

Dear Parishioners,

The author and poet Henry Thoreau said that the mass of people live lives of quiet desperation. In support of that theory a study was taken and showed that people generally would (or think they would) order their lives differently if they could begin all over again. For instance, nearly one-third of all who participated in the study said they would follow different occupations if they could. Almost another third would seek more education and about 20 percent would try and save more money. About 17 percent said that they would develop their social lives more assiduously. Only 15.1 percent of the people who participated in the study—just more than one person in six—professed to be completely satisfied with their life. When asked what was their greatest fear, 57 percent of the people answered their greatest fear was **death**. Are **you** satisfied with your life? Or is your life overshadowed by a fear of **death**?

Today's Scripture readings present to us attitudes towards **life** and **death**. Our readings challenge us to ask ourselves how do we live our lives and how do we view **death**?

Today's First Reading is from the Book of Wisdom and this book is concerned with **coping**. With its fine poetry and rich vocabulary, this book urges its readers to walk the way of wisdom. The author points out that true wisdom is only discovered and found in serving Yahweh (God). The author also exhorts his fellow Jews in Egypt in the first century B.C. to remain loyal to Yahweh. The author develops his notion of loyalty by **life** and **death** imagery. In today's passage the author makes a bold declaration that God did **not** create or cause **death**. The author understands and interprets the Book of Genesis (Chapter 3) in a fresh new sense that enables him to arrive at the conclusion that God did **not** make death (v. 13). God is the author of **life** and God wants our lives to be imperishable. God created all things good and made people in His own image and likeness; this means that we have been made for eternity. **Death** is the work of the devil and people who choose his way. The author of Wisdom speaks not of physical **death** but of that of which physical **death** is a sign: **spiritual death** which

implies alienation from God and others caused by sin. True **life** is more than mere biological life: it is a

fullness of existence which comes from intimacy with God. People are to live full lives—truly **full**, truly **alive**—by applying wisdom to moral conduct.

To help us live (really **live**) St. Paul today encourages his audience to be as caring for others as Jesus was. In this section of his letter, Paul appeals to the Corinthians to contribute generously to help the Church of Jerusalem which, because of persecutions, was experiencing hardship. He begins by noting their own spiritual resources which should prompt them to give. Paul then offers the poverty of Jesus as motive for the community's generosity. At the moment of the Incarnation, Jesus surrenders His divine riches. Jesus truly becomes poor by experiencing the human condition, particularly as it culminates in the cross. By taking on a human nature, thus becoming a part of our poor world of weakness and death, Jesus enables those who believe in Him to receive His kind of riches—**new life**. That surpasses all earthly riches in the same way that the **life** of salvation surpasses a **life** of quiet desperation. Paul's advice, if followed by everyone, would transform our world: that is, if those who have an excess were to give to the less fortunate, so that those who have little have no lack.

Today's Gospel passage from St. Mark contains two rich and touching stories that have a common attitude towards **life** and **death**. The two stories in Mark's Gospel: Jairus' daughter (vs. 21-24, 35-43) and the woman with a hemorrhage (vs. 25-34) were once independent compositions. Mark's passage demonstrates a literary technique called intercalation or sandwiching. It is a technique that Mark uses frequently. This technique occurs when one traditional story is inserted into another. Mark begins by telling a story and just when the narrative gets really interesting he stops and begins another story. In this case, the story of the healing of Jairus' daughter begins but is interrupted by the story of the healing of the woman suffering from a hemorrhage. After the woman with the hemorrhage is healed, the passage concludes with the story of Jairus' daughter. The

purpose of this literary technique is to highlight commonalities between both stories. Both stories influence one another and reveal something about Jesus.

Mark brought both stories together to show Jesus' lordship but also to have the stories comment on each other. In both stories Jesus helps nameless females who are in difficult hopeless situations (sickness which leads to death and a hemorrhage). In both stories, also, the number twelve is prominent: the age of Jairus' daughter and the length of time of the woman's illness. The language used in both healing stories is actually the language of **salvation** pointing beyond the immediate illnesses. Jesus' touch in both stories, active or passive is **life-giving**. The dead girl (Jairus' daughter) and the bleeding woman would both have been considered ritually impure and "unclean" according to Mosaic Law Jesus should not have touched either. However, in both cases, Jesus boldly ignores the purity regulations and touches each of them giving them new **life**. Jesus' touch bestowed both people to wholeness. He welcomes the woman ("daughter") as a member of the community and enables her now to be in contact with family and friends and allows her to worship with others. He raises the little girl and so restores a future to her discouraged father- Jairus. To both women Jesus showed the gracious love of God, a healing touch restoring them to **life**. Finally, in both stories we see the tension between **fear** and **faith** and in both cases **faith** wins out over **fear**.

At the heart of Mark's stories is the invitation to **faith** in Jesus and His healing power over sickness and death. There is a bold **faith** on the part of Jairus and the woman with the hemorrhage. This bold **faith** is contrasted by the **fear** and hopelessness of the crowds and the mourners. The gesture Jesus uses to raise up the young girl brings to mind Jesus being raised up to **new life** in the resurrection. This leads to the deeper meaning of these two healing stories. On the one hand, they are both about the power of **faith** to bring about physical healing from the person of Jesus. On the other hand, these stories are about Jesus as the **one** who brings more than just physical **life** to the ailing. Jesus brings resurrection **life**, the **life** of

salvation to those who believe in Him. This is the true miracle of **faith**.

**Life** is precious. When **life** is in our hands, we should plead for it like Jairus, try to live it to the full like the woman with the hemorrhage, hang on to it like Paul and define it correctly like the Book of Wisdom. Jairus' daughter and the woman with the hemorrhage would eventually die. However, because of Jesus' action their chances for eternal and unending **life** were hopefully enhanced. We all should do our utmost to better **life's** quality for everyone, especially the unborn and elderly. We all should trust in the **Lord of Life** and join in the time-honored Jewish toast: **L'Chaim! To Life!** Have a blessed week.

Love & Prayers,

Fr. John

**WELCOME**

It is with great joy that I want to announce that Rev.



Edmund J. Faliskie, C.Ss.R. will be joining our Parish Ministerial Staff. Father Ed comes to us with a great amount of enthusiasm and varied ministerial experience. Fr. Ed graduated with a degree in Business Management from Scranton University and then began his

studies for the Redemptorist Priesthood. He professed his vows as a Redemptorist in September 1987 and graduated with a Master's degree in Divinity from Washington Theological Union in 1991. Fr. Ed was ordained on May 11, 1991 and has much experience as a priest. He was the Associate Pastor at St. Wenceslaus Parish in Baltimore from 1991-93 and then became the Vocation Director for the Redemptorists from 1993-99. From 1999-2005 he was the Pastor of Holy Cross Parish in Desruisseaux, St. Lucia in the West Indies. Fr. Ed served on our Redemptorist Provincial Leadership Council from 2005-2011 and was the provincial Procurator from 2008-17. In 2017 Fr. Ed became the Associate Pastor

at Sacred Heart Parish in Baltimore and will now serve in such role here at Our Mother of Perpetual help Parish. Welcome Fr Ed to OMPH! We are so glad you will be with us. God bless you and your ministry here at OMPH. Fr. John

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.

**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."*

**2018-19**

**BISHOP'S LENTEN APPEAL UPDATE**

As of June 11, 2018, **371** families/households have pledged **\$100,062.10** towards this year's Bishop's Annual Lenten Appeal. I want to express my **appreciation** and **gratitude** to those who have already generously supported this year's appeal. As you know our Parish Assessment is **\$101,300** so the difference is **\$1238**. We have over **1300** families/households registered in our Parish. We **need** everyone to contribute something so we can reach our Assessment Goal. If you have **not** already made a pledge I humbly ask you to do so. Pledge envelopes can be found in the Church Narthex and in the Parish Office. A **reminder**: every dollar received that **exceeds our Assessment Goal** will be given back to us and placed in our Parish Savings Account.

Thank you and God bless you.  
Fr. John

**Stewardship: A Mission of Faith Fall Conference**  
Stewardship: A Mission of Faith, invites you to join Fr. Michael Gaitley, Jason Evert, Christopher West, Damon Owens, Msgr. John Esseff, Marty Rotella, Devin Schadt, Mark Forrest, Megan Murphy, Bishop Alfred Schlert and many more, for an adult conference this fall. The event will be held on Wednesday, September 19<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, September 20<sup>th</sup>. One and two-day tickets are available. The conference will be held in Elizabethtown, PA, at the beautiful Stone Gables Estates which features the historic Star Barn Village and Ironstone Ranch ([www.stonegablesestate.com](http://www.stonegablesestate.com)). In between the 6 keynote talks, 24 workshops, daily Mass and evening adoration, you can enjoy 275 acres of God's creation including horseback riding, wagon rides, campfires, an outdoor stations of the cross, Marian grotto, vineyard and more! For complete information, visit us at [www.stewardshipmission.org](http://www.stewardshipmission.org) and click on the Fall Conference link. We'll see YOU in September!

**SECOND COLLECTION  
CATHOLIC COMMUNICATIONS CAMPAIGN**

This 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/ccc](http://www.usccb.org/ccc)

him, he said, "Stand up and go; your faith has saved you" (Luke 17:19). And to the woman in today's Gospel he said, "Daughter, your faith has saved you" (Mark 5:34).

In every instance, Jesus told the people that their trust in him played a vital role in their healing. We know, of course, that it was Jesus who did the healing, but we also see that his power flowed because of the way the people pressed forward despite obstacles. If they didn't continue to strive in faith, it's likely that they would not have been healed!

Let's imitate these heroes and heroines today. Let's put our confidence in the Lord. Let's strive in prayer, both for ourselves and for our loved ones. Let's reach out and touch his cloak.

**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 the Alice & Courtney Morrison.

**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.

**PARISH LIBRARY NEWS**

The Parish Library will no longer accept any VHS video tape or audio cassette tape donations. Thank you for your generous donations in the past. Religious themed CDs or DVDs will gladly be accepted. Also, please check at home for any overdue library items that you may have borrowed and forgotten about. Returned items and donations can be dropped off in the "Return Bin" in the library. See what your Parish Library has to offer for your spiritual life.

ie Lerman- Parish Librarian

**YOU'RE INVITED!** Please join us at Immaculate Conception BVM, New Oxford for our annual Adult Faith Formation retreat on August 25 from 8am to 3pm. This year's event features author, speaker, and Breadbox Media show host Allison Gingras. Allison will share easy and powerful ways to incorporate Prayer, Sacrament, and Scripture into our everyday ordinary lives. Cost is \$20 and includes lunch. Contact Pete Socks at [pete.socks@gmail.com](mailto:pete.socks@gmail.com) or 717-521-3137 (please leave a message) to register

*Religious Education Corner:*

**Please Look For RE Registrations Forms For The 2018/2019 RE Year Soon. Please Stay Tuned To The Bulletin For More Details Regarding Registration. An Email Will Also Be Sent Once The Forms Have Been Sent And Are Available.**

**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: [omphred@dejazzd.com](mailto:omphred@dejazzd.com)  
Phone: 717-738-4517

**Kelly Lawrence**

**HERSHEY PARK TICKETS**

Tickets for the **Kulesa & Morrissey** families may be picked up in the Parish Office, Monday thru Friday from 9AM to 4PM.

**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

**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.

**TREASURE ISLAND DONATION WISH LIST**

The Development Office of OMPH School is starting to plan for their annual Treasure Island Auction on Saturday, November 3, 2018. The event benefits the students of OMPH School. Anything you can donate to assist in making these events successful is appreciated.

Vacations/House Rentals  
Parties/Events  
Once in a Lifetime Experiences  
Tickets  
Travel  
Electronics  
Jewelry  
Sports & Leisure  
Outdoor Equipment  
Accessories  
Art  
Amusement Parks  
Theme Baskets  
Gifts Certificates

Donations can be dropped off to the Development Office. Any questions, please call the Development Office at 717-738-2414. All Donations are tax deductible. OMPH School thanks you for your generosity!

The Faculty of OMPH extends congratulations to graduates of OMPH School and members of OMPH Parish who were recognized for their outstanding academic achievement at LCHS. We are very proud of our students who received honors for the fourth quarter of the 2017-2018 academic year.



Distinguished Honors: Ella Cassidy, Michael Chirico, Kevin Draeger, Caroline Erb, Jacob Fertal, Taylor Geiss, Devon Gerhard, Erin Haldeman, Rachel Houser, Johann Imperial, Grace Isbrandt, Emma Kirchner, Kayla Lipson, Jake Mercer, Sheridan Schreyer, Riley Smith, Anthony Quagliata, Connie Quagliata, Lizbeth Stephan Camille Zapata and Christian Zapata

Honor Roll: Cecilia Deel, Daniel Duchesneau, Aiden Frymoyer, Meghan Flynn, Siobhan McShea, Erin Mohr, Angeline Rann and Anthony Sivillo



**RESPECT LIFE**

Public Comments Needed Now about Blocking Federal Funding from Abortion Providers

A rules change in the way Federal Title X family planning money is distributed is now open for comments from the public until July 31, 2018. The new provision, called the Protect Life Rule, will

prohibit Title X funding to facilities that conduct abortions or refer for them. Pro-life supporters are urged to post comments in support of the Protect Life Rule, which would put an end to Planned Parenthood and other abortion providers and referrers from receiving millions of tax dollars.

Your comments are needed! Go to [www.operationrescue.org](http://www.operationrescue.org) and click on the article about Title X Funding, where there will be a link to the page for comments. The comment button is on the top right. Or you can go directly to this website: <https://www.regulations.gov/comment?D=HHS-OS-2018-0008-0001&p=1>

It's an easy and important way to support the pro-life attempts of President Trump. Positive comments are needed!

**Andrea Ostrowski**