

Please continue to pray for the sick of our Parish. To add someone to the prayer list, call Fr. Jim or email Bonnie Toth at: bonnie3871@gmail.com.

Jodi Aerts
Sonya Albores
Dylan Anderson
Robert Berry
Patricia Bonnewitz
Millie Budney
Michael Burke
Sandra Burke
Julie Byron
Toni Capute
Deacon John Carey
Riordan Cavoris
Justin Curtis
Tony Donehoo
Carol Donato
Islea Duncan
Alan Ekberg
John Evans
Linda Gardner
Jack Fisher
Elizabeth Gillam

Lorraine Brennen Gilliam
Lynn Goss
Kathleen Hamilton
Jeanne Harper
Jeannine Iannaco
Pablo Ignacio
Patrick Ignacio
Meja Irvin
Leslie Jarrett
Paul Lent
Carolyn Martin
Jamie Martin
Greg Moore
Kathleen Moore
Beverly Moyer
Chris Moyer
Ray Moyer
Don Notestein
Patsy Notestein
Angel Ortiz
George Perry

Wendy Pessaro
Gary Peters
Laurie Peters
Frank Powell
Nelson Sanchez
Princess Sanchez
John Seaquist
Ray Servis
Jane Sliwinski
Joseph Souza
Margaret Smith
Chere Tew
Fred Toth
Amy Tracy
Charles Watson
Danielle Weedon
Laura Williams
Louise Williams
Michael Williams
Travis Williams
Betty Jo Wolfram

May Birthdays

Carolyn Maples (May 7)
Jeremy Hounsell (May 10)
Bonnie Toth (May 14)
Emily Heady (May 19)
Jim Tew (May 19)
George Perry (May 21)

May Anniversaries

Andrew & Kelsey Brown (May 2)
Steve & Diane Bradish (May 23)
Frank & Helen Dennany (May 23)

Fr. Jim's
Ordination
(May 16)



Our Lady Of Peace Catholic Church



May 5, 2024
Sixth Sunday of Easter

Our Lady Of Peace Catholic Church

2938 Oakleigh Avenue (PO Box 668)
Appomattox VA 24522-0668

Pastor: Father James Gallagher 434-352-0104
For emergencies: Fr. Jim's cell number: 434-238-7030
or Holy Cross Roman Catholic Church 434-846-5245
www.olpcatholicchurch.org

Holy Eucharist
Sunday 8:30 AM; Tuesday 10:00 AM and 7:00 PM
Thursday 12:15 PM

Bulletin news and requests for mass cards: contact
Bonnie Toth at bonnie3871@gmail.com

A PASTORAL MOMENT WITH FR. JIM

Knowing, loving and hoping are the human existentials. "Existentials" are those things common to all human beings. They transcend cultures and faith traditions [religions]. Surprisingly, as they are in all of us, they seek to also transcend death. We are born wanting to know. Somehow or another, to ask a question means that we already know something.

We are not created as a blank slate. A child is born asking questions. Some of the questions are down right humorous. While reading "Hop on Pop" by Dr. Suess, my little niece had a question for every page. "Pat, Pat, don't sit on that! Pat sat on a bat" "Why him sat on a bat?" Audrey asked. And there was a question every page after that. We are born curious and even want to know other people's business which gets us in trouble - still the power of wanting to know. This desire to know transcends death. "I want to know that my loved one who died is in eternal life." [So, we have mass intentions.] "Father, what is heaven like?" Do you think I will be in Heaven?" a death row inmate asked me shortly before his execution. "My God, My God, Why have you forsaken me?" [The words of Jesus as he was dying.]

As the pop group Fray sings: "Love Don't Die!" We are born desiring love. Again, we are not a blank slate. We want to be held, hugged and nursed as infants. We have special friends in school. Eventually, we desire to settle down with that special someone. Sometimes out of agape love, we assist the poor and walk with those grieving. The Weston Priory monks wrote a song: "All I ask of you is forever to remember me as loving you." As we die, there are those we love and perhaps take with us into eternity. As they leave to eternity, we still love them. There is a pain in our heart and soul because we saw them every day and they are no longer present as they once were. As He died, Jesus gave words of mercy and love: "Father, forgive them. They know not what they do."

Are we not born again hoping? We hope and pray that Mom comes back to our crib as an infant. We hope for Halloween, Christmas and Spring Break. We hope and have expectation about the future and make plans. Why do we pray for our salvation and for those who have died? Hope! "Jesus remember me when you come into your kingdom." As he was dying, St. Dismas said it next to the cross of Jesus.

As Jesus was fully human (and divine), he answered the human question of hoping, knowing, and loving all through his life. To the question "How much do you want to know?" Jesus went out to the desert to discern the Father's will. He called upon the Father at the tomb of Lazarus. Again, to that absolute point called death, "My God, My God, why have you abandoned me?" To the human question of hoping, He told stories of lost sons, lost daughters, lost sheep and lost coins. His stories about mustard seeds were full of hope and, at the absolute point, he hoped beyond death.

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To the human question of loving, his heart was moved with empathy as he saw the people who appeared lost without a shepherd. To John and Mary as he died on the cross, he gave to us a precious gift of his mother. Jesus said "Yes!" to loving at the absolute point called death. As Jesus said "Yes" to knowing, loving and hoping, the Father said "Yes" to Jesus and the tomb was empty. We see in Jesus, the closer we get to God and the more human we become. Sin is that which is inhuman or not human. The way of loving is the way of divinity and eternal life. While seeking to know God to the best of our ability, giving people hope and loving our neighbor and our God, salvation is offered to all.

As Karl Rhaner, a Vatican II theologian said "The Hindu mother who starves herself so her child can eat knows Christ in an implicit way, yet will know eternal life.

I want to thank Dr. and Sister Elizabeth Johnson for teaching me about a very human Christ.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

Annual Appeal Progress: Our goal is \$4380. You have raised \$4035, which is 92% of the goal. We are almost there! Remember, the Diocese will return 50% to us.

Pentecost Sunday will be the third Sunday in May (May 19). As it is our tradition, we would like the Prayers of the Faithful to be proclaimed in different languages as well as in English. If you speak a language other than English, please see Fr. Jim for a copy of the prayer will be invited to proclaim during the Prayers of the Faithful on May 19.

MAY

8th: Craft Club
12th: May Crowning (Mothers' Day)
Breakfast Sunday
14th: Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
15th: Calendar Planning
19th: Pentecost Sunday
24th: Mac's Kitchen
24th: Craft Club

JUNE

9th: Breakfast Sunday
12th: Craft Club
13th: Hillcats Game
15th: Mac's Kitchen
25-28: Vacation Bible School
28th: Craft Club