you can turn them in the better!) with payment and may be dropped off at the office, slipped under the Youth Ministry door, or mailed to St. Edward. If you have any questions, please e-mail Drew at [drew@saintedwards.org](mailto:drew@saintedwards.org) or call 740-587-3254.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL MINISTRY

### MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER KICK-OFF

Come out Sunday, July 26th, from 7:00-8:15 p.m., for the Middle School Summer Kick-Off featuring food, fellowship, competitions, and raffle! If you'll be in grades 6-8 next fall, don't miss it! Feel free to friends!

Don't miss the next Middle School event on Sunday evening, July 17!

## PARISH REGISTRATION

Welcome to all new families and individuals. Please register as soon as possible. Membership is a condition for the reception of the Sacraments of Baptism, First Eucharist, Reconciliation, Confirmation and Marriage. Registration and active membership are also required before the parish can issue a Sponsorship Certificate for those asking to be Sacramental Sponsors. Registration forms are available in the Gathering Space, Parish Office, PSR Office and a form can be printed from the St. Edward web site at [www.saintedwards.org](http://www.saintedwards.org).

If you are already registered in the parish and need to update your contact information, please use the coupon below and put it in the collection basket or phone the Parish Office at 587-3254 with your new information.

Please update my contact information:

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

## PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS

Please contact Michele Gardner at 587-3732 with your requests to be added to the St. Edward Prayer Chain.

## SACRED MUSIC IN THE MASS...

This past week, I had the privilege of attending the Colloquium XXI of the Church Musicians Association of America. This Catholic organization of liturgical musicians has provided and continues to make available in the public domain a wealth of liturgical music. The Church documents highlight the importance of sacred music in the Mass, as demonstrated at the daily Masses throughout the week. The propers were sung and each Mass was its own entity in declaring the message of our salvation through Jesus Christ. As we embark with the updated translations of the Mass, we have the opportunity to sing in the Mass music which is universal to our faith. In one session, we sang the ordinary of the Mass included in the new *Missal* – the setting that will be sung by the entire English-speaking world. We have the opportunity to sing the Mass and celebrate each Sunday of the liturgical year with renewed beauty and spiritual depth. These are exciting days for the Catholic Church. The flames of Pentecost are blazing as the Body of Christ rethinks the words and songs we use on a daily basis. Our deeper understanding of our faith can be evident to the world around us.

## FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY

The St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry Collection is this weekend. Donations of pasta sauce, bottled juices, laundry and dish detergents, and personal care items, such as deodorant, shampoo, and toothpaste are of greatest need. Please leave your donations inside the double glass doors by the Church Office. Thank you.

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GOLF OUTING

Registration is now open for the **5th Annual Golf Outing to benefit St. Vincent Haven** on Saturday, August 6th. Please show your support and pull together a foursome of family and friends for a day of fun at the Granville Golf Course, rated four stars on *Golf Digest's* Best Places To Play list.

Charity support has never been this easy and fun. Many prizes will be offered for placement and participation. Plenty of sponsorship opportunities are still available so if you have a business or product, this is a great way to market to a captive audience while also supporting a great cause.

The reservation fee is \$75.00 per golfer, which will include: Green Fees/Cart, Bucket of Balls for Driving Range and dinner. Registration and sponsorship forms may be downloaded by going to <http://www.svdphaven.org/GolfOuting.htm>. You may also sign up by contacting Kevin Murphy – Phone: (740) 258-3544; E-mail: [KMurphy@chemtrend.com](mailto:KMurphy@chemtrend.com); or Daniel Bell – Phone: (740) 344-0408; E-mail: [danielbell@roadrunner.com](mailto:danielbell@roadrunner.com).

## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Sponsorship opportunities are still available for the Saint Vincent Haven Charity Golf Outing and all proceeds go right to the Haven. Your sponsorship includes a custom-formatted logo and advertisement, which is placed on a sign and in a four-color program, which is given to each golfer. No contribution is too small or too large and is very much appreciated.

Last year, the event donated over \$10,000.00 to the Saint Vincent Haven, due to a growing list of hole and event sponsorships. The monthly cost to operate the shelter is roughly \$16,000.00 and our goal this year is to raise enough money to cover one month's worth of expenses.

Please contact Kevin Murphy – Phone: 740-258-3544; E-mail: [KMurphy@chemtrend.com](mailto:KMurphy@chemtrend.com), or Daniel Bell – Phone: 740-344-0408; E-mail: [danielbell@roadrunner.com](mailto:danielbell@roadrunner.com) to help our efforts in supporting this local Catholic charity.

Additional details and forms available at <http://www.kofc10876.org/Golf.htm> or <http://svdp-haven.org>.

## ST. VINCENT DE PAUL COLLECTION SUNDAY

Conference members will be at the doors of the church to receive your generous donations after all the Masses next weekend, July 2nd and 3rd.

## ST. VINCENT DE PAUL – AN INVITATION TO SERVE THE POOR

The St. Edward St. Vincent de Paul Conference invites you to join them in sharing the ministry of experiencing CHRIST in the poor. Could you spend a full day once a month to take phone calls from people facing emergencies? Or would you be able to spend two hours a couple of times a month working with a team member visiting those who need our assistance? Or maybe you have some time to help maintain information in our computer? If you would like to learn more, call Gregg Hinterschied at 587-4099.



## ANNUAL K OF C FAMILY PICNIC

The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a Family and Center for Disability Services Picnic, on Sunday, July 17th, at 2:00 p.m., at the Lazy River Campgrounds, 2340 Dry Creek Road NE, Granville. Knights/prospective members of K of C and members of the Center for Disability Services, an organization for mentally and physically challenged persons, are invited to attend. All Knights and their families are to bring a side dish to share.

## WELCOME SUNDAY (DONUT SUNDAY) ~ JULY 3

*Welcome Sunday* is next Sunday after both Masses. The Knights of Columbus will be providing the coffee and donuts. This month, the **Ushers/Greeters** will also host the Welcome Table. If you are interested in learning more about this ministry, plan to visit. Members of the **Ushers/Greeters** will also be available to welcome and register new parishioners.

## STEWARDSHIP INFORMATION

There is a Stewardship binder available on the Welcome Table at Donut Sunday for anyone wishing to sign up for new Ministries. Please stop by if you have new interests and/or want to begin serving our Parish Family in a new Ministry.

## EQUAL EXCHANGE

### INTERFAITH COFFEE PROGRAM

The Women of St. Edward will have Fairly Traded Gourmet coffee, hot chocolate and chocolate candy bars for sale in the Hall. As part of the Equal Exchange Interfaith Coffee Program, the sale of fairly-traded coffee helps small-scale farmers in Latin America, Africa, and Asia build a better economic future for their families and communities.

## RETREAT FOR GIRLS ~ TORCHBEARERS OF THE QUEEN

The Sisters of the Children of Mary are sponsoring a Retreat for Girls at 8353 Pleasant Chapel Road in Newark. Girls in grades 3-8 are invited to attend July 24th-26th, and grades 9th-12th, July 27th-30th. The focus of this retreat is to grow in love with our Lord by learning more about Him and by spending time with Him in Mass, Adoration, Confession and Prayer and consecration to Him through the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Arts, recreation, nature walks and campfires will add to the enjoyment of the retreat. Meals and lodging are provided. Limited space is available. To register by July 11th, go to [www.childrenofmary.net](http://www.childrenofmary.net).

## CATHOLIC WOMAN OF THE YEAR/ YOUNG CATHOLIC WOMAN OF THE YEAR

The Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (DCCW) is pleased to offer you the opportunity to recognize and nominate an outstanding Catholic woman from your parish for the 2011 Catholic Woman/Young Catholic Woman (age 16-30) of the Year. An awards banquet is scheduled for Sunday, August 21st, at St. Charles Preparatory School, from 5:00-9:00 p.m. This year marks the 23rd annual Catholic Woman of the Year Award and the 8th annual Young Catholic Woman of the Year Award. Each woman nominated will receive a certificate and out of those nominated, one winner for the Catholic Woman and Young Woman will be selected by a panel and will receive awards from Bishop Frederick F. Campbell. More than one woman/young woman may be nominated from a parish. The person(s) submitting the nomination(s) are encouraged to attend the banquet. Nomination forms are located on the church bulletin boards or in the Parish Office. Nominations are to be received at the DCCW office at 197 E. Gay Street, Columbus 43215, by July 27th. Banquet reservations are due by August 8th. For more information, please contact the DCCW Office at 614-228-8601 or e-mail [jmconaha@colsdio.org](mailto:jmconaha@colsdio.org).

## ST. CHARLES TO HOST BASKETBALL CAMPS

The following are dates for the upcoming Cardinal Basketball Camps:

**Camp (1):** For boys entering grades 5-7; July 5-8, from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon; Cost is \$100.00.

**Camp (2):** For boys entering grades 8-9; July 11-14, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon; Cost is \$100.00.

**Shooting Camp:** For boys entering grades 5-9; July 19 and 21; **Session I** is from 10:00-11:30 a.m., and **Session II** is from 12:30-2:00 p.m. The cost is \$50.00.

If you have questions or to register, please contact coach Jacob Daniel at [coachjdaniel@gmail.com](mailto:coachjdaniel@gmail.com) or 614-595-6220.



# Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

June 26, 2011

## Our Living Bread

Deuteronomy 8:2-3, 14b-16a

Psalms 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20

1 Corinthians 10:16-17

Sequence: *Lauda Sion*

John 6:51-58

### SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

There are so many rich images in the readings for this solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. Moses tells his people that God is the one who cared for them and satisfied their hunger with manna in the desert. Do not forget it was the work of God, Moses reminds them. The Responsorial Psalm is another reminder of the good things God has done for Israel alone.

The Gospel passage relates the gift and mystery of Jesus' offering his body and blood. Jesus' response to those who protest is to reaffirm the need and significance of eating his body and drinking his blood in order to have life. Jesus offered believers real food for eternal life by giving of his own real life in sacrifice. But it is Paul who gives us a glimpse of what will transpire when believers do this action of breaking and sharing the bread in memory of Jesus' saving action. The many members of the body will be unified as one body of Christ as we share in Christ's body and blood. This is the feast we celebrate today!

*The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? Because the loaf of bread is one, we, though many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf (1 Corinthians 10:16-17).*



### SHARING FAITH

- ◆ The Church teaches that the Eucharist is the source of our deep commitment to serve our brothers and sisters. How is this true for you?
- ◆ Who has been like Moses for you, reminding you of the things that God has done for you?
- ◆ Where do you find the bread of life? Where are you called to share it?

### LIVING THE LITURGY

- ◆ With your family or a group, make some kind of bread. It could be bread with yeast or even a special family recipe. Set some aside to share at a meal with friends or family this week. If you can, find a way to share the rest of your bread with someone in need. Offer it to a soup kitchen or shelter. Take it to an elderly neighbor or homebound parishioner. Include a prayer for whoever partakes of this food.
- ◆ Read chapter 6 of the Gospel according to John. It begins with the feeding of five thousand with a few loaves and fishes. How are we like the doubting crowds when Jesus tells us he is the bread of life?
- ◆ Listen attentively to the prayers and the music that is used in your church on this feast. What images do you find in the prayers and hymns? How do they help you appreciate the significance of the gift of Christ's body and blood?

S time talent treasure  
**STEWARDSHIP**

**S  
T  
E  
W  
A  
R  
D  
S  
H  
I  
P**

The Lord provided for the Israelites on the journey from Egypt to the Promised Land by supplying them with manna for food and water for drink. He wanted them to learn to trust him for their physical needs, so they'd learn to trust him for their spiritual needs as well. "Not by bread alone does one live, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of the Lord."



Jesus also provides his followers with the food they need on their spiritual journeys, a food even more amazing than manna, for He feeds us with His own Body and Blood. It's only by eating His flesh and drinking His blood that we can receive the nourishment we need for eternal life, He said, and that's what we receive at the Holy Eucharist. But we do not obtain this nourishment only for our own benefit. We receive it also so we can carry out the mission entrusted to us by Christ, who gave us his flesh "for the life of the world." We are called to use the time, talent, and treasure entrusted to us to extend the Kingdom of God by working to invite all people to the Eucharistic banquet.

[saintedwardstewardship.org](http://saintedwardstewardship.org)

**SPONSOR  
OF THE WEEK:**

Fully Insured **WILSON'S** Fully Licensed  
**Lawn & Landscape Service**  
*Superior Customer Service!*  
 Professional Lawn Service, Landscape Design  
 & Installation, Fertilization & Weed Control,  
 Mulching, Edging And Pruning  
**740-366-1127**

# Lectio Divina

SCRIPTURE READING + MEDITATION + PRAYER + CONTEMPLATION

SAINT EDWARD THE CONFESSOR • 785 NEWARK-GRANVILLE ROAD • GRANVILLE, OHIO 43023 • (740) 587-3254

*"As two pieces of wax fused together make one, so he who receives Holy Communion is so united with Christ that he is in Christ, and Christ is in him."*

*--Saint Cyril of Alexandria*

## Monday, June 27 ~ Thirteenth Week of Ordinary Time Saint Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

**Holy Gospel: Matthew 8:18-22** When Jesus saw a crowd around him, he gave orders to cross to the other shore. A scribe approached and said to him, "Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go." Jesus answered him, "Foxes have dens and birds of the sky have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to rest his head." Another of his disciples said to him, "Lord, let me go first and bury my father." But Jesus answered him, "Follow me, and let the dead bury their dead."

**Meditation:** When the Lord Jesus calls us to follow him, he invites us into a personal relationship of love and friendship. That relationship also involves the commitment of our entire lives to Jesus as Lord and Master, Teacher and Healer, Messiah and Savior. To follow Jesus is the greatest of all calls. What an awesome privilege and an awesome responsibility to be a disciple of Jesus Christ! What does it cost to be a disciple? For the first disciples, they paid the ultimate price for being a follower of Jesus by not renouncing Christ as Lord, Savior, Messiah; by not renouncing Christ's teachings; by being steadfast disciples of Christ. A disciple must be willing to make sacrifices, even the sacrifice of his own life to follow Jesus as his Master and Lord.

**Prayer:** Father, the bishop Cyril courageously taught that Mary was the Mother of God. May we who cherish this belief receive salvation through the incarnation of Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Contemplation:** What can keep us from giving our all to God? Many human things – fear, anxiety, self-concern, pre-occupation and attachment to other things, to name a few. Even spiritual things can get in the way of having God alone as our Treasure if we put them first. Detachment is a necessary step if we want to make the Lord our Treasure and Joy. It frees us to give ourselves without reserve to the Lord and to his service. There is nothing greater we can do with our lives than to place them at the service of the Lord and Master of the universe. We cannot out give God in generosity. Jesus promises that those who are willing to part with what is most dear to them for his sake "will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life" (Matthew 19:29). Is there anything holding you back from giving your all to the Lord?

## Tuesday, June 28 ~ Thirteenth Week in Ordinary Time Saint Irenaeus, Bishop and Martyr

**Holy Gospel: Matthew 8:23-27** As Jesus got into a boat, his disciples followed him. Suddenly a violent storm came up on the sea, so that the boat was being swamped by waves; but he was asleep. They came and woke him, saying, "Lord, save us! We are perishing!" He said to them, "Why are you terrified, O you of little faith?" Then he got up, rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was great calm. The men were amazed and said, "What sort of man is this, whom even the winds and the sea obey?"

**Meditation:** What is stronger than fear, even the fear of death? Scripture gives an answer: "There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear" (1 John 4:18). The Wisdom of Solomon tells us that "love is stronger than death" (Song of Songs 8:6). Jesus' sleeping presence on the storm-tossed sea reveals the sleeping faith of his disciples. They feared for their lives even though their Lord and Savior was with them in the boat. They were asleep to Christ while he was present to them in their hour of need.

**Prayer:** Father, you called St. Irenaeus to uphold your truth and bring peace to your Church. By his prayers renew us in faith and love that we may always be intent on fostering unity and peace. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Contemplation:** Wherever the Good News of Jesus was preached, it met the same opposition as Jesus did, and many of those who began to follow him shared his suffering and death. But no human force could stop the power of the Spirit unleashed upon the world. The blood of martyrs has always been, and will always be, the seed of Christians. Jesus is always present to us in our hour of need – especially in times of challenge, fear, and anxiety. Jesus was there for the first martyrs of Rome in their persecution in living out the teachings of Christ, just as he is present to us as we bring the teachings of Christ into our world – into our homes, our places of work, our schools, in our neighborhoods. The truth of Christ always prevails and flourishes, while dictators, fads, people and activist groups with their own personal agenda and other secular things wither like a dead tree limb. Never be afraid to defend the truths of Christ, and to live them to the fullest, no matter what opposition you may experience in life. Remember this simple prayer: “Jesus my Lord, my God, my all, you are the only foundation that can hold us up when trials and disaster threaten me. Give me the wisdom, foresight, and strength of character I need to do what is right and good and to reject whatever is false and contrary to your will. May I always meet the challenges and trials of life head on, knowing you are at my side. May I be a doer of your word and not a hearer only.”

### **Wednesday, June 29 ~ Thirteenth Week in Ordinary Time Solemnity of Saint Peter and Paul, Apostles**

**Holy Gospel: Matthew 13:16-19** When Jesus went into the region of Caesarea Philippi he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” They replied, “Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter said in reply, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” Jesus said to him in reply, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father. And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the Kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”

**Meditation:** Today the Apostles Peter and Paul are commemorated. Both were martyred in Rome in the first century. They tirelessly worked for the spread of the gospel, not only to the people of Israel, but to all the nations as well. They risked their lives in the process and gladly poured out their blood in loyalty to their Master, the Lord Jesus Christ. As Paul so eloquently stated in his second epistle to Timothy: “they courageously fought the good fight, finished the race, and kept the faith” (2 Timothy 4:7). So it is worth asking: How firm is your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ? At an opportune time Jesus tested his disciples with a crucial question: Who do men say that I am and who do you say that I am? (Matthew 16:13). Jesus was widely recognized in Israel as a mighty man of God, even being compared with the greatest of the prophets, John the Baptist, Elijah, and Jeremiah. Peter, always quick to respond, exclaimed that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of the living God. No mortal being could have revealed this to Peter; but only God. Jesus then conferred on Peter authority to govern the church that Jesus would build, a church that no powers could overcome. Jesus played on Peter's name which is the same word for “rock” in both Aramaic and Greek. To call someone a “rock” is one of the greatest of compliments.

**Prayer:** Lord our God, encourage us through the prayers of Saints Peter and Paul. May the apostles who strengthened the faith of the infant Church help us on our way of salvation. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Contemplation:** When Jesus asks: “Who do people say the Son of Man is?” he poses that question to each of us. Our response is twofold – one by word, and the other by action. We can proclaim Christ as our Lord and Savior, and share in his saving mission through word by sharing the message found in sacred scripture. But most important is to put the teachings of sacred scripture into action in our daily lives. If you are firm in your faith, this is something that occurs naturally. If you find yourself hesitating out of “fear” or “embarrassment” then there is work to be done in making sure that when you proclaim to be a Catholic, a Christian, a disciple of Christ, that you mean what you say and say what you mean. Don't insult Jesus with lip service – prove that you are a true disciple by living the Word day in and day out.

### **Thursday, June 30 ~ Thirteenth Week in Ordinary Time First Martyrs of the Church in Rome**

**Holy Gospel: Matthew 9:1-8** After entering a boat, Jesus made the crossing, and came into his own town. And there people brought to him a paralytic lying on a stretcher. When Jesus saw their faith, he said

to the paralytic, "Courage, child, your sins are forgiven." At that, some of the scribes said to themselves, "This man is blaspheming." Jesus knew what they were thinking, and said: "Why do you harbor evil thoughts? Which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"— he then said to the paralytic, "Rise, pick up your stretcher, and go home." He rose and went home. When the crowds saw this they were struck with awe and glorified God who had given such authority to men.

**Meditation:** *Question:* What cripples the mind and heart and stifles the healing power of love? *Answer:* Sin and an unforgiving mind and heart! You should not be amazed at the fact that sin cripples us more than any physical ailment can. Sin is the work of the kingdom of darkness and it holds us in eternal bondage. There is only one solution to sin – the healing, cleansing power of Jesus' forgiveness. Jesus' treatment of sinners upset the religious teachers of the day – the martyrs remembered in today's Mass are witnesses to standing up for the way, the life and the truth of Christ even in face of losing their own lives! No matter the time or place in human history – even today – wherever the Good News of Jesus is proclaimed and taught it has met the same opposition as Jesus did, and many of those who began to follow him shared his suffering and death. But no human force could stop the power of the Spirit unleashed upon the world. The blood of martyrs has always been, and will always be, the seed of Christians. Remember that the next time some one or something popular in society goes in the opposite direction of where Christ is leading us.

**Prayer:** Father, you sanctified the Church of Rome with the blood of its first martyrs. May we find strength from their courage and rejoice in their triumph. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Contemplation:** The crippled man in today's Gospel had been crippled not only physically, but spiritually as well. Jesus freed him from his burden of guilt and restored his body. It would be time well spent for each of us to look deeply and honestly at how we, too, may be crippled by our own sinfulness, and where we turn to for healing. It is all too easy to fall into the habit of letting society redefine what sin is and is not. Truth is truth, and sin is sin, as defined by God the Father (not civil or secular laws [e.g. abortion, same-sex marriage, etc.]); the timeless teachings of Jesus Christ (not a talk show host, newspaper or editorial columnist, or politician) and the one, true church – the Catholic Church – founded by Jesus Christ. Yes, we are sinners. And yes, all are welcome in the Catholic Church. But all are called to convert from sin, to humbly and lovingly submit ourselves to God, and to live our lives according to the will of God – not have God submit to us or to impose our will upon God. In this topsy-turvy world, there are many who place themselves and their wants, desires, lifestyle, et cetera, above God and, in doing so, recreate and relive the sin of Adam and Eve. When we search for the truth, when we search for answers, for guidance and direction, for healing and reconciliation, it is the Lord in his infinite love and mercy who is every ready to bring us healing of mind, body, and soul. His grace brings us freedom from the power of sin and from bondage to harmful desires and addictions. A first step – primary action – is receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation with a priest, who has the power to absolve you of your sins and to get you back on the road to follow Jesus Christ. What is holding you back?

## **Friday, July 1 ~ Thirteenth Week in Ordinary Time Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus**

**Holy Gospel: Matthew 11:25-30** At that time Jesus exclaimed: "I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to little ones. Yes, Father, such has been your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him. Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light."

**Meditation:** Have you come to know the mind and heart of God? Jesus thanks the Father in heaven for revealing to his disciples the wisdom and knowledge of God. What does Jesus' prayer tell us about God and about ourselves? First, it tells us that God is both Father and Lord of earth as well as heaven. He is both Creator and Author of all that he has made, the first origin of everything and transcendent authority, and at the same time, goodness and loving care for all his children. All fatherhood and motherhood is derived from him (Ephesians 3:14-15). Jesus' prayer also contains a warning that pride can keep us from the love and knowledge of God. What makes us ignorant and blind to the things of God? Certainly intellectual pride, coldness of heart, and stubbornness of will shut out God and his kingdom. Pride is the

root of all vice and the strongest influence propelling us to sin. It first vanquishes the heart, making it cold and indifferent towards God. It also closes the mind to God's truth and wisdom for our lives. What is pride? It is the inordinate love of oneself at the expense of others and the exaggerated estimation of one's own learning and importance.

**Prayer:** Lord God, give us the strength and love of the heart of Your Son that, by becoming one with Him, we may have eternal salvation. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Sacred Heart Prayer:** O Sacred Heart of Jesus, to Thee I consecrate and offer up my person and my life, my actions, trials, and sufferings, that my entire being may henceforth only be employed in loving, honoring and glorifying Thee. This is my irrevocable will, to belong entirely to Thee, and to do all for Thy love, renouncing with my whole heart all that can displease Thee. I take Thee, O Sacred Heart, for the sole object of my love, the protection of my life, the pledge of my salvation, the remedy of my frailty and inconstancy, the reparation for all the defects of my life, and my secure refuge at the hour of my death. Be Thou, O Most Merciful Heart, my justification before God Thy Father, and screen me from His anger which I have so justly merited. I fear all from my own weakness and malice, but placing my entire confidence in Thee, O Heart of Love, I hope all from Thine infinite Goodness. Annihilate in me all that can displease or resist Thee. Imprint Thy pure love so deeply in my heart that I may never forget Thee or be separated from Thee. I beseech Thee, through Thine infinite Goodness, grant that my name be engraved upon Thy Heart, for in this I place all my happiness and all my glory, to live and to die as one of Thy devoted servants. Amen. (*Prayer of Consecration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus – St. Margaret Mary Alacoque*)

**Contemplation:** The simple of heart are not simpletons – the simple of heart are like “babes” in the sense that they see purely without pretense and acknowledge their dependence and trust in the one who is greater, wiser, and more trustworthy – Jesus Christ, the Son of God, our Lord, Savior and Redeemer. They seek one thing – the “summum bonum” or “greatest good” who is God and His Son. Simplicity of heart is aligned with humility, the queen of virtues, because humility inclines the heart towards grace and truth. Just as pride is the root of every sin and evil, so humility is the only soil in which the grace of God can take root. It alone takes the right attitude before God and allows him as God to do all. God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble (Proverbs 3:34, James 4:6). Only the humble in heart can receive true wisdom and understanding of God and his ways. Do you submit to God's word with simple trust and humility? Do you align your heart to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus? Our Holy Father Pope Benedict XVI, speaking of the solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus two years ago, said: “In biblical language, “heart” indicates the center of the person where his sentiments and intentions dwell. In the Heart of the Redeemer we adore God's love for humanity, his will for universal salvation, his infinite mercy. Practicing the devotion to the Sacred Heart of Christ therefore means adoring that Heart which, after having loved us to the end, was pierced by a spear and from high on the Cross poured out blood and water, an inexhaustible source of new life” (Pope Benedict XVI, Angelus June 5, 2005).

Scripture passages (NAB translation) courtesy of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops;  
prayers are from *The Roman Missal*, Catholic Book Publishing, 1974;  
information about saints, solemnities, feasts and memorials courtesy of the Catholic Culture web site.

frlumpe:2011

