



Deacon's Corner: At the end of the summer before last, our friends Bill and Becky Loftus stopped by the rectory to ask that I "adopt" a few tropical fish they kept in a small aquarium. They were returning to their home in Florida and assumed these little guys wouldn't survive the trip. Bill assured me they were near the end of their lifespans and would be short-term visitors. They gave me 4 fish and 3 quickly followed Bill's prediction of their journey to fish-heaven. But one of these fish – whose time with me began 2 summers ago – is still happily living in the rectory kitchen. This remarkable lifespan is defying all odds. It reminds me that only God knows all the answers. Sometimes we listen to the wrong people and assume what they tell is absolutely true only to discover (sometimes happily – sometimes not) that the truth was not necessarily as easily understood as we originally suspected. Here's my bottom line: Talk with God and don't assume your best friend is right with the advice he or she offers. So, don't take your problems there. Take them to God. He knows what is best – and he wants what is best for you. Trust him – and remember, he trusts YOU back.

What I would like you TO KNOW: In his words over the bread and wine at the Last Supper, Jesus reveals his desire to become a complete self-gift in the sacrifice of his body and blood. Today, this gift is still present to us in the Body and Blood of Jesus – consecrated at the altar and consumed by the faithful. In the simple elements of bread and wine, we find the totality of our Lord who humbled himself to take on flesh, suffered, died, and rose again. Here we encounter him as food and drink to nourish, heal, and sustain us "until the end of the age."

What I would like you to THINK ABOUT: Here's a tough one – when we receive the body and blood of Christ at Communion we all too often think that this is the ONLY way God visits us. The simple truth is profound. Jesus is ALSO present in the Word proclaimed at Mass, and through the people who join us as the community of the faithful. Now the hard question, how does the Saint Andrew Parish Community, as the Body of Christ alive in the world, seek to be bread that is broken and wine that is poured out for others?

Here's my Heart – Here's my Hand: For many of us, the wonder and awe we should feel at receiving the body and blood of God's Son can be temporarily lost to us as we do what we do every weekend. But I ask, particularly on this the feast of the Body and Blood of Christ, that we pause and reflect on what is actually happening at Communion. Our God, who created the universe and everything within it, not only humbled himself to share in our humanity through Christ, but who continues to nourish us with his Body and Blood. This is God himself who is saying to us, "Here's my heart." May we acknowledge this presence before us and say to him, "Here's my hand." What a God we have! He allows us to touch him and welcome him into our very

hearts and souls. May we always be aware of the pure majesty of this moment.

Mennonite Visit: I hope your calendars are marked and your plans made. Our typical 10 AM mass will be at 8:30 on June 13th ONLY. It will be celebrated by Father Alex Roche, Diocesan Director of Vocations. We will then go to the Mennonite Community and return one of their many visits by worshipping with them at their 10 AM service. I remind you; God doesn't just live on Parrish Street – he lives on Blackman Street as well. May the Spirit of Ecumenism journey with us as we journey to the Mennonite Church – and may LOVE remain in our hearts when we return to Saint Andrew Parish.

The Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ: The sacrificial nature of the Eucharist is clear from Jesus's words and actions at the Last Supper but hearing the words of institution over and over can become part of a rote behavior that obscures it's meaning. In the words of Mark's gospel, "Take it; this is my body." Then he gave them a cup and said, "This is my blood of the covenant, **which will be shed for many.**" The word "SHED" points dramatically to the sacrificial nature of the Eucharistic meal. Jesus is not only the sacrifice for sins in the world, but also the perfect high priest and through the offering of HIMSELF as the perfect sacrifice, Jesus is mediator of a new covenant. Jesus's words over the bread and wine – and then SHARING Eucharist with his disciples, signifies his giving them a share in the atoning power of his death. These words also oblige us to BE Christ for the world by seeing and serving him in everyone.

The New Normal: It has been quite a while, but the pandemic seems to be retreating. Its retreat, sadly, is not as rapid as we would like, but it does seem like we are heading in the right direction. Now, what does this mean for us? The OBLIGATION to attend Sunday mass is still waived, but we are seeing more and more people return to us each weekend. We are allowed to use **altar servers** again. I thank those who have stepped forward to return to service. If you have received First Communion you are eligible to be an altar server. I remind you that putting a "public face" to your faith by standing before the congregation is not always easy. But we need you. If you would like to return to service, please call the rectory. If you would consider being an altar server just give us a call. We will train you. Now, on to **Cantors**. We need you too. Remember, you don't have to sing like an angel (or a Mennonite). All we ask is that you are willing to raise your voice in prayer. I don't want to leave out our **Lectors**. Anyone – of any age – can be a lector. Call me. Lastly, what I usually hear when I ask someone to consider a particular ministry is this, "I'm not worthy." Well, none of us is worthy of anything. **Besides, we aren't looking for the worthy – just the willing.**

Mass Intentions

Saturday - June 5, 2021

4:00 P.M. - Mass - for Wallace, Krupsha, and Blomberg Families by Eugene Wallace

Sunday - June 6, 2021

10:00 A.M.- Mass- for Ann Hayduk by her Husband, Edward

Next Weekend's Mass Intentions

Saturday - June 12, 2021

4:00 P.M. - Mass - for Helen Havrilosin by Mike and Sue Havrilosin

Sunday - June 13, 2021

8:30 A.M. - Mass- for Louis DeCinti by Nancy and Michael Shinko

Sanctuary Candle



Our Sanctuary Candle burns this week for Jean Dougherty by her Family

Reminder: Mass on Sunday June 13, 2021 will be celebrated at 8:30 A.M.

Ministers Schedule

Saturday – June 5, 2021

4:00 P.M. – Lector – Eugene Wallace

Sunday – June 6, 2019

10:00 A.M. – Lector – Kathy Smith

Saturday – June 12, 2021

4:00 P.M. – Lector – Karen Gula

Sunday – June 13, 2019

8:30 A.M. – Lector – Bonnie Harris

Lectors and Altar Servers: we are in the process of starting to schedule lectors and altar servers for the Masses. If you would like to be put on the schedules, please call the rectory or let Jean know when you are available. Also, if anyone is interested in becoming a lector or an altar server, please call the rectory. You are eligible to become an altar server if you have received your 1st Communion. Let Deacon Bill know if you are interested.



Parish Happenings:

Summertime Sweepstakes is here at St. Andrew's! We are sponsoring a Summertime Sweepstakes fundraiser. This is a parish lottery ticket that costs \$10.00 and runs for the month of July. Tickets have been mailed. If you need more tickets, please call the rectory. Summertime Sweepstakes tickets make wonderful gifts, especially for Father's Day!



St Robert Bellarmine Parish at St. Al's Church on the corner of Barney & Division Sts is hosting the **St. Al's Summer Food Fest**. It will be held on Saturday June 12th from 12 noon to 6 PM. Drive up to pick up; take out only; pre order pre-pay preferred. The menu includes potato pancakes, hot/ sweet Italian sausage hoagies, halushki and wimpies. For more info—to order check out their Facebook page or call 570-823-3791 ext 2.

Corpus Christi Sunday

Jesus, Body and Blood,
we are grateful for the gift
of your life
and the way it strengthens us
to live ours.
Teach us to draw on the gift
of your Body and Blood
for energy, renewal,
strength and grace.
May we never take the gift
of your presence for granted.
Amen.

Prayer from www.cccb.ca

PARISH COLLECTION

May 29-30, 2021

Loose	\$	124.00
Offering	\$	2235.00
Easter	\$	30.00
Ascension	\$	21.00
Holy Thursday	\$	6.00
Diocesan Assessment	\$	23.00
Dues	\$	63.00
Parish Maintenance	\$	29.00
Insurance & Taxes	\$	49.00
Christian Education	\$	10.00
<u>Donations</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>80.00</u>

Total Applied to Budget \$2670.00

Direct Transfer to the Diocese:

Holy Land/ Good Friday	\$	6.00
Rice Bowl	\$	4.00
<u>Care & Educ of Priests</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>1.00</u>
Total	\$	11.00

Direct Transfer to Fr. Kearney:

Father's Day	\$	10.00
Mother's Day	\$	6.00

Critical Church Repairs \$ 394.00

Thank you for your generosity!!

SNFCU News: New members are always welcome. Please go to our website at www.snfcu.org to check out how to qualify to join. Our mission is to help as many members as we can. It is difficult to help others if those with loan contracts do not make the payments on their loans as agreed. Remember that a loan is a legal contract. If you are having a problem making payments on time, please contact us to see how we can help. Don't wait until you are months overdue. We have several options for members who have fallen on hard times. For more information please call Cathy at 570-825-2640.

The Annual Membership Meeting for all adult members of the credit union will be held later in the year for 2021. We are hoping to have a better location and more flexibility in gathering together when more people are vaccinated. June is our tentative date, but we need to check on availability of locations. Stay tuned for more information.

