

CLOSING PRAYER:

**~ A Prayer before receiving
the Eucharist ~**

**Give me,
O loving Lord,
a full faith and fervent charity,
a love of you, O Lord,
a love incomparable above the love of myself;
and grant, O Lord,
that I love nothing to your displeasure,
but everything in an order to you.**

**Take from me, O Lord,
this lukewarm fashion —
or rather, this cold manner of meditation,
and this dullness in praying to you.**

**Give me warmth,
delight,
and life
in thinking about you.
And give me your grace
to long for your holy sacraments —
and specially to rejoice
in the presence of
your blessed body and blood,
my Savior Christ,
in the holy sacrament of the altar,
and to duly thank you
for your gracious coming.**

Amen.

—St. Thomas More

Our Lady Chapel



Our Lady Chapel is a Roman Catholic community founded in the love of the Father, centered in Christ, and rooted in the Holy Cross tenets of building family and embracing diversity. We are united in our journey of faith through prayer and sacrament, and we seek growth through the wisdom of the Holy Spirit in liturgy and outreach, while responding to the needs of humanity.

CAMPUS MINISTRY OFFICE:

The Campus Ministry Office is located in **Our Lady Chapel**.
phone: [440] 473-3560 [office] or 216-570-9276 [cell].
e-mail: blazekj@gilmour.org

FATHER JOHN CONTINUES TO RECOVER:

Father John had open heart surgery last Tuesday, June 6th. The surgery was successful, and the surgeon was very pleased with how everything went. We are happy to report that things are going as expected! During Father’s time of recuperation, **Saturday evening Masses will be cancelled; they will resume on Saturday, August 19th. Sunday morning Mass will continue to take place throughout this time at 10 AM. Father John Keenan, S.S.S., a Blessed Sacrament Priest, will be the presider for our Sundays in June.** If any further changes need to be made to this schedule, we will certainly inform you. In the mean time, please continue to hold Father John in prayer for his speedy recovery. **Welcome, Fr. Kennan, and thank you for your service to our community during this time!**



ENTRANCE TO THE CHAPEL:

Due to the construction around the Commons, the entrance by Fr. John’s office [double white doors] has been closed to all traffic. **Please enter the Chapel and/or offices at the main front entrance only, by the Shrine.** Thank you.

CHAPEL OUTDOOR PICNIC — SUNDAY, JULY 9:

Put this date aside; mark your calendars! Our Chapel Outdoor Picnic is Sunday, July 9th. Every year, the Chapel picnic has been a great event for the entire family. The picnic will be held rain or shine from **11:15 AM – 1:30 PM. Family Mass takes place at 10:00 AM** and the picnic begins right after Mass — what a wonderful way to continue our celebration of community. **This year, due to construction around Tudor House, the Picnic will take place on the grounds behind the Lower School, at 35001 Cedar Rd.** Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Pulled Chicken, Baked Beans, Cole Slaw, Potato Salad, Ice-cream treats, Cookies, and beverages are provided. So here it comes once again. It will be a great event for the entire family. **Families are asked to sign up on the Easel in the vestibule of the chapel. Please feel free to bring your favorite side dish or desert if you wish.** Come and enjoy family and friends. **Swiftly and a face-painter friend will join us, as will the Euclid Beach Rocket Car.** In order to properly prepare for our picnic, we ask that you please **RSVP by July 2nd to Patty [440-473-3560]** in the chapel office, or simply **sign the sheet on the easel in the narthex of the chapel.**



COME TO THE FEST — AUGUST 6th:

Join us on **Sunday, August 6, 2023** to enjoy the BEST national Christian artists — **Katy Nichole, Big Daddy Weave, Jeremy Camp, and Chris Tomlin** — along with inspiring displays and vendors, and amazing activities, inflatables, rock walls and entertainment for the kids and grandkids, Marc’s Moms Station & the Man Cave. There is plenty of **FREE parking near the seminary.** Find out all the details by going to: www.theFEST.us. Even if you can’t make it during the day, **join Bishop Malesic at 8 PM for an inspiring outdoor Mass, followed by fireworks.** This year’s is also the Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord — “Jesus took Jesus took Peter, James, and his brother, John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light, and they were very much afraid. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Rise, and do not be afraid.” As we come together for The FEST, it’s a moment where we, together, climb the holy mountain to spend time with the Lord. Jesus calls us out each of us to “Rise, and do not be afraid.”



PRAYER REQUESTS:

Jesus calls us to pray for one another. Please keep all these people in your prayers.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

- For Megan Schaefer Wenker [‘09], who is undergoing treatment for lung cancer.
- For Anna Heryak, aunt for Mike Heryak, great aunt of Lilian Heryak Tran [‘09], Rosa [‘12] and Edwin [‘17] Heryak, who is under the care of Hospice.
- For Sharon Wilson, wife of Brother Ken’s nephew, who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Ralph Elwart, who is undergoing treatment for pancreatic cancer.
- For William Schiedel, who is experiencing complications with cancer treatments.
- For Janis Barnes who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Frank Potenziani, former Trustee, and father of David [‘95] and Cyrena [‘01] Potenziani, who is seriously ill.
- For Gia Cefferati, aunt of Rylyn [‘23] and Jackson [‘25] Anderson, who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Carl Grassi, father of US Science instructor, Jessica Simonetta [‘05] and grandfather of Clare Simonetta [‘39], who continues to recover from open heart surgery.
- For Bob Anderson, grandfather of Rob Belknap [‘21], and father of former Gilmour instructor, Cindy Anderson., who is recovering from serious surgery.
- For Joe Bucar, housekeeping employee, who is undergoing treatment for Parkinson’s Disease
- For Gail Whitworth, sister of Father Dick Rutherford, C.S.C., who is experiencing serious health issues.
- For Susan Lennon, wife of John Lennon [‘55], grandmother of Jimmy [‘30] and Katelyn [‘32] Lennon, who is recovering from leg amputation surgery
- For John Lennon [‘55], grandmother of Jimmy [‘30] and Katelyn [‘32] Lennon, who is recovering from hip replacement surgery.
- For Tim LaGanke, grandfather of Casey Lennon [‘30], who is critically ill with Lymphoma.
- For Kathy DeMarco, sister of Chapel Associate, Patty Szaniszló, who is recovering from hip replacement surgery.
- For Vivian Klick, mother of Linda Monitello, grandmother of Anthony [‘17] and Angeline [‘19] Monitello, who is undergoing medical testing.
- For Father John who is recovering from open heart surgery.

FOR THE DECEASED:

- For Jimmy and Barbara Bond, great uncle and great aunt of Father Jarrod Waugh, C.S.C.
- For Colton Bond, cousin of Jarrod Waugh, C.S.C.
- For Carolann Toomey, sister of Lower School Associate Director, Kathy Gang Rini.
- For Brother Donald Blauvelt, C.S.C.

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS:

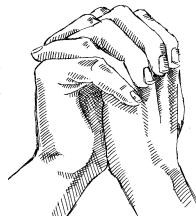
- For our Canadian neighbors, and all those suffering the effects of the numerous wildfires.
- For the people of Sudan.
- For the victims of the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria; for their families and all the first responders.
- For the Holy Cross Religious in Haiti, and for the people of that country, which is under siege because of political and civil strife.
- For a greater respect for human life, from the moment of conception until natural death.
- For all service men and women serving our country, and for their families.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Jesus calls us to pray for one another. Please keep all these people in your prayers.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

- For Dale Rusnik, uncle of Jakob Bennish ['30], who is undergoing treatment for various medical issues.
- For Kathy and Jim Pender, parents of Mark ['83] and Michael ['90] Pender, grandparents of Matthew ['11], Charlotte ['13] Pender, and Katherine ['17] and Tyler ['19] Clark, who are both seriously ill with health issues.
- For Kevin Kennedy, who is undergoing treatment for pancreatic and lung cancer.
- For Maria Ruiz, mother of Elina Gurney, grandmother of Joseph and Christina Gurney, who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Susan Vance-Johnson, sister of Chief Advancement Strategy Officer, Ray Murphy, who is undergoing treatment for pancreatic cancer.
- For Chuck Shade, father of Loren Shade, grandfather of Michael, Madeline, and Charles Shade, who is in seriously ill with several health issues.
- For Chuck Campanella, father of Anthony Campanella, who continues in rehab following serious surgery.
- For Bill McGinley, father of Chief Academic Officer, Elizabeth Edmondson, and grandfather of Mollie ['21] and Abby ['23] Edmondson, who is undergoing health treatment.
- For Laurie Lozier, sister of Fathers Bill and Jim Lies, C.S.C, who has been diagnosed with an aggressive form of dementia.
- For Kim Clark, who is undergoing treatment for an aggressive form of cancer.
- For Paula Smith, mother of Tyler ['10] and Alec ['13] Smith, who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Andy Andino, Sr., father of Music Director, Andy Andino, who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Jill Shemory, mother of Adam ['08], who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Carol Lowen, mother of Denise Shade, grandmother of Madeline, Michael, and Charles Shade, who is undergoing treatment for Breast Cancer.
- For Baylea O'Brian, friend of former Gilmour Teacher, Erin Thompson, who is undergoing treatment for Hodgkins Lymphoma
- For Walter Carey, who is undergoing treatment for leukemia.
- For Carol Triplett, sister of Linda McGraw, who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Judy Collins, aunt of Chief Academic Officer, Elizabeth Edmondson, great-aunt of Mollie ['21] and Abbie ['23] Edmondson, who is undergoing treatment for brain cancer.
- For Susan Plavcan, sister-in-law of Linda McGraw, who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For James Law, husband of LS resource associate, Elana Law, who is undergoing treatment for non-Hodgkin's lymphoma
- For Fletcher Linsz, brother of Logan Linsz ['26], who is undergoing treatment for Hodgkin's Lymphoma.
- For Michael Nestor ['98], who is undergoing treatment for a rare form of cancer.
- For Bernice Girgash, aunt of Basketball Coach and Counselor, Dan DeCrane, and great-aunt of Mackenzie DeCrane ['36], who is undergoing treatment for cancer..
- For Melita Chiacchiari, mother of Mark ['94], mother-in-law of Michelle DeBacco ['96], grandmother of Aurelia ['28], and Olivia ['30] Chiacchiari, who is undergoing further treatment for cancer.
- For Mike Heryak, husband of Janet, father of Lillian ['09], Rosa ['12] and Edwin ['17] Heryak, who is seriously ill.



NEXT BIBLE STUDY — WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21st:

Our next Virtual Bible Study will be on Wednesday, June 21st at 6:30 PM. Bible Study continues to meet bi-weekly. The Bible Study is open to everyone — all middle and high school students, college students, young adults, and all adults. We will all come together to be enriched by God's word. It's a great time, and a good witness of our faith to others. If you can't come at 6:30, come when you can. Gather your favorite snack and/or drink, but be prepared to be nourished on God's word.



Our topic: Leisure Time and Vacation in Scripture

We also need your help — we need future topics. **So, if you have a topic that you would like us to discuss, please let Father John know.** Mark your calendars and be part of this wonderful activity that will deepen your spiritual journey. **We will meet every other week — topic to be decided at the end of the previous meeting.** Join us. You'll have a blast, and celebrate your faith along the way..

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday, June 11: Body & Blood of Jesus	10:00 AM In Person & Live Stream
Monday, June 12:	NO MASS
Tuesday, June 13: St. Anthony of Padua	NO MASS
Wednesday, June 14:	NO MASS
Thursday, June 15:	NO MASS
Friday, June 16: The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus	NO MASS
Saturday, June 17: 11th Week in Ordinary Time	NO MASS
Sunday, June 18: 11th Week in Ordinary Time	10:00 AM In Person & Live Stream

PLAY BALL!

The deadline to sign up for the Captain's Game is getting close. **Final day to RSVP is Monday, June 19th.**

We will be going to Classic Park to watch the Lake County Captains take on Fort Wayne Tin Caps on **Friday, June 30th**. Game time is **7:00 PM**. **Tickets are \$25.00 each and include game ticket, picnic dinner and postgame 4th of July fireworks.** The picnic begins at **6:30 PM** and will continue until 8 PM. Sign up on the easel in the narthex. Or contact Patty in the Chapel Office at 440-473-3560 or by email: szaniszlop@gilmour.org.

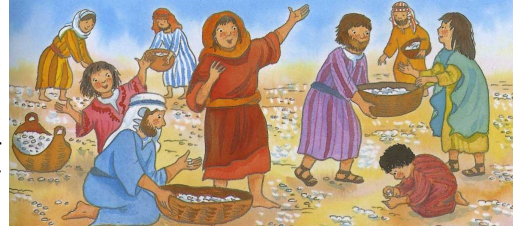


REFLECTION FOR THE WEEK:

It was St. Thomas Aquinas who wrote the words to the beautiful song about the Eucharist, *Tantum Ergo*: “where our feeble senses fail”. The Body and Blood of Jesus is certainly a mystery, and our feeble intellects bend the knee before the very thought of it as well. After all, the Eucharist is the “Central Mystery of our faith.”

At the heart of this mystery is our desire for the grace to receive Christ’s reception of us into His Body. In the Eucharist, Christ makes us “an everlasting gift’ to His Father. Having been given this gift, we are called to live the identification that Jesus offers us to be — to live as the Body that we share with Him. As believers in the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist, we place our feeble senses and intellects at the foot of the altar and surrender our judgments — but not our attempts to figure it all out. If Jesus wants to remain with us and nourish us and encourage us in this way — well, who are we to argue?

Moses is taking his Israelite community on a trip down Memory Lane. This “Lane” was their journey for forty years in the desert. He is asking them to remember God’s faithfulness to them during that time of affliction, hunger, and thirst. He is asking them to look backwards so that they might journey into their futures as faithful people, obedient to the laws and customs God has given them [Deuteronomy 8:2-3,7-16].



Twice Moses reminds them that God had fed them with a bread “Unknown to their ancestors.” Though they did not understand the nature of this bread, because they were hungry they ate it, and were strengthened for their journey. They have a further walk — of faith, not of geography. They are to remember God’s faithfulness to them in the past so that they might be moved to be faithful in their futures. The land they are to possess will be bountiful with water and food, but this plentifulness might be a temptation to forget the bountifulness of the Giver. They might not have known the bread of manna; thus they have to trust. They will know the bread and wine of the fields they will cultivate, and so will be less moved to enjoy them as a faith encounter.

In John’s Gospel, Jesus, as Moses did, is inviting His Jewish listeners to move beyond the limitations of their senses and their capacities to understand [John 6:51-58]. Jesus has just fed the five thousand with five loaves and two fish. John’s Gospel does not have an Institutional Narrative of the Eucharist, but here in the teaching of Jesus, he offers a thorough understanding of the Eucharistic Bread — His Body.

John’s Jesus has made many dramatic “I Am” statements — He is “Light”, “Living Water”, “The Way, The Truth and The Life”, “and now he is offering Himself as the “Bread of Life” come down from heaven — as did the manna. Moses had offered new life in the new land — but only if the Jews would obey God’s commands. Jesus is offering “Eternal Life” to those who would obey His command to eat and live what they receive.

I have just returned to my room after being called to the kitchen because of a little flood around the sink. We could not figure out how it happened. While mopping up the final puddle, someone pronounced that in life there are many mysteries with which we all have to live.

The difference between a mystery and a problem or puzzle is important. If we would call the plumber, we would — for a price — find out what caused the flood. The Eucharist is a problem or puzzle for some — as it was for the Jews with whom Jesus is speaking. We who have heard and believe can stumble and bumble around trying to make some sense out of it, but not even the plumber — no matter how much we would pay him — could satisfy our demanding minds concerning the Eucharist. We in our days eat a Bread our fathers and mothers received and ate without their knowing, but they did believe.

PARTICIPATION MAKES DEMANDS:

Beware, lest literal interpretations blind you to deeper realities! The most incontrovertible way to identify any of us is our DNA. Precise as all that may be, such information tells others precious little about who we really are. Our mother tongue, cultural context, experience, and record of recent phone calls will tell others much more about us than a genetic code. Genes are just the raw material we combine with circumstances and relationships to shape who we are.

Even without knowing my Irish last name, if I invited you to a party and promised to serve corned beef and cabbage, you could easily guess the date of the celebration. That’s the sort of subtle information John gives his people in his Gospel. When John writes about bread, flesh and blood, his Jewish audience immediately imagines unleavened bread and manna, a roasted lamb, and door lintels painted with blood — the Passover and the Exodus.

One of John’s favorite storytelling ploys has people misinterpret Jesus so that he can respond — often in metaphors — always with the intention of drawing them into ever-deepening relationship with him. Throughout Chapter 6 of his Gospel, John explores Jesus’ description of himself as the bread of life. John’s Jewish readers would have understood that everything Jesus said after that phrase got its meaning from the context of the Passover and Exodus. The bread, the blood, and the flesh/meat were treasured, holy symbols of God’s covenant and love for them. Moreover, bread — the unleavened bread and the manna — linked their liberation from death and slavery in Egypt to God’s care for them in the desert.

It’s worth asking what so upsets the people in this scene [John 6:51-58]. When Jesus said: “I am the living bread,” he wasn’t referring to flour and water. He was telling them that he was sent to them by God, like the manna in the desert, but much more. The crowd that heard this had to choose whether or not to believe in him and his teaching about God, their father. When they faced Jesus in all his stark simplicity and humanity, they were confronted by his scandalous offer of union with God and his demand that they love one another. Many turned away. It was too simple and too demanding.

What was too simple — for many, then and now — is that God comes so near us. It feels scandalous that God wants to be for us like food — to nourish us as a mother nourishes her unborn child. In Jesus’ offer to be our bread of life, God comes as close to us as possible. For some people, that is just too close for comfort. A distant God — even a fearsome God — can be easier to deal with than one who desires such intimacy.

God’s simple presence to us also implies a demand. Paul explains the demand of the Eucharist in his letter to the Corinthians. He asks: “The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ?” [1 Corinthians 10:16-17]. The key word here is participation. Those who wish to be nourished by Christ’s body and blood are called into communion with his lifestyle. Participation in his body and blood demands offering our lives as he did.

We pray: “When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death, until you come again.” Those words commit us. For the followers of Jesus, verbal proclamations are meaningless unless they reflect the life of the speaker. Our way of life must reflect his or our proclamation is empty. St. Augustine explained this with the formula he used when distributing Communion. He would say: “Receive what you are and be what you receive.” We are to become what we eat. That is the demand of participation.

—taken from the writings of Sister Mary McGlone, C.S.J., which appears on the internet



I also offered our chapel to him. He was very grateful and was so happy to hear that we were going to be praying for him.

By the time I was able to go back into the chapel we were at the “breaking of the bread” after the Our Father. We were about to go up to receive Communion. I wasn’t sure if I was able to receive or not. So when I went up to the priest I simply asked him if I had missed too much of the Mass. He asked me if I was there for the Our Father. I told him no and He said that I couldn’t receive. I was kind of sad as I went back to my seat and began to pray and thank God for the man that I met. But then something hit me — I did receive Christ! I didn’t get to receive him in the Eucharist, but I got to receive him through the man I had met! The conversation I had was such a blessing — I felt like I was able to receive Christ through him! As I thought about this, I felt such an overwhelming sense of peace. It made perfect sense.

I remembered what St. Matthew wrote in his Gospel: “For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you made me welcome, lacking clothes and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me” [Matthew 25:35-36]. This man was simply in need of someone to talk to about his current struggles — someone to be open to talking to him even though it meant missing Mass. God was able to counsel him through our conversation, and through that I was able to receive Christ through him.

To this day I am still amazed at and praying into what this means, but so far all I understand is this simple thing — Christ loves us so much that He gave us His body and blood in the Eucharist and He loves us so much that He wants to be with us completely. But besides that, God puts people in our lives so that we can receive Him. The way I see it is that the Eucharist is the “main course.” But every single person we meet is a chance for another portion — maybe a “side dish” or “dessert”. Every time we talk to someone we have the chance to receive Him! It’s amazing how God is constantly giving Himself to us.

My challenge to you is — are you going to receive him? Are you just going to look at the Eucharist or that person in Walmart and simply take it for granted? Or are you going to walk down the aisle to the Eucharist and truly see yourself as receiving the bridegroom? When you meet someone, are they just a homeless person, store clerk, delivery person? Or is he/she another opportunity to receive Christ, and to give Christ to others? I challenge you to truly receive Christ, in whatever way He wants to give Himself to you. Remember what Matthew wrote: “For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you made me welcome, lacking clothes and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me.”

—taken from the writings of Felix Caro, an associate of the Bible Geek.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

- Monday:** 2 Corinthians 1:1-7, Matthew 5:1-12
- Tuesday:** Isaiah 61:1-3d, Luke 10:1-9
- Wednesday:** 2 Corinthians 3:4-11, Matthew 5:17-19
- Thursday:** 2 Corinthians 3:15-4:1, 3-6, Matthew 5:20-26
- Friday:** Deuteronomy 7:6-11 & 1 John 4:7-16, Matthew 11:25-30
- Saturday:** Isaiah 61:9-11, Luke 2:41-51

11th Week in Ordinary Time: Exodus 19:2-6a, Romans 5:6-11, Matthew 9:36-10:8

We, in these more scientific days of instant information, are invited to the same Table of Faith and Feeding, but we are burdened by the weights of skepticism and fearing the unknown and unknowable.

And so we are invited to enter the land of mystery — the mystery of God’s love and God’s ways. We are given our passport and Identification Wafer. When we celebrate the Eucharist — when we participate in the Eucharistic Meal — we are challenged to believe more deeply in Jesus and receive what Jesus is saying about us as individuals and His family. The person in front of you and in back is sent into that new land of faith and into the usual land of living, as you are. When we say “amen”, it is a “yes” to His presence — but to our name, our holiness and our mission. We go in peace to love and serve the Lord Who loves and continues to serve us. The Christ who came to serve and not to be served, continues His mission in our walking out into the mysteries of our flooding kitchens and the flooding world who needs Him

St. Augustine once wrote: “if you are Christ’s Body and member, then it is your mystery that you placed on the Lord’s table; you receive your mystery. You hear the words: “The Body of Christ,” and you respond, “Amen.” Then be Christ’s member that your “amen” might be true.”

—taken from the writings of Father Larry Gillick, S.J., which appear on the internet

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

We are currently discerning a new group of Eucharistic Ministers who would undergo training within the summer months. We already have students from our Junior Class at Gilmour who are preparing to enter into instruction in this Ministry. If you feel that the Lord is calling you to this ministry, we would be delighted to include you in that ministry here at Our Lady Chapel. Both adults and teens [must be going into Senior year of High School] are welcome to participate in this very special ministry. We are need of ministers for both our Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses. **Contact Father John or the chapel office [440-473-3560] if you feel called to this ministry.** We are always in need of Eucharistic Ministers.



SERVING THE LORD IN THE POOR — JUNE 17th:

Our Savior Lutheran Church, across the street from Gilmour, has a Food Pantry which distributes food to the community on **the third Saturday of each month.** They welcome volunteers. If you want to volunteer, they have instituted some **new procedures** because of the Coronavirus. **Thus they help pre-pack nonperishables in bags on Thursday evening beginning at 5 PM.** They continue this prepacking on Friday if needed. Check with Elina Gurney on this. **On Saturday morning at 9 AM, they need help putting items from the foodbank into the prepacked bags.** Only volunteers will be allowed in the Church building, so you will be protected against the virus. Clients will remain outside in their cars. **The food pantry is then open from 9:30 AM—1:30 PM on Saturday.**



Our Savior Lutheran’s Food Pantry was formed to serve those in emergency situations and/or with on-going need in the cities of Mayfield Heights, Mayfield Village, Highland Heights and Gates Mills. The Food Pantry respects social and cultural diversity and upholds the worth and dignity of those it serves. All those in the area with need will be served equally, as supplies allow. The food pantry is a member of the Greater Cleveland Food Bank.

Please let Elina Gurney know if you would like to help. You can do this through the chapel office [440-473-3560] or by emailing Elina Gurney at gurney.oh@gmail.com. This is a wonderful way to serve others. Please consider this opportunity.

RENEWING OUR EUCHARISTIC SPIRITUALITY:

The Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament, in conjunction with St. Paschal Baylon Parish, is hosting a weekend conference on *Renewing Our Eucharistic Spirituality*, Friday, August 4th - Sunday, August 6th.

St. Paschal Baylon Parish is located at 5384 Wilson Mills Road Highland Heights, 44143. Featured Speakers include: Bishop Michael Woost, Auxiliary Bishop of Cleveland; Father Norman Pelletier SSS, former Superior General of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament; Sister Catherine Marie Caron SSS, former Superior General of the Servants of the Blessed Sacrament; Father George Dunne SSS, Dublin, Ireland, former Provincial Superior, Province of Great Britain; Brother Michael Perez SSS, former Novice Master; Father John Thomas Lane SSS, Provincial Superior; and Father Darren Maslen SSS, Great Britain; and Mrs. Evamarie Cross, Youth Minister. Contact St. Paschal Baylon Parish to register.

**COMING HOME TO SELF:**

We are a culture of misfits — not because there is anything wrong with us as a people, but because we are accustomed to becoming things we aren't. So, we don't fit into our own souls. Our schools put out students to fit the economy, for instance, rather than the heart. Good thinkers go into accounting rather than philosophy because accounting pays more. Fine writers go into law because law is more prestigious. Young people with artistic talent go into computer science because computer programming or hotel management or engineering are full of "opportunities" — read "money" — that a water-colorist lacks.



The problem is that when we do not do what we are clearly made to do, we are doomed. We spend the rest of our lives looking for the missing piece of ourselves that we lost before we knew we had it. Then we wonder why the work we do bores us — no matter how many cars we have, no matter how beautiful the vacation house may be. We can't figure out why we still feel restless about life. We wonder what it is that isn't right — the schedule, the children, the marriage, the place.

We lose a taste for life.

Then, it is time to give ourselves the space and means to become again. We need to rearrange the furniture of life to make way for the essence of life — we need to set up an easel and paint. We need to start the woodworking we always wanted to do. We need to take the courses we always wish we had. We need to join the book clubs that talk about the things we are interested in discussing. We need to begin to knit and cook and write and garden. We need to do those unfinished, unstarted, undeveloped things in us that ring the bell of bliss and authenticity. Then life will become life again, and all the rust of it will wear away. When we become what we know ourselves to be, we will come home to ourselves.

The rabbi put it this way: "Rabbi," the disciple asked, "what shall I do to be saved?" And the Rabbi said, "How should I know? Abraham practiced hospitality and was saved. Elias loved to pray and was saved. David ruled a kingdom, and God was with him. Follow the deepest inclination of your heart, and you, too, will be saved."

When we live from the inside out rather than from the outside in, everything in life begins to fit.

—taken from the writings of Sister Joan Chittister, O.S.B., which appear on the internet.

WORDS FROM POPE FRANCIS:

Life is a journey. When we stop, things don't go right.

—Pope Francis

RECEIVING CHRIST:

As a Catholic, I think the biggest blessing has to be being able to receive Jesus's body and blood in the Eucharist. Of course I didn't always see it this way. For me growing up, I saw the Eucharist as just another church thing. As I received my first communion I learned more that this was Jesus. But I am a simple boy, and there was no way I could wrap my head around the fact that this was Christ. Now, I didn't have an amazing experience when I first realized that Jesus was in the Eucharist, but I did gradually realize it slowly over time — with going to youth group and retreats and the Mass. I began to fall in love with Jesus, and if I loved Jesus, then of course I began to fall in love with the Eucharist.

I don't know when it happened, but eventually I began to find great joy in receiving Christ. I found myself feeling very peaceful and joyful after receiving him — knowing that MY GOD was literally in my body. There was no way we could get any closer. What an amazing gift! I realized that the more I went to Mass — and as I walked down the aisle to receive him — I began to think of myself going to receive my spouse during a wedding. I must admit that this was a little weird at first, but it made the moment so much more intimate. I found myself being unable to stop smiling after receiving Him. I was in love — this was my God, and He was my strength. He was who I depended on. Of course that feeling isn't always there. Now, it fades in and out, but I continue to remind myself that "This is my God" — He is giving Himself to me so that I may be one with Him.

One of the hardest things about being Catholic is not being able to receive Jesus. It's always intimidating when you can't receive Jesus's body and blood for whatever reason. We begin to worry about "what are people going to think of me?" Will they think I'm in mortal sin? Will they know I'm in mortal sin? What if they judge me? What do they think I did? Maybe I'll just receive anyways, or I'll just go to the bathroom right before we go to receive. Maybe others don't think of this — maybe it's just me — but either way it's pretty ridiculous how we worry about our image when going to receive Christ! Even if it's just in a blessing from the priest.

The other day I was at our District office in Atlanta. For those of you who don't know what that is, it's the Life Teen offices in Atlanta that is also a store, and a place to hang out for groups who want to come and do bible studies or small events like that. We also have a chapel with Jesus in the Tabernacle — so sometimes we have priest who comes in and does Mass for us. On this day, we were having Mass — but I was in the middle of a meeting. We ended our meeting and I was able to make it to Mass for the gospel. I was so happy because I knew I would be able to receive the Eucharist — I really had felt that I missed my chance. All of a sudden we heard a deep "Hello?!" — coming from the store part of office. Since I just slid into the chapel, I was the closest to the door, so I slipped back out, to see who it was and how I could help them.

It turned out to be a delivery man who was simply delivering a package. I signed for the package and asked him how his day was going. We had small talk while he looked at some of the pocket prayer stones that we have for sale on the front counter. He began to tell me a really touching story of him and his wife. He has been with his wife since he was sixteen years old. During this entire time, she has had asthma — and in the later years she has had to wear hearing aids. But recently one night they were lying in bed and she told him that her heart started to hurt. They went to the hospital, and the next day when he came and visited her she had no idea who he was. The delivery man went on to say that since that time, his wife has remembered a bit more of her memory, but now has different things going on in her mind — things like hearing voices, and thinking her husband is someone else, and that they are living in a different country. Crazy things like that. I was able to talk to him and share some bible verses with him. By the time the conversation ended, I invited him back any time he just needed someone to talk to. I also

