

My Dear Parishioners:

One of the international case studies used to determine the various levels of **moral maturity** is the Heinz study. This study proposes a scenario in which a man named Heinz wife is dying from a rare disease that can only be cured by a very expensive drug. Heinz is too poor to afford the drug so the question arises whether he should steal the drug to save his wife's life. During this longitudinal case study a young man named Tommy was asked to give his response at different age increments. Ten year old Tommy's response was: "Heinz should **not** steal the drug because he could end up in jail." Thirteen old Tommy's response was: "Heinz should steal the drug. He might end up in jail **but** he would still have his wife." Tommy's response at the age of sixteen was: "If I was Heinz I would have stolen the drug for my wife. You can't put a price on love. You can't put a price on life either." At age twenty-one Tommy's response was: "When you get married you take a vow to love and cherish your spouse. Marriage is not only love, it is an **obligation.**" Tommy seems to have grown in his understanding that if an owner clutches property for his or her **luxury** when someone else is in dire **need** of it; that may not be necessarily considered stealing.

Today's Scripture readings remind us that everyone's (including Jesus) life is full of **moral decisions** and **choices**. How one handles those **moral decisions** and **choices** depends on their level of **maturity**. Our readings also remind us of the perennial battle of the power of God versus the power of the Evil One.

Today's first reading is from the Book of Genesis and this reading provides us with an example of **moral immaturity**. God told Adam and Eve not to eat from the tree of knowledge in the Garden of Eden. This prohibition was to protect Adam and Eve from some of the hurtful consequences of eating from the tree; death being one of them. But Adam and Eve ignored God's protective word and listened to the word of the "evil one" (serpent) who was not at all concerned with their welfare. In exercising their free will, they have gone against God's intentional will that God's creatures should live in innocence, harmony with creation and in peace with each other. After disobeying God and eating the fruit from the tree, Adam and Eve's eyes were open and they realized their nakedness so in fear they hid from God. Before eating the fruit they were comfortable in God's presence but now they feel shame because of their lost innocence. God questions Adam about his sin of disobedience. Rather than admitting his fault, Adam seeks to shift the blame to Eve and even to God who created her. Adam begins a process of self-righteous rationalization and **immaturely** begins passing the buck. He blames Eve and Eve in turn blames the serpent. Because of their sin Adam and Eve are then banished from the garden into the chaos that exists outside its gates.

In contrast with Adam and Eve's **immaturity** today's section of St. Paul's letter to the Corinthians shows Paul's **maturity**. Accused of insincerity and selfishness Paul does not blame anyone else for his possible faults and distance himself from God but rather he achieves the highest level of **maturity** in having and maintaining a spirit of faith. Paul's faith tells him that the One who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also (v.14). Paul's long -range viewpoint is optimistic. While each day our outer self (our body) is wasting away, our inner self (soul) is being renewed (v.16). Paul perceives that his suffering ultimately earns a disproportionately amount of glory. The momentary sufferings of the world (endured for Christ) will prove to be nothing compared with the glory of the next world (v.17). Paul recognizes that the things of this world (which we can see) will pass away but those that are unseen (the things of heaven) will last forever (v.18).

Today's Gospel passage from St. Mark focuses on the experiences of **rejection** that Jesus encountered from his own family members as well as from the scribes (the Jewish religious teachers of the law.) All of this is in sharp contrast to the extraordinary popularity Jesus had experienced from the local crowds. Our Gospel passage is full of shocks and surprises. Three charges are leveled against Jesus: He is out of His mind, He is possessed by Beelzebul, and He is an agent of Satan. The first accusation is brought by members of Jesus' extended family. The second and third accusations are brought by a delegation of scribes from Jerusalem.

The first shocker (accusation) is that in the midst of Jesus' popularity Jesus' own relatives come and attempt to take Him away because they think He is out of His mind. No details are given. Perhaps they think His teaching or healing activity will somehow get Him into trouble, especially because He does His ministry on the Sabbath. Perhaps they think it will bring shame to His family name. What makes this **rejection** so critical is that these are the people that Jesus should be able to count on for support even if they do not understand Him.

The second shocker is that the scribes also **reject** Jesus. They vehemently accuse Jesus of being possessed by Beelzebul. The scribes do not dispute the fact that Jesus can indeed drive out demons. However the scribes claim Jesus is using the power of Satan (not the power of God) to do so. In response to their accusations Jesus uses a series of short aphorisms claiming that any entity divided against itself cannot stand. Jesus interprets His exorcisms as the binding of Satan. Jesus then makes a reference to blaspheming against the Holy Spirit as being a sin that can never be forgiven. It is unforgivable because it rejects the very source of forgiveness itself.

The last segment of today's Gospel passage presents us with another shocker. Jesus has been told that His mother

and brothers and sisters are outside asking for Him, Honor would dictate that one would recognize the presence of one's family even if one was busy. However, not only does Jesus **not** recognize the presence of His family but He also **redefines** the very understanding of family. According to Jesus, family extends to anyone who **does the will of God**. Doing the **will of God** is what constitutes a mother, brother or sister. Family is **no** longer limited to blood ties but is now constituted by faith in God and putting that faith into practice. This teaching and concept would be incomprehensible to Jewish understanding. Jesus' teaching points to a deeper profound reality. Even Jesus' blood family does not know His **true identity**- that He **is** the Son of God.

Some of the conduct (the **blame-game**) in today's readings can be seen as **immature** as portrayed in the lives of Adam and Eve and the scribes in today's Gospel passage. Nowadays it seems as though **blame** is more common than harmony, judgement than reconciliation. Conservatives **blame** liberals and vice-a-versa. Even Church members **blame** each for difficulties in their community. Often these actions are simple ways of coping with our own inadequacies by placing them on others. **Maturity** means turning the windows of our childhood (which concentrated on ourselves) into windows which enable us to see other people. Breaking that down, **maturity** means many things. **Maturity** is the ability to control anger and settle differences without violence. **Maturity** is patience, the willingness to pass up immediate pleasure in favor of long-term gain. **Maturity** is perseverance, the ability to stick with a situation in spite of discouraging setbacks. **Maturity** is the capacity to face unpleasantness, discomfort and defeat without collapse. **Maturity** is the humility to say "I was wrong" when we are wrong and when we are right the ability to resist saying "I told you so." **Maturity** is the art of living in peace what we can't change, the courage to change what we know should be changed, and the wisdom to know the difference.

**Moral maturity** gives radiance to our person. It is the reason for respect and the grounds for veneration. The more moral **maturity** one possesses the greater the person will be. Have a blessed week.

Love and prayers,

Fr. John

## **SUMMER WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE**

Please note that beginning on **Monday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> until Friday August 24<sup>th</sup>** we will be on the Summer Weekday Mass Schedule. Mass will be celebrated on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays **only at 7 AM**. On Wednesdays mass will be celebrated at **7AM and 9AM** with our OMPH Novena. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place following the **9AM** mass on Wednesday **until 12NOON**. Saturday morning mass will be celebrated at **9AM**.

**Thank you.**

### **ATTENTION MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST**

A meeting for the Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist will be held on June 27 at 7 pm in the Church.

(Please Bring your Albs for a parish minister photo.)

We will start with a reflection on how we Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist can support our parishes Mission and Vision statements.

#### **Our Mission**

*"To celebrate the real presence of Jesus in our Eucharistic worship and empower ALL to be Disciples of Christ."*

#### **Our Vision**

*"To be a welcoming community, witnessing our faith in Christ and growing in our relationship with Jesus as we journey together toward eternal salvation."*

Next, we will review the basic as well as new procedures of serving at the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

We will conclude with a brief reflection on the privilege of serving in the Sanctuary.

### **DIOCESAN WOMEN'S CONFERENCE**

The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Diocese of Harrisburg Women's Conference will be held, **October 20, at Bishop McDevitt High School**. This event is open to all women 18 years of age and older. Registration Fee will be **\$30 per person** which includes Continental breakfast and box lunch.

**SECOND COLLECTION  
CATHOLIC COMMUNICATIONS CAMPAIGN**

Next week, our second collection is for the Catholic Communications Campaign. This campaign connects people with Christ, here and around the world in developing countries, through the internet, television, radio, and print media. And 50% of funds collected remain in our diocese to support local efforts. Be a part of this campaign to spread the gospel message, and support the collection today! To learn more visit [www.usccb.org/cc](http://www.usccb.org/cc)

**OUR LADY'S MISSIONARIES OF  
THE EUCHARIST INVITE YOU:**

**Fatima Evening, July 11, 2018  
6 P.M. — 8 P.M**

**Father Harry McCreedy** will lead the July 11<sup>th</sup> Fatima Evening of Prayer for Peace and the Protection of the World at Our Lady's Missionaries of the Eucharist in Birdsboro, PA. For the past 22 years, Father McCreedy has led Candlelight Rosary Devotions to Our Lady of Fatima at his parish. He is a prominent Fatima pilgrimage guide due to his special devotion to Our Lady of Fatima.

This event includes Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Praying the Rosary, an Act of Consecration of Our Nation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Eucharistic Benediction, and the Holy Sacrifice of Mass.

**To register for Fatima Evening contact:**

**Our Lady's Missionaries of the Eucharist,  
640 E. Main St., Birdsboro, PA 19508  
olme@olme.org ♦ 610-582-3333 ♦ [www.olme.org](http://www.olme.org)  
ALL ARE WELCOME! BRING A FRIEND!  
YOUR GENEROUS DONATION WILL BE DEEPLY  
APPRECIATED.**

**THANK YOU**

**I want to express my appreciation and gratitude to our Knights of Columbus Council (Fr. Daley #4191) for their generous donation of one thousand dollars to our school and a donation of five hundred dollars to our Religious Education Program. I also want to express my appreciation and gratitude to the Ladies Auxiliary of our Knights of Columbus Council for their generous donation of one thousand dollars to our school. God bless you.**

**Thanks, Fr. John**

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Monday, June 11, St. Barnabas, Apostle**

7:00        ♦ Mary Ganter  
9:00        Mary Hohowski

**Tuesday, June 12**

7:00        ♦ Bill Barshinger  
9:00        ♦ Kathleen Kilkuskie

**Wednesday, June 13, St. Anthony of Padua, Priest and  
Doctor of the Church**

7:00        ♦ Zofia Sarnowska  
9:00        Our Parish Priests

**Thursday, June 14**

7:00        ♦ Maida Stricker  
9:00        ♦ Kathleen Kilkuskie

**Friday, June 15**

7:00        ♦ Kathleen Kilkuskie  
9:00        ♦ Samuel Carnell

**Saturday, June 16**

9:00        ♦ Kathleen Kilkuskie  
5:00        ♦ John & Helen Phillips

**Sunday, June 17 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

7:30        For the Parishioners  
9:00        ♦ Jean Gould  
11:00        Christina F. Cardullo

**IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS**

We will be publishing the names of your dear loved ones who are seriously ill or injured. After the period of one month their names will be removed. For example, names announced in the bulletin the third week of the month will be removed the third week of the following month. If at that time prayers are still needed, please feel free to contact the parish office, and we will be more than happy to re-publish your loved one's name.

**May 20:** Phoenix Rann, Margaret Gardner, Brenda Crawford, Jennifer Ranker, Jean Givler, Abigail Lowe-Critchfield, Michael Lillis, Richard Warner, Kevin Kaiser, Jody Shimp, Joe Ferrara, Anna Leshner, Florence Windish, Gloria Reynolds, , Susan Buchler, William Oktela, Bill Garcedau, Gloria Reynolds, Tracy Yeakel, Paula Kareem, Greg Garred, and Mary Hohowski.



Date	Amount	Needed	Difference
5-27-18	\$10,138.80	\$14,950.00	(\$4,811.20)
YTD	<b>Amount</b>	<b>YTD Needed</b>	<b>Difference</b>
5-27-18	\$650,943.66	\$717,600.00	(\$66,656.34)

**This Information Will Be In Next Week's Bulletin**

Date	Amount	Needed	Difference
6-3-18	\$	\$14,950.00	(\$ )
YTD	<b>Amount</b>	<b>YTD Needed</b>	<b>Difference</b>
6-3-18	\$	\$732,550.00	(\$ )

**ADORATION OF THE  
BLESSED SACRAMENT**

Discouragement can make us feel hopeless. It can drain us of all energy and prevent us from keeping up with our everyday tasks. If not dealt with, it is also contagious. It can spread through your whole house. So let's look at one way we can deal with discouragement.

At the Last Supper, Jesus told his disciples, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me". Here he was about to face the cross, and yet he spent his last hours on earth helping his friends—by urging them to trust in God. Whenever we face times of discouragement, we can picture Jesus saying to us, "Don't let your heart be troubled. It's true *that in the world you will have trouble*, but never doubt that *I have conquered the world*".

**SANCTUARY LAMP**

You may have the Sanctuary Lamp burn for a sick or deceased loved one for a donation of \$5 to defray the cost of the candles. This week the candle burns for Patricia Long.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2018**

Mark your calendars and save the date for this year's **Vacation Bible School July 16-20!** At this year's VBS our kids will get Shipwrecked and discover how **JESUS RESCUES**. As we gear up for this great week we are looking for a few more adult volunteers to make it an amazing week for the kids. If you are interested in helping out please contact Laura Kauffman at (717) 575-8221.

**VBS DONATIONS**

**THANK YOU** to all parishioners who donated items to Vacation Bible School this year. This weekend students will

be in the narthex after all masses collecting monetary donations for VBS, to help cover the cost of the program and supplies for the week. Thank you in advance for your support!

**FORMED**

Enjoy a free subscription to formed.org – an incredible online gateway to the best Catholic content, all in one place!

1. Visit formed.org with a web browser
2. Click on Register (lower right of page)
3. Enter Parish Access Code: **4BGYH2**
4. Enter your email and create a password  
(you need this to log in later)
5. Go to STUDY and watch FORGIVEN Episode 1

**HERSHEY PARK TICKETS**

**Tickets may be picked up in the Parish Office  
Monday thru Friday from 9AM to 4PM.**



**Religious Education Corner:**

**The Religious Education Program Would  
Like Congratulate All 2018 Graduates!**

**Please Look For RE Registrations Forms For The  
2018/2019 RE Soon. Please Stay Tuned To The  
Bulletin For More Details Regarding Registration.**

**Please Remember Summer Break  
Still Includes Attending Mass On  
Sundays And Holy Days Of Obligation.**

**Please Visit <http://masstimes.org/>  
To Locate Parishes With Mass Times  
Both Here In The US And Worldwide.**

**OMPH RE Not Only Needs Our Mother's  
Perpetual Help, But Your Help As Well!**

Please Consider Joining The Exciting Adventure  
Of Passing On Our Wonderful Catholic Faith To The  
Next Generation By Assisting The RE Program As  
A Catechist, Aide Or Occasional Substitute.

Please Contact Kelly Lawrence In The  
Religious Education Office If You Are Interested In  
Volunteering For The 2018/2019 RE Year. Thanks!

Please Note: All RE Program Volunteers Must Have  
Their Required Diocesan Clearances Which Can Be  
Easily Obtained Through The RE Office.

Email: ompheled@dejazzd.com  
Phone: 717-738-4517

**Kelly Lawrence**

### LEGION OF MARY NEWS

Thank you to all those who took prayer pamphlets, your Auxiliary membership is important! To those who want to be Active Members, thank you too! See you **Wednesday at 7:30 PM**.

**Attention: Auxiliary and Active members: Our INDOOR PICNIC** Is June 23 from 12-2 PM at St. Leo's (church building) Route 23/Marietta Ave. in Lancaster. Want to share a ride? Call or Text: Mary at 484-706-0627.



### OMPH SCHOOL REGISTRATION FOR 2018-19



**WE ARE ENROLLING!** Registration is now open to all parish families for Preschool through Grade 8 for the 2018-2019 school year. The Preschool program, for children who are 3 and 4 years old by September 1<sup>st</sup>, provides developmentally appropriate activities in a Catholic environment and offers an after-care program. Our full day Kindergarten program, for children who are 5 years old by September 1<sup>st</sup>, provides daily Religion class along with skill development in Language Arts and Math and special classes in computer, library, physical education, art, and music. Students in grades 1 through 8 experience an education noted for academic excellence in an environment which reinforces our Catholic identity. An on-site after school program is also available.

Come see why so many families choose OMPH Catholic School for their children! Personal tours can be scheduled by calling the Development Office at 717-738-2414. Financial aid is available to qualifying families through FACTS Grant and Aid Assessment. To learn more about our school, please **visit our website** at [www.omph.org](http://www.omph.org) or call the school office at 717-738-2414 for further information. Find us on Facebook at OMPH Ephrata! Please feel free to share and contact the Development Office with any questions.

### SISTERS' NIGHT

**Friday, June 22, 6 - 9pm, Villa Maria House of Studies, 1140 W. King Rd., Malvern, PA 19355.** The IHM Sisters invite single young women ages 18-35 to join them for "Sisters' Night" on Friday, June 22 (6:00-9:00 pm) at the IHM Motherhouse in Immaculata, PA. This is a great opportunity for young women who are curious about religious life to

spend a little time with the sisters in an informal setting. The evening includes a cookout, wiffle ball and s'mores, and concludes with Night Prayer in the Motherhouse chapel. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Sister Marianne at [ihmvoc@gmail.com](mailto:ihmvoc@gmail.com)

### DISCERNMENT RETREAT

**June 22 (6pm)-June 24 (1pm), Villa Maria House of Studies, 1140 W. King Rd., Malvern, PA 19355.** Experience a weekend retreat at the IHM Motherhouse with the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary sisters, novices, and postulants. Single young women ages of 18-35 are invited to come for a weekend of prayer, spiritual conferences, meals, and times of recreation with the sisters. Daily Mass, Liturgy of the Hours, and Eucharistic adoration are included in our weekend retreat. **Contact: 610-889-1553 or [ihmvoc@gmail.com](mailto:ihmvoc@gmail.com)**