

First Communion

Congratulations

Dominic Turner

Nathaniel Umbreit

Piper Anderson

Timothy Morris

Zoe Wendorff

Sixth Sunday of Easter May 6, 2018

WEEKLY REFLECTIONS

ON AN IMAGE OF GOD

Many years ago, when I was a chaplain at the Academy of Holy Angels in Richfield, during one of our campus ministry classes, the teacher asked our students to draw an image of how they see God. A variety of drawings were shared about the student's images of God. As for myself, I portrayed God as a meteorite racing through the sky. Now twenty years later not only do I not remember why I thought of God as a meteorite, but also, I no longer have this particular image of God.



We believe that our God is one, but manifested in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. You and I might have an understanding that God is an old man, a father, meteorite, etc. Others can better relate to God when we think of Jesus as a brother in human form. Then finally there are those individuals who encounter God as the Holy Spirit. In recent years, I have come to see God as the Holy Spirit whose presence is felt in my life. While I still comprehend and can relate to God as the Holy Spirit, something has happened to my belief of God during the past year.

During our long winter this year, I spent lots of time pondering my understanding of who God is to me. In this day and age when I hear more and more individuals having doubts of God, I find myself having a greater belief that God exists. I have even had deep discussions around the existence of God with a good friend.

Some of the common reasons I hear why people have doubts about God are: if God is good, then why is there evil, pain, brokenness, and sorrow in our world? Shouldn't our God, who is all good and love be able to stop all the bad that happens in our world? God gave us free will, and as humans we make poor choices which have unlikable and painful consequences. However, the times and circumstances that appear to have no good in them, such as car accidents, illnesses, and broken relationships, good does eventually come out of the situation. What would have happened had Judas the Betrayer not betrayed our Lord?

This leads me to believe that God is far too often mistakenly put in a box, incorrectly described, or made too small in our heads. Today, my image of God is, well, there is none. I can't even begin to describe God, actually that is my image-indefinable! Today, more than ever, I firmly believe in God. One of the problems I believe about our belief in God is that we don't understand just how big our God really is. How big is your God?

Have a good week, Father Shane

Daily Prayer This Week

Jesus invites us to remain in his love. That is a powerful freedom. If we can reflect this week on ways we can remain in his love, and not let anything take away our peace, we will grow in great freedom.

Jesus tells us that his one commandment to us is to love one another as he has loved us. The most important word in that command is "as." He wants us to imitate the very "way" he loves us - completely, unconditionally, in a self-sacrificing way. It can be the focus of our entire week to ask for the grace to love the people in our lives the ways Jesus loves us. But, that begins, if it is to be deep and transformative, needs to begin by reflection on how much Jesus loves us.

All week we can let the Spirit be the helper and the gatherer that our Lord promises will accompany us in our journey. It helps us prepare for the feast of Pentecost, to be asking, "Come, Holy Spirit."

Loving Jesus, I'm not sure how to do this. I can feel in my heart an emptiness or longing for something deeper in my relationship, but I don't always know where to begin. Help me to open my heart to you this day, and to carry with me the sense of how much you love me and how much you want this kind of personal relationship with me.

Let me feel your Spirit present with me as I face the challenges of the day and let me live my life this day as your follower, in the peace of your love.

It is a simple prayer and one that we can remember as we go about our day, head to a meeting, stand in the kitchen or fold laundry. It is not complicated to have a closer relationship with God but it takes focus. And always, we can end our day with a simple prayer of thanks for the many blessings of the day.

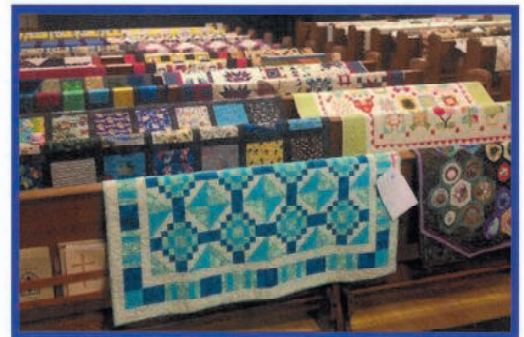
SOUP & SALAD LUNCHEON

Thursday, May 17, 2018

11:00 am - 1:00 pm

\$8.00

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
Rush City, Minnesota



Quilts on display by our local
Piecemakers Quilt Guild

May 6, 2018

WEEKEND CELEBRANTS

Wednesday, May 9

Fr. Shane Sacred Heart 9:00 am

Saturday, May 12

Fr. Shane Sacred Heart 4:00 pm

Fr. Chuck St. Gregory's 5:00 pm

Sunday, May 13

Fr. Chuck St. Gregory's 8:30 am

Fr. Shane Sacred Heart 9:00 am

Fr. Chuck St. Gregory's 10:30 am

NEEDING OUR PRAYERS

Marjorie King
Jean Amunson

Bill Peno

Mary Knack

Wayne King

Robby Murry

Heidi Blatz

David Gaul

Nick Cieminski

Joan Parkin

Ashley Thull— Rulfzen

Riley Konlewski

Margarette Brooker

Marvin Johnson

Arlene Greenhagen

Gerald Mollberg

Jim Mitchell

Judie Peltier

Betty Erickson

Phyllis Swanson

Colleen Najewski

Betty Anderson

Jim Bartz

Kim Sarago

Jim Kirchberg

Ethel Thomas

Tom McKenzie

Sue Roth

Abby Larson

Dick Stoks

Tom Solorz

Bob Wilbur

Lenny Anderson

Jim Notsch

"When we pray, God hears more than we say, answers more than we ask, gives more than we imagine...in HIS own time and HIS own way."

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Weekend of 4/29/18

Envelopes 1351.00
Plate 273.71
Bldg. Maint. Env. 20.00
Food Shelf 5.00
Cath. Home Missions 227.25
Progressive Dinner 91.00
Total \$1967.96

"Thank you for your continuing generosity"

LITURGICAL ROLES

Saturday, May 12 at 4:00 p.m.

Lectors: Jeremy Albright

Communion: Mary Stenger,

Jeanne Kay

Gifts: Kay Family

Ushers: Don Belland

Servers: Michelle Stenger

Sunday, May 13 at 9:00 am

Lectors: Kevin Smith, Sue Roth

Communion: David Prickett,

Mary Pat Hestbeck*, Scott Tryon

Gifts: Prickett Family

Ushers: Derrick Murphy, Kevin

Murphy, Rodney Swanson

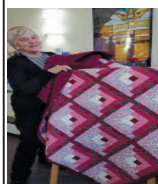
Servers: Alexis Murphy, Isabelle Harer

Cooks and bakers needed! Our annual Soup & Salad Luncheon is Thursday May 17, 2018. We are trying this year to do this with as little kitchen prep as possible, due to the number of volunteers available to work at this event. Therefore, we would like parishioners to contribute a homemade salad and/or bars. We will be providing the bowls and pans. The bowls and pans will be available after mass on May 5-6 along with list of the types of salads needed. There is also a sign-up sheet for anyone who is able to volunteer May 16th/17th. We need everyone's help with this to make this event a success. Please contact Sue Roth with any questions.

NEWS



A big **THANKS** to all the helpers who assisted in making the Progressive dinner a success this year.



Ladies and gentlemen! This quilt can be yours for only \$5! The women of First Evangelical Lutheran Church of Rush City made this quilt and Ilene Olson, pictured, from St. John's Lutheran in Rush City, quilted this beauty. Its size is 6 x 8, (considered a couch size or for a twin bed without the pillows tucked inside). We have only 18 squares left! If you're interested, please contact Carol at 320-420-8886 for

a quilt square (or 2 or 3). Exact cash or check accepted, made to APFY. You can drop your payment off at the shelter's office; please memo it for the quilt. Our shelter is located at 220 3rd Ave. SE Pine City. The winner will be drawn when the chart squares are filled. GOOD LUCK!

MONEY COUNTER: A couple of our money counters has found it necessary to discontinue counting due to personal matters. Please consider stepping up to fill this need and contact Steve Yurick for details. Thank you.

Cemetery Clean up... Please remove all unsightly plants and wreaths etc. from the cemetery by May 11 in preparation for Memorial Day. Anything left after that date will be discarded. Please dispose of these items in your own trash and do not leave them at the cemetery. Thank you.

The **Parish Council** is in need of two members, if you are interested please contact Father Shane for further details.



May 20th Confirmation Class will be Recognized
June 3rd Graduate Mass and Breakfast
June 6th Fall Festival Meeting at 7pm in Wey Hall

CONFIRMATION REHEARSAL

Confirmation rehearsal will be at Sacred Heart parish in Rush City on Sunday, May 13 beginning with Mass at 9:00 a.m. for all 10th grade Confirmation candidates.

Wednesday, May 9, will be the last day of Faith Formation this year. Please join us at 6:30pm, Wednesday, May 9, in the grotto (weather permitting) to join the children as we pray the rosary. We would like all families and parishioners to join us. Also, refreshments will be served after in Wey Hall, courtesy of CCW.

Plans are in the works to have a clean up time around the grounds of our property. It will be

on a Saturday morning in May. Details to follow. In a related matter, please call the office if you notice any maintenance items, indoors or outside, needing attention, Thanks for your cooperation.



MASS INTENTIONS



May 9th Mary Jo Stathes †
May 12th Open
May 13th Colleen Majewski

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