

Catholic Culture Update for the week beginning June 23, 2019

Quote to carry in your heart this week

“You are a priest for ever.” Psalm 110: 4b

June 23, 2019 – Feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ - Practice of Charity/Love –The Church refers to the Eucharist as “the source and summit” of our Christian life. St. Catherine of Sienna calls it the “food of angels.” The Eucharist is a gift of charity from God to us that allows us to commune with Christ in the most intimate of ways and helps us to become like the One we receive. ♦ In *The Joy of the Gospel*, Pope Francis says the Eucharist is “not a prize for the perfect, but a powerful medicine and nourishment for the weak.” When you approach Communion next, ask God to heal the places in you that feel broken or weak. After receiving the Eucharist, kneel quietly with God, savouring this intimate moment, and allow God to strengthen you. ♦ Make time for adoration of the Eucharist. If your parish does not offer weekly adoration time, find a nearby church to visit. ♦ For other questions on the Eucharist, visit the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops website: www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/the-mass/order-of-mass/liturgy-of-the-Eucharist/the-real-presence-of-jesus-christ-in-the-sacrament-of-the-eucharistic-basic-questions-and-answers.cfm. ” AT HOME with WORD 2019. LTP, page 101

“Scripture Insights > “The First Reading shows the Eucharist being foreshadowed at the beginning of God’s plan of salvation. Melchizedek, a king and a priest, brings bread and wine to celebrate Abram’s victory over his enemies. This king of Salem (shalom, meaning “peace”) acknowledges that “God the Most High” has blessed Abram. Chapter seven of the Letter to the Hebrews references this event, pointing out that Melchizedek foreshadows Jesus in his role as priest and king. Melchizedek’s feast with bread and wine also points forward to the Last Supper that Jesus celebrates with his disciples and which we continue to celebrate in the Eucharist. Finally, Melchizedek’s feast us a celebration over the forces of evil just as the Eucharist celebrates Jesus’ victory over sin and death and brings peace. In Corinthians, Paul’s account of the institution of the Eucharist is a sacrament of unity. Reading this passage, we have an insight into how early Christians celebrated the Eucharist some twenty years after Jesus’ death and Resurrection. In describing the miracle of the multiplication of bread, Luke uses language that is contained in his account of the institution: “Then he [Jesus] took the bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them” (Luke 22:19). By describing the miracle with these words, Luke shows that this event foreshadows the gift of the Eucharist. Just as Jesus fed the crowds with an abundance of physical nourishment, so in the gift of his Body and Blood, Christ feeds us spiritually with an abundance of his life and love, uniting us to himself and to one another as the Body of Christ.

- What similarities can you identify between Luke’s account of the multiplication of bread and that of the institution of the Eucharist (Luke 22:14-20)?
- How does Melchizedek foreshadow Jesus Christ and the Eucharist?
- Are there aspects of today’s reading that enrich your understanding of the Eucharist?” AT HOME with WORD 2019. LTP, page 101

June 28 is the memorial of **St. Irenaeus**, Bishop and Martyr. “St. Irenaeus (c. 125-202) was the bishop of Lyons, France, a disciple of St. Polycarp of Smyrna, and one of the first Christian theologians. His best known work, *Against Heresies*, is an attack on the gnostics, who claimed to have a secret oral tradition from Jesus. Irenaeus refutes them by pointing out that we know who the bishops are back to the Apostles, and that none of them were gnostic. He is an early witness to the recognition of the four accounts of the Gospel, to the unique importance of the Bishop of Rome, and to the apostolic succession – the handing on of ecclesial authority from the Apostles themselves.” Companion to the Calendar – A Guide to the Saints, Seasons, and Holidays of the Year, page 85-86
St. Irenaeus, gift us with courage when we must stand our ground in matters of faith. Share something orally to keep the oral tradition alive today.

June 29 is the memorial to **Sts. Peter and Paul**, Apostles. “Today we commemorate Sts. Peter and Paul, martyred on this date around the year 64 CE during Nero’s persecution following the Great Fire of Rome. Tradition says that Peter fled Rome to avoid arrest and saw Jesus on the road. “Where are you going, Lord,” Peter asked. Jesus replied, “I am going to Rome to be crucified again.” Peter turned back and was crucified upside down because he felt unworthy to meet his death the same way as Christ. Paul was arrested in Jerusalem and was sent to Rome, where he was placed under house arrest. He was slain by beheading, because as a Roman citizen he could not be subjected to the indignity of crucifixion.” Companion to the Calendar – A Guide to the Saints, Seasons, and Holidays of the Year, page 86 *St. Peter and Paul, inspire us to follow in Jesus’ footsteps as we move into summer leisure time.* Have an attitude of gratitude during the summer holidays.

June 28th is the feast of the **Most Sacred Heart of Jesus and the World Day of Prayer for Priests**. “Catholics worldwide are urged to pray for Priests today on this world day of prayer. The day was begun by Saint John Paul II in 2002 with the objective of having all Catholic faithful join in prayer for the sanctification of Priests. The World Day of Prayer for Priests coincides with the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.” Ordo Liturgical Calendar 2018-2019

“Month of July – The seventh month is named after Julius Caesar. He was a Roman general and politician who was assassinated in the year 44 BCE, on the Ides of March, March 15. Julius Caesar had ordered that the calendar be reformed. The Roman mathematicians came up with a calendar that is almost identical to the one we use today. It is called the Julian calendar in honour of Julius Caesar.” Companion to the Calendar – A Guide to the Saints, Seasons, and Holidays of the Year, page 87

Month of the **Precious Blood** – July is the month of the Precious Blood of Christ. “As we now approach the feast and month devoted to honouring Christ’s blood – the price of our redemption, the pledge of salvation and life eternal – may Christians meditate on it more fervently, may they savour its fruits more frequently in sacramental communion.” So wrote Pope John XXIII, in his apostolic letter, *Inde a Primus*, encouraging devotion to the Precious Blood of Christ, June 30, 1960. Devotion to Christ’s Precious Blood owes much to St. Gaspar del Buffalo, the founder of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood, but it has its roots in Scripture. Remember, writes St. Peter, that “you know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish” (1 Peter 1:18-19). In the Precious Blood of Christ is healing and forgiveness. “This blood,” marveled St. Thomas Aquinas, “that but one drop of has the power to win / All the world forgiveness of its world of sin.” Companion to the Calendar – A Guide to the Saints, Seasons, and Holidays of the Year, page 87-88

Living as Joyful Disciples – a quote for the week

“Joy to the fishes in the deep blue sea, and joy for you and me!” SurLeFur

Ontario Catholic Student Graduate Expectations – A Collaborative Contributor Who applies skills for employability, self-employment and entrepreneurship relative to Christian vocation. I am so amazed at the ideas that young people can come up with to start their own businesses. They can see needs that we might not be aware of and can find creative ways to address those needs. It is good to encourage these skills and creativity.

Catholic Character Education and the Virtue of Justice – Here is a quote about justice – Live simply so others can simply live.

Living Our Mission Statement

We are called and committed to develop the full potential of each child! Each child is precious and has interior resources that we might not see initially. Given encouragement and support those resources can be developed and the child can blossom fully.

Staff Self-Care Tip of the Week – Enjoy your holidays.

Christian Meditation Insight – “This single verse from the Book of Psalms has inspired many contemplatives among the families of the biblical tradition. There is a well-known chant in Christian circles that begins with the whole verse and progressively shortens to the single word *Be*. It recalls the ‘still small voice’ or the ‘gentle breeze’ in the story of Elijah hiding in the desert and eventually finding God in stillness and silence rather than in storm and drama (1 Kings 19:12). This verse of Psalm 46 reveals the silent, often overlooked, dimension of contemplation at the heart of all religious traditions. Elijah hears, or *experiences*, an all-important question from God after the storm, fire and earthquake: *What are you doing here?* The key to the *Be Still* verse however is not in a question. God usually teaches by confronting us with questions rather than by giving answers. We prefer answers because they are easier and give us the feeling of being right. The meaning of this psalm verse, however, is in its own context.” Laurence Freeman – June 2016

Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada 2012 Calls to Action

“In order to redress the legacy of residential schools and advance the process of Canadian reconciliation, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission makes the following calls to action.

Media and Reconciliation

84. We call upon the federal government to restore and increase funding to the CBC/Radio-Canada, to enable Canada’s national public broadcaster to support reconciliation, and be properly reflective of the diverse cultures, languages, and perspectives of Aboriginal peoples, including, but not limited to: ii. Increasing equitable access for Aboriginal peoples to jobs, leadership positions, and professional development opportunities within the organization.

Twenty-first Century Learning

<https://laurencefreeman.me/> > Father Laurence Freeman posts beautiful reflections that can be uplifting to the heart

<http://www.livingfaith.com/> > daily reflections to help you through the day

<https://www.kathrynshirey.com/> > subscribe to Prayer and Possibility > a daily blog for praying people

<http://theturtleislandnews.com/> the news from an indigenous perspective

www.biblestudytools.com

www.gratefulness.org > subscribe to this daily email to provide yourself with messages of gratefulness

<http://wccm.org/> > World Community for Christian Meditation > This is a site for Christian Meditation for teachers and students alike.

www.CARFLEO.com > best kept secret for religious education teachers of every grade

<https://www.facinghistory.org/educator-resources> > Resources for teaching difficult topics in history

Saints Kit – All the saints of the Roman Calendar and More by Sister Mary Kathleen Glavich, S.N.D., and other Sisters of Notre Dame, Chardon

“St. Cyril of Alexandria - June 27th What would a saint born in the land of camels, pyramids, and the Great Sphinx be like? Cyril was born in Alexandria, the famous Egyptian centre of learning. Little is known about his early life. We know he became archbishop of Alexandria when his uncle, the former archbishop, died. During his first years in this position, he was quite strict, sometimes even severe, with heretics and other people who caused trouble for the Christians of his diocese. As he grew older and gained more experience, he grew in compassion and forgiveness. Cyril became famous for his action at the Council of Ephesus. He tried very hard to make the heretic Nestorius understand that Christ was truly God and man united as one person. He defended the teaching that Mary is the Mother of God, and insisted on calling her Theotokos, a Greek name meaning “God-bearer” or “Mother of God.” Several bishops who sided with Nestorius succeeded in having Cyril sent to prison. They called him the heretic. Three representatives from the pope arrived in Ephesus in time to save Cyril from further trouble. Because of his long, hard struggle with heretics and his forceful writing about doctrine, Cyril was named a Doctor of the Church. He is also known as the Doctor of the Incarnation. *St. Cyril, pray that we grow in love for Mary, Mother of God!*” Card 78

CATHOLIC I.Q. – Quizzes for Fun and Learning by Pat Carter csj

1. This feast celebrates Jesus’ return to heaven.

- A. Pentecost **B. Ascension** C. Easter D. none of these

2. The Sundays after Pentecost Sunday are referred to as _____.

- A. Casual B. Lazy **C. Ordinary** D. Lenten

3. All human beings are good because they are created in the image and likeness of

- A. their parents **B. God** C. their elders D. dinosaurs

4. The virtues that come to us from God are

- A. faith B. hope C. love **D. all of these**

5. How do we know we are in relationship with God?

- A. we pray B. we love others C. we celebrate at Church **D. all of these**

CATHOLIC I.Q. – Quizzes for Fun and Learning by Pat Carter csj

1. The feast of the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ used to be called

- A. Holy Trinity B. Sacred Heart C. Te Deum D. Corpus Christi

2. Mary, the Mother of Jesus, is also known as

- A. Our Lady of Lourdes B. Our Lady of Fatima C. Our Lady of Peace D. all of these

3. When the priest wears red vestments it is a sign that the mass is for
A. martyrs B. saints C. ordinary time D. Holy Thursday
4. The feast of the Immaculate Heart is a feast dedicated to
A. Joseph B. Mary C. Jesus D. none of these
5. There are _____ number of week of Ordinary Time in the liturgical calendar.
A. variable B. thirty C. thirty-two D. thirty-four

Taking Jesus to the Movies ...A blog by Sister Pat

Cold Pursuit – I watched this movie because Liam Neeson is in it. It is a revenge film. The violence portrayed in this movie is so pointless. I realize that it is real and active in the world. There are characters in the movie that are stereotypical. The only character I really related to was the young boy. He loved classical music and just wanted to be loved. I give this movie ❤️❤️❤️/5 hearts.

A Blog for Eclectic Readers – by Pat Carter csj

What We Don't Discuss - A Teacher's Guide to Death and Dying by Laura Saunders. This book is an excellent resource for teachers and parents could use it as well. Every principal ought to purchase a copy for his/her staff. It is written by a Canadian teacher who has done extensive work in the field. It is written in teacher friendly language. If you are nervous about talking about Death and Dying, this is a resource to add to your professional collection. It can be purchased from www.pacifiedgepublishing.com. I give this book 😊😊😊😊😊/5 happy faces

"Catholic WORD of the Week – For Those Who Read to the end...Just like the credits at the movies

"Jehovah – In the time (c. the third century B.C.E.), out of reverence and in part out of fear, the Jews refrained from enunciating God's proper name, Yahweh. In its stead they read and said "Adonai" (my Lord). As a prompter to this usage, they pointed the consonants of the word "Yahweh" with the vowels of the word "Adonai." Hence, the hybrid word found in earlier English versions and elsewhere, viz., "Jehovah," grew out of a combination of the consonants YHWH with the vowels of "Adonai", i.e., a-o-a. The first "a" was modified to "e," since it was to be pronounced with the first consonant "y," which is not a guttural. The word is not authentic, deriving as it does from a completely mistaken notion." Our Sunday Visitor's Catholic Encyclopedia, pages 530

Church Signs – these signs actually appeared on church properties.

"Ketchup with Jesus and relish his love." <https://sayingsforchurchsigns.com/categories/funny-humorous/>