

THEY WERE TWO DIFFERENT Sun-

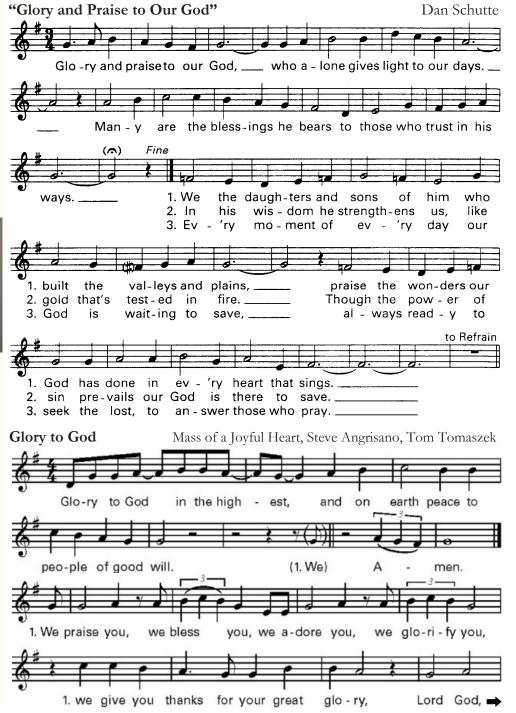
days, at Mass in different places with different communities, and two very different experiences of being welcomed. Or not welcomed, as the case may be.

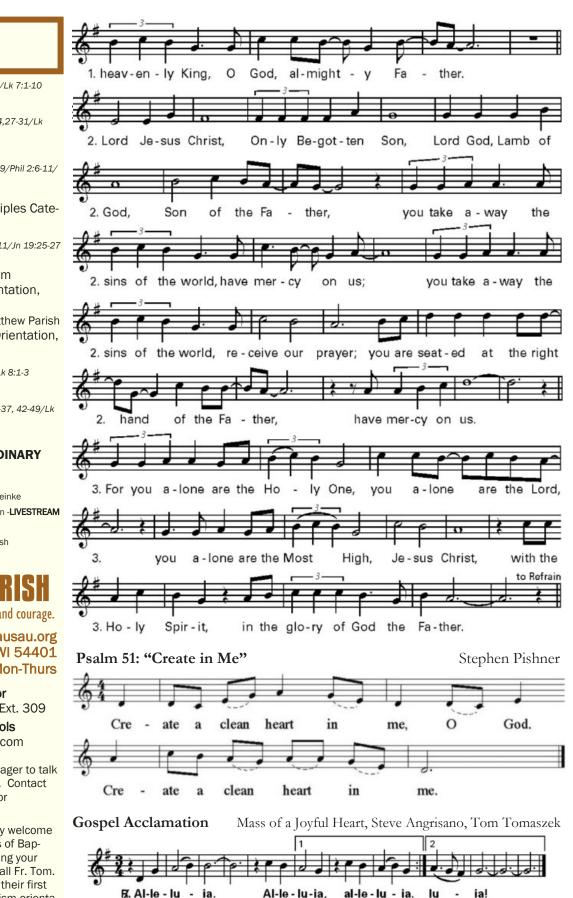
Back in June I accompanied my parents to a farewell Mass for their pastor who was returning to India. At that point it was much easier for my dad to get around in a wheelchair – he has progressed considerably since then, I am happy to report – and so we made our way to the front door. The doors were



closed and there was no one to open them; nor any switches to activate a door opener. My mom with her cane held open the door as I wheeled in my dad.

There were quite a few people milling about the entranceway, but no one clearly charged with greeting. We made our way into the church and I looked around, trying to figure out a good place to situate someone in a wheelchair. A woman holding a Lectionary, the book from which we proclaim the readings at Mass, seemed to possess some authority, so I asked her if there was a good spot for someone in a wheelchair. "Boy, we don't usually have people in wheelchairs," she said, which of course can't be true. She then pointed to a back corner. I thanked her, but suggested we could certainly do better than that. See WELCOME on Page 5





KNEELING & STANDING: Please remember that people at pews with kneelers, if able, are asked to kneel after the Holy, Holy and to stand at the Great Amen. People at chairs without kneelers, if able, are asked to remain standing - out of reverence - throughout the Eucharistic Prayer. At communion time, we remain standing, as a sign of unity, until everyone has received communion.

MONDAY 12 SEPT / 1 11:17-26, 33/Lk 7:1-10 • 6 PM - GriefShare on Zoom

🗊 This Week

TUESDAY 13 SEPT / 1 Cor 12:12-14,27-31/Lk 7:11-17

• 7 AM - Mass +Jeanette Stenzel

WEDNESDAY 14 SEPT / Nm 21:4-9/Phil 2:6-11/ Jn 3:13-17

- 8:15 AM Mass +Carol Brady
- 5:30 PM Forming Young Disciples Catechist In-service

THURSDAY 15 SEPT / 1 Cor 15:1-11/Jn 19:25-27

- 8:15 AM Mass +Katie Majeske
- 9 AM Finance Council on Zoom
- 5 PM Welcome Minister Orientation, Church
- 6 PM Community Meal, St. Matthew Parish
- 6:30 PM Welcome Minister Orientation, Church

FRIDAY 16 SEPT / 1 Cor 15:12-20/Lk 8:1-3

• 7 AM - Mass +Delphine Gabrielski

SATURDAY 17 SEPT / 1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49/Lk 8:4-15

• 9 AM Reconciliation

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 17/18 SEPT

Am 8:4-7/1Tim 2:1-8/Lk 16:1-13

- 4 PM Saturday +Lenard & Maxine Steinke
- 8:30 AM Sunday +Lawrence Rebman -LIVESTREAM
- 10:30 AM Sunday +Lillian Burish
- 6 PM Sunday -People of St. Anne Parish



715.849.3930 | stanneswausau.org 700 W. Bridge St., Wausau WI 54401 Parish Office Hours: 9A-4P Mon-Thurs

Fr. Tom Lindner, Pastor frtom@stanneswausau.org | Ext. 309

> Newman Catholic Schools NewmanCatholicSchools.com

JOINING OUR PARISH: Fr. Tom is eager to talk with you about parish membership. Contact him at *frtom@stanneswausau.org* or 849.3930.

CELEBRATING BAPTISM: We gladly welcome children to faith through the waters of Baptism. To learn more about celebrating your child's baptism, send an email or call Fr. Tom. Parents celebrating the baptism of their first child are asked to complete a baptism orientation seminar.

CELEBRATING MARRIAGE: We eagerly welcome couples seeking to celebrate the Sacrament of Marriage. Contact Fr. Tom to talk about scheduling your wedding and to learn about marriage preparation.

Profession of Faith (The Apostles' Creed)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.





REGISTRATION IS UNDER WAY

for Forming Young Disciples, the parish's Wed-



nesday night program for children in kindergarten through Grade 10. The first gathering for all students and parents will be at 6:30 Wednesday, Sept. 21 in church.

角 Stewardship

THANKS TO THOSE WHO LABOR: THANK YOU to the many parishioners whose laboring throughout the summer has allowed us to worship each Lord's Day, as well as enhanced the landscaping and environment of our church—inside and out.

Our gratitude extends to the many ministers at Mass – cantors, accompanists, welcome ministers, eucharistic ministers, readers, servers and livestream ministers, as well as gardeners, church environment ministers and others who tend to ongoing needs of the parish, whether for a season or throughout the year.

THANK YOU!



The **REALLY GOOD NEWS** is that we have pledges totaling nearly 90 percent of our *INSPIRED BY THE SPIRIT* goal.

The NOT-SO-GOOD NEWS is that those pledges are from just 16 percent of our parishioners.

But, then, the HOPEFUL NEWS is that you might be among the parishioners who have yet to make a pledge, and that this might be the week to turn hope into reality.

As you consider your pledge, here's an important reminder from John Knoll, one of our parish campaign co-chairs: *In con*sidering my family's pledge, it was important to recognize that the commitment is spread over five years, but not a onetime contribution. For those who haven't pledged yet, please consider a contribution of \$45 a month over these next five years.

Pledge forms and brochures are available at church entrances. THANK YOU!

BECOMING A CHRISTIAN. BECOMING CATHOLIC. BEING CONFIRMED.

If you're interested in learning more about Jesus, the Catholic Church, becoming a Catholic Christian and what it means to be a disciple of Jesus, we'd love to talk with you.

You might be baptized in another Christian church and be interested in becoming Catholic, or someone who has never been baptized. To learn more, contact Lee Ann Lella, a codirector of disciple formation, at leeannl@stanneswausau.org.

COMMUNITY MEALS RESUME THURSDAY:

St. Anne parishioners will resume serving Community Meals this week. These are meals served at St. Matthew Church to people of



the community who need and appreciate a nutritious meal and camaraderie. St. Anne parishioners will serve Community Meals in alternating months.

People are needed to help at the meals and to prepare desserts. If you can help make this happen or to learn more, send an email to candbgiebel@ gmail.com or dparlier77@gmail.com.

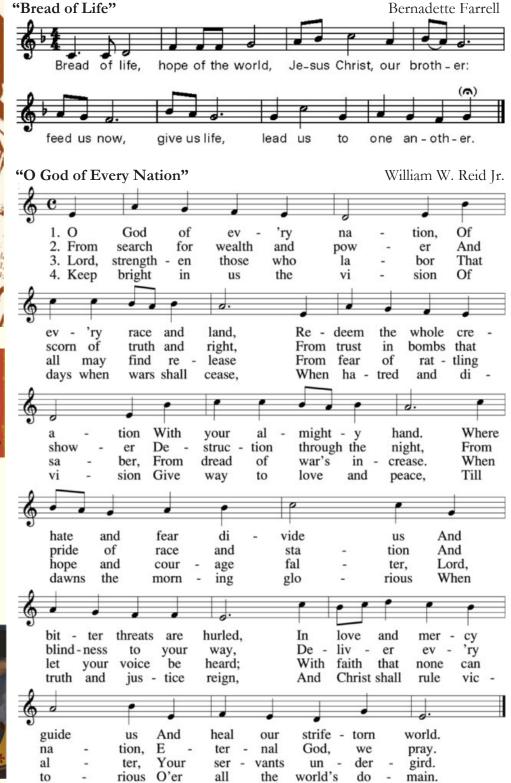
FALL BOOK CLUB: In

anticipation of a multiyear focus on the Eucharist by the U.S. Bishops, parishioners are invited to join a fall discussion of "Eucharist," a book by Bishop Robert Barron. What is the Eucharist, what are its many dimensions, what



does it mean to be a eucharistic people? These are among the questions Bishop Barron addresses and the group will discuss in every-other-week gatherings at 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays on Zoom beginning Sept. 20. If you're interested, send an email to Fr. Tom and purchase the book from a local bookseller or online.

Find links to watch the June 19 Dedication Mass, as well as photo highlights, at StAnnesWausau.org/re-imagining.



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THE SUNDAY READINGS will be read, discussed and prayed over in a weekly gathering at 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays beginning Sept. 20 in the Gathering Space. It's a great way to anticipate hearing the readings proclaimed at Mass and to gain a deeper awareness into the meaning and power of God's word. All are welcome!



WELCOME / from Page 1

Finally, I located a spot off to the side of some pews near the front. It would be a little in the way of people returning from communion, but far less isolating and remote. Dad

agreed that this was far preferable to a back corner.

Jump ahead to my vacation in

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Welcoming WELCOME MINISTERS

We hope you'll join our existing crew of excellent Welcome Ministers. Orientation for new and veteran Welcome Ministers will be at 5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 15 in church. Please consider this need and your participation.

Michigan. My friend Chris and I went to the parish in Clare. As we approached the church, there was someone greeting us with an open door. In the gathering space there were four ministers handing out worship aids and offering words of welcome. And, beyond them, yet more ministers holding open doors to the main body of the church.

It was an excellent foreshadowing of the engaging spirit of worship we'd experience throughout the celebration of Mass.

I SHARE THESE VERY DIFFERENT experiences for reasons you may have already surmised. How we welcome people and how those who join us for Mass feel welcomed, are of crucial importance. Opening the door for someone in a wheelchair is an obvious necessity. Welcoming someone with a friendly greeting and attitude is basic hospitality. It is all essential!

We recognize the importance of hospitality at St. Anne. We strive to provide for our parishioners and visitors what Chris and I experienced at that parish in Michigan. Often people who come to join the parish, when I ask why they settled upon St. Anne, will mention how welcomed they felt when they came to Mass for the first time. What if we hadn't done very

> well on that day and at that Mass, I wonder. Might they have joined another parish?

I recently received an email from someone from Eau Claire who'd worshiped with us and was full of compliments for various ministers and the skill with which they performed their ministries, as well as the "beautifully designed

church interior." But, as she noted, it's first impressions that matter, and her first impression was that of a "friendly greeter."

The importance of these ministers is obvious. To ensure that others have similar, positive first impressions, and that all of us feel welcomed when we come to Mass, we need new and more people to assist as Welcome Ministers. Also known as "ushers" or "ministers of hospitality," I have taken to calling them *Welcome Ministers* because that speaks directly to their first and most significant role – welcoming that woman from Eau Claire, my parents with limited mobility, a pastor from Wisconsin on vacation, or you.

There will be orientation for new and veteran Welcome Ministers on Thursday at 5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. in church. All adults and teens are invited and encouraged to join those who already serve our parish so well in this ministry. We look forward to welcoming you on Thursday so that you'll be ready to welcome those who join us for Mass. **TL**

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