

My Dear Parishioners,

There's a story that God gave a group of aspiring students a choice between **knowledge** and **wisdom**. If they choose **knowledge** they would know everything. If they choose **wisdom** they would know a few things **well**. The students reflected long and hard about their decision. They first thought about the possession of knowledge and the unlimited power that goes with it. But then they reflected upon the adult world's loss of rosy optimism in the power of knowledge. They figured that people could know everything and still be **foolish**. Next they thought about the gift of **wisdom**. **Knowledge** and **wisdom** (far from being one) often have no connection. **Knowledge** is proud that it knows so much; **wisdom** is humble that it knows no more. So (like true budding academics) the students talked and talked, and talked some more. Finally they told God that they choose **knowledge**. But they cleverly added that, since they were to know everything, they should also know what **wise** people know. God replied that He could tell them what **wise** people know but He couldn't make them **wise**. "For example", God said facetiously, "one of the things that **wise** people know is when to keep quiet when their speech won't improve on silence."

Today's Scripture readings are all about the gift of **wisdom**. Our first reading is actually from the Old Testament Book of Wisdom which was written about a hundred years before Christ. The Book of Wisdom was addressed to the Hellenistic Jews living in Alexandria, Egypt. With its impressive phraseology and extensive vocabulary this book urges readers to **always** seek a right relationship with God. Tradition holds that King Solomon is its inspiration since he asked God for wisdom in his famous dream (1Kings 3:5-15.) The author of this book **wisely** understands that without a strong belief in God true goodness isn't possible. The righteous spend their lives in service to God. The unrighteous are ungrateful and self-serving. The author believes that many people try to be good out of ideals that have no connection with God **but** their principles wind up acting out in violence and hatred.

In today's passage we hear the thoughts of the unrighteous as they plot against God's servant. This passage describes how wicked people were plotting against a just man (v.12) because his life and words are a reproach to them (vs. 12-16). The wicked are then determine to test the just man's claims (vs. 17-20). The wicked conspire to assault the righteous and pious man because he is a real challenge to them. Three matters in particular plague the wicked. The

honorable/just man stands in opposition to their wrongdoings; he denounces them for their sins; and he accuses them of not being faithful to their upbringing. The honorable/righteous man (described as gentle and patient) then becomes an innocent victim of the evildoers' resentment. Today's passage then ends on a note of apprehension. Will the righteous one succumb to the persecution of the wicked **or** will God intervene on behalf of the just person? Our answer will be found in Wisdom Chapter 3 as the tables are turned and the pious, just, wise man is exonerated by God.

The author of the Letter of James (our second reading) describes the two styles of behavior (**foolishness** and **wisdom**) that were present in the early Christian community. A life motivated by **foolishness** showed itself in various forms of social unrest-jealousy, envy, self-ambition, lies, disorder and viciousness. A life motivated by **wisdom** generated the virtues of peace, harmony, and joy which give birth to all of the manifestations of love. While **wisdom** is generally thought to proceed from reflection on experience, it is also considered to be a gift from God. It is this latter dimension of **wisdom** that the author addresses. The **wisdom** of which he speaks is pure and totally committed to what pertains to God. It is peaceable drawing the members of the community together in unity. It is fruitful producing good works in abundance. The author concludes today's passage with a consideration of the root causes of strife within a community and their remedies. Briefly stated, the root causes are bound up with a failure to pray properly. People who have only street-smarts and don't possess **wisdom** can't pray properly because they are bound up with their own pleasure. Pleasure dominated people can only pray that "my pleasures be satisfied." However the **wise** way to pray is to conclude, "Thy will be done." **Foolish** people are the center of their own life and have not emptied themselves enough of self-love in order to be filled with God's love.

Today's Gospel passage from St. Mark highlights the second of three passion predictions Jesus proclaims in the midst of His disciples. Recall that in last week's Gospel passage we heard of Jesus' first prediction of His passion and the consternation that followed that prediction. Jesus and His disciples were journeying through Galilee and Jesus used that opportunity to teach them what it meant to be a **disciple**. At the same time He revealed to them His true identity as the Messiah and the Son of Man. However the disciples were not capable of understanding anything that Jesus taught them.

Much of that same dynamic is present in Jesus' second prediction of His passion. In today's passage we are told that when Jesus finished this second prediction of His passion His disciples simply did not understand what He was talking about and they were afraid to ask Him. The disciples had heard Jesus preach and teach and they watched Him minister to all kinds of people. Yet they have understood hardly anything. In today's passage Jesus confronts His disciples with a question about what they were discussing along the way as they travelled. The disciples remain shamefully silent because Jesus has caught them arguing over perks and pecking orders, privileges and priorities. They were arguing about who among them was the greatest. Jesus is talking about His upcoming suffering and death while the disciples are totally self-absorbed with their own greatness. They are preoccupied with personal enrichment and advancement. The gap between Jesus and His disciples is quickly growing very wide. To counter this dangerous drift from all He wanted to inculcate in His followers, Jesus presents to His Apostles a new corrective teaching about **discipleship** and **service**.

Jesus begins by reversing the prevailing order in society in which the influential dominated the weak. In Jesus' kingdom the highest ranking is reserved for the one who is **servant** of all (Mk. 9:35). In Jesus' kingdom if you want to be the greatest then you must become like a child. Here Jesus does not mean that His disciples should attempt to recapture some form of youthful innocence or childlike demeanor. Rather, Jesus is speaking in terms of social status. In Jesus' time a child was considered insignificant as a child had no status, no rights since they were totally dependent upon adults for everything. Therefore, to be great in the Jesus' kingdom means to become a nothing in the eyes of Caesar's kingdom. And so **discipleship** is not about power, glory and fame but rather **discipleship** is about **service** and giving one's life for others.

For almost two thousand years Jesus' **disciples** have gathered together on the first day of the week to hear the **wisdom** of God ("words to live by") and to depart with helpful ideas for the coming week. God's **wisdom** gives us many ideas and concepts to ponder and meditate upon. Between **knowledge** and the gift **wisdom** as a way of life, which would you choose? Ask yourself: do you give enough attention to God's **wisdom** in order to make a good life or are you satisfied with having enough street **knowledge** to make a comfortable living? Think and pray about it. Have a blessed week.

Love & Prayers,  
Fr. John

### DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE

In celebration of the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Diocese of Harrisburg, a diocesan-wide pilgrimage to the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. is planned for **Saturday, November 3**. This pilgrimage will be led by our own Bishop Ronald Gainer. The Pilgrimage will last from **9 AM** until **4 PM** and will include a visit to the Shrine and the celebration of the Holy Eucharist and the opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance. Buses will be departing from various sites in our Diocese for the Pilgrimage. Additional information about the Pilgrimage can be found on the Diocesan web site, [www.hbgdiocese.org/150](http://www.hbgdiocese.org/150). If you are interested in attending the Pilgrimage please see or contact Mrs. Rita Pfautz (717) 341-1211 for more information.

### ANNUAL WHITE MASS

The Harrisburg Diocesan Guild of the Catholic Medical Association invites all Catholic physicians, healthcare workers, medical students, residents, and their families to attend The Annual White Mass celebrated by Reverend Paul C.B. Schenck on Sunday, October 17, 9:30 a.m. at Saint Patrick Cathedral in Harrisburg. Please RSVP for the reception to [kneri@hbgdiocese.org](mailto:kneri@hbgdiocese.org).

### ANNUAL DIOCESAN RED MASS



The Annual Red Mass will take place on Monday, October 1, 2018 at the Cathedral Parish of St. Patrick at 5:30 p.m. The Most Reverend Alfred A. Schlert, D.D., J.C.L., Bishop of Allentown, will be the Principal Celebrant and Homilist. Priests of the Diocese of Harrisburg will concelebrate the Mass.

At the Red Mass, Lawyers, judges, lawmakers, and public officials gather together to pray for God's wisdom and guidance in their pursuit of justice. The Saint Thomas More Society of Central Pennsylvania, an organization of Catholic lawyers, sponsors the Red Mass. For additional information, please visit [www.saintthomasmoresociety.com](http://www.saintthomasmoresociety.com).

### OMPH COMMUNITY MEALS



OMPH will be hosting **our last Community Meal of 2018 on October 11<sup>th</sup>**. Once again we are looking for volunteers to help. Our Community Meal Program provides free, freshly prepared and nutritious meals, to hungry residents of the Ephrata area. Our Thursday, October 11<sup>th</sup> meal will be held at:

**Bethany United Church of Christ**  
**167 E Main St, Ephrata, PA**

There is no special expertise required so if you can help out at either meal it would be great. Our volunteer will have varied duties from helping to set up the dining area, serving meals to our guests and of course cleaning up after the meal. Our meal program has been serving anywhere from 120 to 180 people, so we usually need around 20 or so volunteers. Without our volunteers, it would be difficult if not impossible to accomplish our mission. Whether you have helped in the past or this is your first time we would love to have you join us for this worthwhile and rewarding experience.

For those individuals who are unable to volunteer some of their time but still want to help out, monetary donations are always welcome for the 'OMPH Community Meals.' If you are interested in volunteering or want more information, please email Tara Montgomery at [jazzcat9@ptd.net](mailto:jazzcat9@ptd.net) or contact Pat or Georgia Hogan at 717-738-0825.

**DIOCESAN WOMEN'S CONFERENCE**  
Registration is now available at [www.hbgdiocese.org/women](http://www.hbgdiocese.org/women), for the **4th annual Diocesan Women's Conference**, taking place **Saturday, October 20, at Bishop McDevitt High School**. Theme is *Women of Life and Love: Celebrating the Beauty of Humanae Vitae*. Keynote Speaker is **Jennifer Fulwiler** of Austin, TX, well-known Catholic radio personality, speaker, and author. The title of her keynote address is: **"Pro-Choice to Pro-Life Conversion."** This conference includes **36 workshops** from a blue-ribbon panel of speakers, a **Eucharistic Holy Hour** with Divine Mercy Chaplet and Benediction, **Confession** available throughout much of the day, beautiful music from **"Women at the Well"**, lots of **Catholic exhibitors**, good food, **Mass with Bishop Gainer** as Principal Celebrant and Homilist, and fellowship with hundreds of women. **Last year, 900 women attended** this conference. Besides the online registration, registration brochures are also available at the church. This conference is available for all women both within and outside of our diocese. We expect another large crowd this year. We would love to see you there! Thank you!

**BEGINNING EXPERIENCE**

The Beginning Experience Team for the Harrisburg Diocese announces that they have booked Camp Hebron, Halifax, PA for a Beginning Experience Weekend, **November 9-11<sup>th</sup>**. The ecumenical Beginning Experience weekends are an approved program designed for those suffering the loss of a spouse through death, divorce or separation. Hundreds of persons have been helped to move towards successful, productive, happy lives by attending one of these weekends. The weekend is led by persons who have lost a spouse through death or divorce and are trained in facilitating a weekend. Each Beginning Experience Team is certified by the International Organization.

**WOMENS RETREAT**

A Time Apart With Jesus to Grow in Your Spiritual Life Friday evening, November 2 - Sunday at Noon, November 4. The retreat is offered by Sister Joan Noreen, Co-Founder of OLME and 1999 – 2018 EWTN Host of "Eucharistic Journey." The retreat is held at the Ave Maria Retreat House in Doylestown, PA. This retreat includes Daily Eucharist, Eucharistic Adoration, conferences on Catholic Spirituality, Prayer with Sacred Scripture, Liturgy of the Hours, and much more. For more information, please contact:

Our Lady's Missionaries of the Eucharist, 640 E. Main St., Birdsboro, PA 19508 [olme@olme.org](mailto:olme@olme.org) 610-582-3333 [www.olme.org](http://www.olme.org)

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Monday, September 24**

- 7:00 Intentions in the Prayer Box
- 9:00 †Greg Stegeman

**Tuesday, September 25**

- 7:00 †Robert Abs Sr.
- 9:00 †Peter Fiscina

**Wednesday, September 26, Sts. Cosmos & Damian, Martyrs**

- 7:00 †Dave Donovan
- 9:00 †Yolanda Olan

**Thursday, September 27, St. Vincent de Paul, Priest**

- 7:00 †Mark Cogan
- 9:00 †Magisto Capone

**Friday, September 28, St. Wenceslaus, Martyr; St. Lawrence Ruiz & Companions, Martyrs**

- 7:00 †David Weaver
- 9:00 †Laura & Brian Berry

**Saturday, September 29**

- 9:00 †Lou Leone
- 5:00 †Sue Eisenbise

**Sunday, September 30, 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

- 7:30 For the Parishioners
- 9:00 †Vera Gunselman
- 11:00 †Mary Theresa & Ron Brynarsky Sr.

**CHURCH SUPPORT**

Date	Amount	Needed	Difference
9-16-18	\$11,903.20	\$14,300.00	\$2,396.80
<b>YTD</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>YTD Needed</b>	<b>Difference</b>
9-16-18	\$149,913.96	\$171,300.00	\$21,686.04

**YEARLINGS NEWS  
ALL SENIORS WELCOME**

We will meet for lunch on **Tuesday, October 9<sup>th</sup> at 11:30** at the Brickerville Restaurant. Please call **Gloria for reservations at 738-9098**. We must have a count of those attending.

**5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY ROSARY FOR FAMILIES**



The Knights of Columbus will be leading a Rosary after the 11:00 Mass on Sunday, 9/30, for the intention of all the families of the parish. Please join us whenever there is a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in the month. The Rosary will start approximately 5 minutes after the end of Mass. Please join us in praying for all of the families in our parish.

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

John told Jesus, “Teacher, we saw someone driving out demons in your name, and we tried to prevent him because he does not follow us.” Jesus replied, “Do not prevent him” because “whoever is not against us is for us”. In this story, people were harshly judging someone who was trying to do God’s will but who didn’t fit into their expectations.

Today, we still believe that the Spirit falls on everyone who is baptized and accepts Jesus in faith. As Peter said, “The promise is made to you and to your children and to all those far off” (Acts 2:39). Those who are “far off” includes us. Like Moses and the elders, the apostles, and the man John condemned, we too have the Holy Spirit dwelling in us. We too are meant to be prophets.

Being a prophet doesn’t mean shouting in the desert like John the Baptist did. It doesn’t mean confronting kings and princes like Jeremiah and Amos did. A prophet is someone who brings Jesus and his words to the world. That’s our job. Jesus is asking us to tell people how wonderful he is. He is asking us to proclaim his mercy, his goodness, and his salvation. And he’s asking us to do it with a heart filled with his love.

**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 Bevenour Family.

**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](http://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

**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.

Bishop Ronald Gainer, Phoenix Rann, Margaret Gardner, Brenda Crawford, Abigail Lowe-Critchfield, Michael Lillis, Richard Warner, Kevin Kaiser, Jody Shimp, Anna Leshner, Florence Windish, Gloria Reynolds, Susan Buchler, Bill Garcedau, Tracy Yeakel, Paula Karem, Greg Garred, Don Tellam, George Seuber, Jeff Gorman, Wanda Rutt, Pat Fry, Robert Bevans, Bob Eisenbise, Carlos Luciano, Margot Arden, Patrick M. Ward, Jennifer Ranker, & Neil Gruber.



**Religious Education Corner:**

**RE Classes Began Last Week On Sunday, September 16<sup>th</sup>.**

**Religious Education Classes Will Take Place On  
Sundays From 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM.**

**RE Registration Will Remain Open Through Sunday,  
September 30<sup>th</sup>. RE Registration Will Be Closed As Of  
Monday, October 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**The Late Tuition Rate Is Now In Effect**

New Registration Forms (Blue) Can Be Found In The Narthex Of The Church On The Small Blue Table and Will Be Accepted Through The End Of September.

**The New Registration Forms should be used if:**

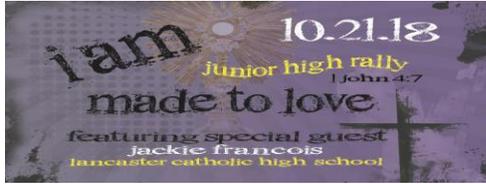
Your Oldest Child Is Entering Into Public First Grade For The 2018/2019 School Year. Your Child Is In Grades 1-8 And Does Not Attend Catholic School. You Are New To The Parish And Your Child Is In Grades 1-8.

We Are Also Running Our Kindergarten Home-Study Program Again For The 2018/2019 RE Year. This Program Is Intended For Families Whose Oldest Child Will Be Attending Public Kindergarten This Year.

To Register For This Program Please Complete The Pink Registration Papers Found In The Narthex Of The Church On The Small Blue Table And Return Them To The RE Office.

**Kelly Lawrence**

**LEGION OF MARY:** Active & Auxiliary Members please mark your calendars for the Legion of Mary Curia's Day of Spirituality to be held at **St. Joseph Church on October 6** from 9:30am-2:00pm. For additional information call Joanne Bauer at St. Joseph Rectory 717-397-6921.



**This Year's I AM Rally Theme:**  
**"made to love"**

**Please Save The Date**

**Attention All Families Of Students In 6<sup>th</sup>  
Grade For The 2018/2019 School Year:**

On Sunday, October 21<sup>st</sup> Lancaster Catholic High School  
Will Host The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual I AM Rally.

All OMPH 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Students Will Be Expected  
To Attend The Rally Including RE Students, OMPH  
School Students, And Home School Students. There Will  
Be No 6<sup>th</sup> Grade RE Classes That Week So That All 6<sup>th</sup>  
Grade RE Students Can Attend The Rally.

**Please Note: Any Seventh Or Eighth Grade Student  
Who Was Unable To Attend A Previous Rally  
Is Expected To Attend This Year's Rally.**

**A Mailing About The Rally Will Be Sent Out Soon!**

Please Contact Kelly Lawrence In The RE Office With  
Any Questions [omphreled@dejazzd.com](mailto:omphreled@dejazzd.com)

**Attention Previous I AM Rally Attendees:**

**Any Seventh Or Eighth Grade Student Who Would Like**

### OCTOBER THE MONTH DEDICATED TO PRAYING THE ROSARY

Come a little early before Sunday mass, bring your rosary beads (or get a pair from the ushers) and pray the rosary with your fellow parishioners. Surely, our mother of perpetual help will smile upon us, and her son will pour out abundant blessings on everyone who honors his mother!

### RESPECT LIFE CHAIN

Help celebrate Respect Life Sunday by participating in the Lancaster West Life Chain on Rohrerstown Road on **Sunday 10/7/18 from 2-3 P.M.** Meet in Regency Square parking lot. The Life Chain has been a national prolife event since 1987. Adoration from 1-2 P.M. will precede the Life Chain at St. Leo's.



### ROSARY RALLY! HELP OUR LADY'S PEACE PLAN!



As human efforts fail to solve America's key problems, we turn to God, through His Holy Mother, imploring His urgent help. There will be a Rosary Rally on October 13 at 12:00 noon at Ephrata Pizza, 43 E. Main St., Ephrata, PA. This Rosary Rally is one of an estimated 23,000 held nationwide in response to Our Lady's request at Fatima to pray the Rosary for peace in the world. Please join us! For further info, please contact Susan Strosser at [susan@strosserfamily.com](mailto:susan@strosserfamily.com).

### YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Radiate Youth Group plans to attend Fan the Fire Youth Rally in York, PA again this year. **Grades 8-12** may attend with us. The date is **November 17th, from 9:30 am-8:00 pm**. Fan the Fire is an exciting, one-day Eucharistic-centered retreat for young people that includes nationally-known speaker Roy Petifils, praise and worship led by Sean Malloy, awesome workshops by regional presenters, Reconciliation, a powerful Holy Hour, pizza dinner, concert, and a reverent closing Mass with our main celebrant and homilist Bishop Ronald Gainer. Contact me at 717-989-8900 or by email at [deniseives89@yahoo.com](mailto:deniseives89@yahoo.com) by **September 30th** to have me sign up your teen. Cost is \$22 per teen. Thanks. In His Service, Denise Ives



### **RCIA** News

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the process whereby adults enter the Catholic Church.

The goal of RCIA is the preparation of adults who wish to enter the Roman Catholic Church through the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist. You will learn about beliefs, practices and truths of our Catholic faith with a focus on spiritual growth.

Classes Started

Monday, September 17 at 7 PM

If you would like to attend or would like more information please contact or call Linda at 733-2676.

**MARY 101**

On **Sunday, October 14**, we will present our first discussion and film about Mary. The film is Mary 101. We will explore the mysteries and wonders of the Blessed Mother. We will discover how Mary helps us become holy and guides us to faithfully do God's will. **THIS WILL BE HELD IN THE PARISH LIBRARY BEGINNING AT 3:00.**



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**THIS WILL BE HELD IN THE PARISH**

**LIBRARY BEGINNING AT 3:00.**

**FOOD BANK NEWS**



Did you know that our OMPH Community Food Bank is a member of Central PA Food Bank which is a member of Feeding Pennsylvania which is a member of Feeding America??

You can of food or monetary donation goes directly to feeding the food insecure in Northern Lancaster County but also is part of the nationwide push to curb this national crisis. The Feeding America website states, *"The economy may be improving since the Great Recession, but the recovery is still leaving many of Americans who were hit the hardest behind. Millions of people are still struggling to get by because of underemployment, stagnant wages and rising costs of living. In fact, more than 46 million people still turn to the Feeding America network each year for extra support."*

Our food pantry and YOU are that support and we are thankful to serve the community with your help.

**We are currently in need of instant potatoes, noodles, and Spaghetti sauce. Please place your donation in the food bank crate in the narthex of the church.**

OMPH SCHOOL ANNUAL PHONATHON



Our dedicated volunteers from OMPH School will be calling friends, alumni, and parishioners of Our Lady of Lourdes, OMPH, and St. James Parishes Saturday, September 29th through Wednesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>. These volunteers are your neighbors and fellow parishioners, calling as a follow-up to

the Annual Appeal for the 2018-2019 school year. Your generous gift will help support the immediate needs of the school, provide tuition assistance, and help secure the future of the school through our endowment fund. Your tax deductible gift of any size will be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your support. Any questions, please contact The Development Office at 717-738-2414.

**40 DAYS FOR LIFE**

**Lancaster's ninth 40 Days for Life Campaign** runs from **10 am to 4 pm each Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from September 26<sup>th</sup> – November 4<sup>th</sup>** on the public sidewalk in front of Lancaster's Planned Parenthood facility, 31 S. Lime St. While are abortions are currently barred in Lancaster, over 500 women from our County still get them at Planned Parenthood facilities in neighboring counties. To learn more and get involved, please contact Dave Edgar at 717-569-7677 or Tom Ramsbottom at 717-468-3822. And, visit [Lancaster 40 Days for Life on Facebook](#).

**WE NEED ACCOMPANISTS**

The OMPH Music Ministry is in need of an accompanist, preferably piano or organ, for the Adult Choir. Practice is only once a week (Tuesdays from 7-8 pm) and we sing at 1 or 2 Masses per month. The music ministry is a great way to meet other parishioners and to become more involved in our faith community. If you are willing to share your talent, please call or email Jill McGowan at 717-336-5578 or [jmcgowan333@yahoo.com](mailto:jmcgowan333@yahoo.com)

