Saint Bernard of Clairvaux Parish

Rev. Alfred J. Lampron
Administrator

PARISH OFFICE:
446 Mount Hope Road • Wharton, NJ 07885
Main Office: (973)627-0066 • Fax: (973)627-3631
Peter Helmer, Administrative Assistant
Parish Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST
Sunday: The Lord’s Day, Vigil Saturday: 5:00 PM
Sunday: 9:00 AM & 10:30 AM
Daily Mass, Monday - Saturday, 8:30 AM

RECONCILIATION
Confessions every Saturday, 4:00-4:30 PM and also at parishioners’ convenience by appointment.

CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE
Arrangements are usually made one year in advance to properly prepare for marriage. Contact the Parish Office for an appointment.

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK
Contact Parish Office for pastoral visits in the hospital or at home. Eucharist ministers are able to visit the sick upon request. The Sacrament of the Sick can be celebrated anytime there is a need.

PARISH REGISTRATION
Registration Forms are located in back of the church or at the Parish Office. Please register so that we may serve you better.

June 2, 2019 • Seventh Sunday of Easter
Sunday June 2, 2019
Seventh Sunday of Easter
9:00  Mary Reynolds
10:30  Connie Walsh
Monday June 3, 2019
St. Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs
8:30  Helen Dunado
Wednesday June 5, 2019
St. Boniface, Bishop and Martyr
8:30  Sick Members of the Parish
Thursday June 6, 2019
St. Norbert, Bishop
8:30  Special Intention
Friday June 7, 2019
Easter Weekday
8:30  Sr. Thomasine Smith
Saturday June 8, 2019
Easter Weekday
8:30  People of the Parish
5:00  Ann Kunzweiler
Sunday June 9, 2019
Pentecost Sunday
9:00  Deceased Members of the Parish
10:30  Janet Dittrich

The inner word
What’s in your heart?
  • Stephen’s vision of Christ sitting at the right hand of God empowers him. How does your “vision” of who Jesus is inspire you? What is your “bright morning star”?

• “I bring with me the recompense I will give to each according to his deeds,” the Book of Revelation says. God calls you to offer an account of your stewardship of the life God has given you. Where have you done well? Where can you do more?

In the gospel Jesus offers the work he has done to his Father in heaven, and the glory of God comes down to bring glory to the earth. What are some ways you can offer your work to God, and so let God’s glory into your life?

June 2, 2019
Seventh Sunday of Easter

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

It’s even on our money. I refer to that famous 13 letter motto of our country “e pluribus unum,” that is “out of many, one.” Adopted by Congress in 1782, it originates out of the union of the original 13 colonies that emerged as a single nation. In the current tension in our country over how to handle immigration, along with heated debate on the matter, that motto hangs over us as a caution and a check on anything resembling prejudice, exclusivity or even hate. It’s sad to realize that any rancor ignores the fact that we ourselves are descended from immigrants.

Long before there ever was a United States, we learn from the Bible that unity among us is the prime desire of our very
Creator. This infers that diversity is far from an obstacle to unity, but is rather something that enriches it.

After all, Jesus died on the cross for the salvation of the whole human race, and not just a segment of it. When He rose from the dead, it was, at the very least, an endorsement from on high that everything He said and did was in accord with the divine plan. In other words, He was authentic. He was and is the Son of God, the Second Person of the divine Trinity. Attention must be paid to Him. Remember that at His baptism and transfiguration, the Father’s voice is heard commanding us to “Listen to Him.”

We must approach the subject of our unity with the realization that it takes work. It takes courage. It may cost us our lives, in one way or another. We learn today that for St. Stephen, the first martyr of our Church, the cost was literally his life. Surrounded as we are right now in our country by such an atmosphere of disunity, we might conclude that this is the norm. We take it almost for granted that there always will be a certain divide between “us” and “them.” Ah, but then we forget that through Christ, our God has entered into human history. This is the basic fact of Christmas, stripped of its jingle bells and tinsel.

But if “gospel” means “good news” there is always a positive lesson present, even if we sometimes have to dig deep into the text, and our own powers of reflection to find it. In this instance of pondering unity with all its inherent difficulty, we have the words of the angel Gabriel to Mary: “Nothing is impossible for God.” I always like reading that to the congregation at Christmas time because it offers them encouragement in their faith. Easter is the proof “par excellence” that God can do all things. At each Mass, we all receive the one Body and Blood of the risen Christ. That implies that unity is such a possibility if we truly will it, because we believers can approach our task with divine energy and backing.

The story is told of a time when a little child in an African tribe wandered off into the tall jungle grass and could not be found, although the tribe searched all day. The next day the tribal members all held hands and walked through the grass together. This enabled them to find the child, but due to the cold night he had not survived. In her anguish and through tears, the mother cried, “If only we would have held hands sooner!”

It is not enough that we all share a common goal. We must all work together to accomplish it without hesitation. “E pluribus unum” belongs in our hearts as well as on our money.

First Reading: Acts 7:55-60
St. Stephen is the first martyr of the infant Church, whose feast is always December 26. Note that his stoning death occurs “outside the city,” where prophets, including Our Lord, were murdered. The future St. Paul is a witness here.

Second Reading: Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20
Acting as an Oracle, Jesus declares that He is the beginning and the end, the Alpha and Omega, of all things. He blesses martyrs in a special way.

Gospel: John 17:20-26
In His prayer for His immediate disciples, Jesus also includes “all those who will believe through their word,” namely us. He defines both the vertical and horizontal dimensions of unity, and then gives the command to love one another.
As a community of believers, who trust in God’s mercy, healing and strength, it is our duty to pray for those who are ill and infirm. The following parishioners or family members of our parishioners are in need of our prayers. We ask God to grant health and peace to: Lois Bateson, the Budwick family, Betty Cararo, Kathleen Carey, Barbara Dietrick, Linda Dosher, John Kunzweiler, Bernice Lawson, Noah Lorenzovitz, Sara Maloney, Adeline Montanino, Martha Novoa, Nancy Orkin, Kathy Philips, Angela Rios, Andy Secallus, Frances and Jim Spilman, Ralph Sutton, Maureen Tuccio and Egle Soave Witcher.

First Friday Adoration
Everyone is invited to spend some time before the Blessed Sacrament in adoration each First Friday beginning after the 8:30 Mass until 6:00pm. There is a signup sheet in the church vestibule for each hour. Please join us this Friday, June 7th, for this special prayer and devotion.

Catholic Charities—Diocese of Paterson Annual Food Collection for the Poor
Due to the unprecedented requests for assistance from Catholic Charities’ food pantries and in order to fulfill our obligations to the poor, Bishop Serratelli has authorized a Diocesan-wide food collection in all parishes and agencies on the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ, Saturday/Sunday June 22nd and 23rd, 2019. We are all being asked to bring assorted food products on that day. St. Bernard’s Parish has been asked to provide COFFEE (GROUND OR INSTANT) AND/OR PAPER TOWELS. Cash donations will also be accepted. Please mark Saturday and Sunday, June 22ND – 23RD as food collection days in order to help those in need in our Diocesan community of Morris, Passaic and Sussex Counties.

Catholic Relief Services Collection
Next week, our parish will take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection. Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ’s love and mercy to all people here and abroad. Next week, please give generously to the collection, and help Jesus in disguise. Learn more about the collection at: www.usccb.org/catholic-relief
Next week, we will take up the Collection for the Church in Latin America. For many in Latin America and the Caribbean, a rising secular culture, difficult rural terrain, and a shortage of ministers present obstacles to practicing the faith. Your support to the collection provides lay leadership training, catechesis, priestly and religious formation, and other programs to share our faith with those who long to hear the Good News of Christ. To learn more about how you can make a difference, please visit: www.usccb.org/latin-america

Pro-Life Answers to False Pro-Choice Arguments (Part IV)
"You cannot legislate morality or force your religious views on others!"
To say that laws cannot make an immoral person moral is correct. To say that we do not legislate morality is nonsense. Virtually every law is based on an idea of what is right or wrong.
Laws are not passed to control thought, but to control behavior. For example, we impose our morality on rapists. We do not care so much why rapists rape, or what their moral and religious views are, or the reason why rapists disrespect women. Rape is evil and when people want to do evil, it is clearly correct for the government to impose its morality on them.
Similarly, pro-lifers do not care so much what people think about babies, as long as they do not kill them. Indeed, if laws should not be based on morality, what on earth should they be based on? The reality is that laws are based on our collective moral values and is the way society decides which activities it will and will not tolerate.
If we are going to reject a law simply because it is supported by religion, then we would have to abolish most laws. A person does not have to be especially religious to say that it is wrong to abort a child, any more than they would say it is wrong to steal money. Certain activities are unacceptable to civilized people regardless of religious beliefs. Abortion is one of those issues. In reality, abortion is a civil rights and a human rights issue.
Let us not forget that the black civil rights movement was dominated by pastors and was often headquartered in churches. That did not make civil rights a religious issue!

Sisters Against Human Trafficking
Child trafficking happens in all 50 states and the internet is a major avenue for predators to attract children. Traffickers work year-round, even during vacation time for children.
What’s My Name?

The #WHATSMYNAME Movement asks everyone to simply ask drivers “What’s my name?” before entering their vehicle to make sure it is the car they are supposed to enter.

#WHATSMYNAME

In Rememberance of Samantha Josephson

Wedding Invitations Holiday Cards

American Red Cross

Make a Difference in Your Community

VOLUNTEER

with the American Red Cross

Join today at redcross.org/Volunteer

Mallory’s Army Foundation

United Together In The Fight Against Bullying...

Don’t Just Teach Kindness... BE KINDNESS!

www.MallorysArmy.com

(973) 440-8657

info@mallorysarmy.org

It’s easy to join our mailing list! Just send your email address by text message:

Text MALLORYS ARMY to 22828 to get started.

Message and data rates may apply.

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