

Bethany Charismatic Catholic Church

July 2020

Vol. 24, Issue 7



Chapel of Mercy

Bishop: THE MOST REV. RAYMOND CONTOIS
Assistant Pastor: FATHER JUDE PAIYAGALA BADUGE DON
Deacon: REV. MR. ROBERT MORRISSETTE
Deacon: REV. MR. PAUL LAFLAMME

"At Bethany there is no Past, only the Present and Future Hope !"

A noteworthy preacher on the West Coast once recounted a story from his youth. When he was growing up, drought ravaged the family farm. The family prayed for rain that never came. His father, who normally harvested 100 wagons of corn, reaped only a half wagon full. Reflecting on the experience, the preacher said, "I'll never forget it. His calloused hands holding ours as he looked and prayed, 'Thank you Lord, I've lost nothing. I've regained all the seed I planted in spring and so I will be able to plant again.' While other farmers were saying, 'We lost 90 or 100 loads,' my father told me, 'Never count the might-have-beens or you'll be defeated. Never look at what you lost, only at what you have left.'" What wonderful and insightful advice. His father was a wise man.

Holy Scripture reminds us to give God thanks "in all things." Note that it does not advise us to give thanks "for" all things but "in" all things. In other words, maintain a grateful heart, because as we think so shall the realities of our existence unfold. Our perceptions, of our circumstances and of others, shape our reactions and behaviors, which in turn create our future both here and in the hereafter.

A grateful heart never sees lack but only opportunity. The glass truly is never half empty but rather half full. A grateful heart recognizes that however dark the night might be we may look forward to the coming of the dawn.

Notice that resentment can never take root in a grateful heart. There is no room for anger, bitterness and negative criticism. Rather there is an excitement and eagerness that manifests itself in a zest for life and in a love of others. There is a true sense of joy and "wonderment", even in everyday and seemingly mundane experiences.

People with grateful hearts are not overcome by the challenges life brings. They learn or discern the opportunity which a challenge may bring, then act on it and move on. They do not reinforce the negative by dwelling on it or engaging in rationalizations which usually makes matters worse.

Notice, too, that people are drawn to those whose lives are grateful. Gratitude, and its accompanying joy, brings out the best in others and enables others to experience a more fulfilling life. Spouses would tend not to focus on each other's faults, which we all have, but on the good qualities that brought them together when they met. Parents would exercise greater patience with their children, remembering their own youthful transition. Co-workers would be more helpful and productive and less likely to be concerned with the poor work performance of other co-workers. Spirituality would be exciting and fulfilling rather than something tedious and obligatory.

So, today count your blessings. Thank God for what you have rather than complain about what you don't have. Understand that your challenges are an opportunity for growth and fulfillment. Accept yourself and make the best of each day that is given you. Do not concern yourself with the shortcomings of others, but see others as the Father sees them. Learn gratitude and you will find life to be the great gift and creative experience it was intended to be. Peace!

In His Light,

Bishop Raymond Contois

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Just 1 mile off route 20

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WEEKLY MASSES

Saturday - - Cancelled

Sunday - 9:00 AM *

Wednesday* - Cancelled



RECONCILIATION & PASTORAL MEETINGS

By Appointment (413) 324-1164



July Schedule

Eucharistic Ministers Ministers of the Word

5th	Clergy Only		Paula M, Beth	
12th	Clergy Only		Sandy, Heather	
19th	Clergy Only		Darryl, Beth	
26th	Clergy Only		Ron, Jayne	

Notify Deacon Paul 24 hours in advance if you are unable to serve.

Bethany Food Drive

We will continue collecting non-perishable food items for area food pantries. Please drop off your donations of canned goods and dry goods, and leave them in the foyer. Thank You for your constant generosity.

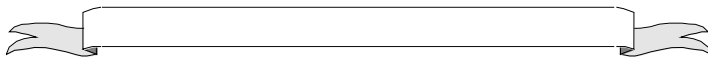


"Hunger never takes a vacation."

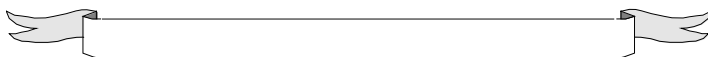


"Prayer" is not only about entering into a relationship with God; it is also about *being changed*. Healthy prayer strengthens our bond with the Creator and it also transforms us. Every encounter with God provides the opportunity to grow spiritually. Prayer makes a difference in our life because it nudges and persuades us to develop Christ like qualities in our character, attitude, thoughts and actions. Through prayer we become loving, gracious and wiser human beings. We exemplify divine Truth and Love. When this happens we are altered in a positive way and the world we touch is also changed for the better.

Remember, before the service, be silent and speak to the Lord. During the service, let the Lord speak to you. After the service, speak to one another.



Lord, make the peace we pray for a reality. May we live our days in quiet joy and, with the help of the Virgin Mary's prayers, safely reach Your kingdom. Grant this through Christ our Lord.



Be sure to Check out our Web Site at www.bethanyccc.org for more information about Bethany Charismatic Church.

Dates to Remember

July 2020



5th: SUN. 9:00 AM Outdoor Mass



12th: SUN. 9:00 AM Outdoor Mass

19th: SUN. 9:00 AM Outdoor Mass

26th: SUN. 9:00 AM Outdoor Mass

***All masses will be held outside, under our pavilion. Please dress accordingly, to the weather. "Social Distancing" rules will be in effect.**

There will be no holding of hands for the "Our Father" at our masses. The Sign of Peace is non-contact. Likewise, the Chalice will be reserved for the clergy.

Thank you for your understanding and adherence.

***(Schedule can change in a moments notice, so please check back to the website often for updates.)**

Wednesday evening masses have been CANCELLED.

Prayer Requests

"As a community, we support each other through prayer in communion with Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Please let us know of your prayer requests."



* Note *

Summer hours for Lord's Day masses. Beginning with June 13th through Labor Day. Lord's Day masses will be celebrated on Sunday mornings only, at 9:00 AM, through Labor Day. Saturday evening Masses will resume again on Sept. 12th at 4:00 PM.



"Lord, give us a perfect heart to receive your word, that we may bring forth fruit in patience."

Liturgy of the Hours

