



The Parish of Good Shepherd & St. Joseph

May 23rd, 2021

Pentecost Sunday

Church of the Good Shepherd - Rhinebeck

Weekend Mass: Saturday: 5:00 p.m. and Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.

Daily Mass: Monday through Saturday (Except Tuesday): 9:00 a.m.

Good Shepherd Church is fully accessible for the disabled.

St. Joseph Church - Rhinecliff

Sunday: 9:30 a.m.

CONFESSIONS

Monday through Friday: 8:30a.m.—8:55a.m. (except Tuesday)

Saturday: 4:00p.m.- 4:55p.m.

SPECIAL DEVOTIONS

Eucharistic Adoration every Friday from 9:30 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.

(September through June)

Miraculous Medal Novena immediately following 9:00 a.m. Mass on Monday

St. Joseph Litany and Prayer immediately following 9:00 a.m. Mass on Wednesday

Daily Rosary at 8:30 a.m. (except Tuesday)

BAPTISMS

Baptisms are conducted on weekends. Parents who have not previously attended instruction in the sacrament must do so prior to the child's Baptism.

MARRIAGES

Those seeking to marry must meet with the Pastor at least 6 months prior to the proposed wedding date to allow time for pre-marriage program attendance, gathering of appropriate documents, and securing any dispensation from ecclesial authorities.

RECTORY OFFICE

3 Mulberry Street, Rhinebeck, NY 12572

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PASTOR

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COLLECTION REPORT

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EnCourage

EnCourage is a Catholic Apostolate for those who have family members with same-sex attraction. EnCourage provides the faithful with information about the Church's teachings as well as spiritual support. Visit: www.encourageny.com

PARISHIONER UPDATE

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Change of Address Moving out of Parish

Home Visit Requested Need Envelopes

Please fill out and cut form. Return it through the Collection Basket or by mail to the Rectory Office. New registrants are invited to visit the Rectory during office hours to receive the registration form and information on parish activities.

MASS INTENTIONS

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| Saturday 9:00 A.M. 5:00 P.M. | May 22 Easter Weekday Souls of the Faithful Departed † req by Kevin McCloskey Raymond, Gary & Barry Lutz † req by Betty Lutz |
| Pentecost Sunday | |
| Sunday 8:00 A.M. 11:15 A.M. 9:30 A.M. | May 23 Pentecost Sunday Major Mary C. Kelly, USA † req by Ginny & Pat Sidorik John Grady † req by Joan Grady Carmen & Joan Calenti † req by Maria Clark |
| Monday 9:00 A.M. | May 24 The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church Margaret Brennan † req by Kevin McCloskey |
| Tuesday | May 25 Saint Bede, the Venerable, Priest No Mass |
| Wednesday 9:00 A.M. | May 26 Saint Philip Neri, Priest Pro Populo |
| Thursday 9:00 A.M. | May 27 Weekday Charles Dionysius † req by Maria Clark |
| Friday 9:00 A.M. | May 28 Weekday Peg Hunt † req by Kevin McCloskey |
| Saturday 9:00 A.M. 5:00 P.M. | May 29 Saint Paul VI, BVM Michael Hogan req by Beverly & Neil Kane Joan Boland † req by Martha Saleba |
| Sunday 8:00 A.M. 11:15 A.M. 9:30 A.M. | May 30 The Most Holy Trinity Eugene Riordan † req by Peggy Frayser Virginia Rysz † req by Henry & Maureen Frischknecht Frances M. Clark † req by Maria Clark |



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**Praying for the recovery of
 Rev. Patrick Curley**

St. Joseph Church
In Memory of Howard J. Mann

A PARTY TRANSFORMED

by David Carlin

I suppose all political parties are a mixture of ideological and pragmatic elements. Some parties are predominantly pragmatic, however, and deserve to be labeled pragmatic parties; others are predominantly ideological, and deserve to be labeled ideological parties.

Generally speaking, Communist parties have been ideological parties; that is, their aim has been to use political power to transform the beliefs and values of this or that country so as to bring those beliefs and values into close alignment with a Marxist philosophical ideal. Once in power (e.g., in Russia, China, Yugoslavia, Cuba, Viet Nam), though, these parties began drifting in a more pragmatic direction, and if they remained in power long enough (as was the case in the USSR and as is today the case in China), they gradually became more pragmatic than ideological, although without renouncing the ideology.

In the United States, major political parties (Democrats, Whigs, Republicans) have, with only the rarest of exceptions, been predominantly pragmatic. The ideological element, while never entirely lacking, has been no more than a minor thing.

When I say a political party is pragmatic, I mean that its main aim is to confer benefits upon its supporters – such benefits as jobs, tax cuts, old age pensions, welfare payments, free or subsidized food, housing, transportation, education, etc.

But there have been exceptions to the pragmatism of American parties. At the time of the 1856 presidential election, the new Republican party, which had almost overnight become one of the nation's major parties, was predominantly ideological. It was an anti-slavery party – although not an abolitionist party – if “abolition” is defined as the non-gradual abolition of slavery in the United States. The party was definitely anti-slavery. Its immediate aim was to “contain” slavery; that is, to prevent the spread of slavery outside of the slave states then in the Union. Its long-term aim was to preserve the Union while slavery gradually, but inevitably, withered away in the slave states.

As an almost purely ideological party in 1856, the Republicans – running John C. Fremont as their candidate – were decisively defeated in the presidential election. Growing politically wiser over the next four years, by 1860 they made alliances with two pragmatic constituencies, Eastern businessmen interested in multiplying their wealth, and mid-western farmers interested in acquiring cheap Western farmland.

And in the 1860 election, they ran as their candidate a man of the soil who was also a successful corporate lawyer, a man (Abraham Lincoln) who was a perfect blend of

ideologue and pragmatist. This time they won. Twenty years later, slavery having been abolished, they had become a decidedly – indeed an overwhelmingly – pragmatic party.

Another exception to the rule that American political parties are predominantly pragmatic parties is, I suggest, today's Democratic party. Before saying anything about the present-day Democratic party, however, I should note (full disclosure) that I myself am an old Democrat – a paleo-Democrat one might say – who has been profoundly disillusioned with his old party because of its ideological turn.

To be sure, today's Democratic party still contains plenty of pragmatists; not all of them have been driven away. The party still tries to “deliver the goods” to its supporters, but increasingly it focuses on an ideology that it wishes to make dominant in American society and culture. Roughly speaking, and keeping in mind that new elements might be added at any moment, today's Democratic ideology has three main elements.

1. Support for nearly unlimited sexual freedom: that is, support for premarital sex, out-of-wedlock childbirth, abortion, homosexuality, bisexuality, pansexualism, same-sex marriage, transgenderism (including transgenderism for young kids), sex-change surgery. And this support includes taxpayer subsidies for some of these activities (e.g., free contraception, free abortion, free sex-change surgery).

2. Anti-Christianity. This takes four main forms:

(a) Promotion (see above) of a sexual morality that directly and massively contradicts traditional Christian sexual morality;

(b) Gradual but relentless erosion of traditional Christian doctrine, making the Christian belief system very much “thinner” than it once was. In other words, replacing classical Christianity with liberal or modern or progressive Christianity;

(c) An un-Christian redefinition of certain Christian ideas, e.g., “love of neighbor” (redefined as tolerance of bad behavior) and “social justice” (redefined as socialism);

(d) Allowing downright atheism to “come out of the closet” and enter the mainstream of American cultural life.

3. Anti-white-ism. I refer here to the belief that America, a predominantly white country, remains today what it has (allegedly) always been since 1619 – a racist country. There are two forms of this racism:

(a) The personal racism of most white persons – but not *all* white persons, for there are honorable exceptions here and there: whites who are more or less ashamed of their whiteness;

cont'd

(b) An impersonal kind of racism called “systemic” or “structural” racism. Since this is built into the very structure of American society, a structure that benefits *all* whites, this means that even the “good” whites (those who are not personally racist) are implicated in this.

In a pragmatic political party (the kind of party the Democratic party used to be), ideologues – by the nature of things – have only a small amount of influence. But in an ideological party (such as the Democratic party is today), ideologues – again, by the very nature of things – have an immense influence. They may even be said to control the party, for they control the party’s ideas.

Sometimes these ideologues have held political office (e.g., Lenin, Trotsky, and Bukharin in the early USSR). But in America today they operate behind the scenes. They are leftist intellectuals found at universities and progressive think tanks. Their ideas, planted and nourished in these ideological hothouses, eventually “leak out” (like a virus) and infect, first, the mainstream media, then the entertainment industry, then well-educated parts of the general public, and finally rank-and-file Democratic politicians.

These last soon learn to speak like ideologues. And so we find Democratic politicians like House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and President Joe Biden claiming to speak for the people, but mimicking the patois of leftist sociology professors.

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3 SAINTS WHO MAY HAVE HAD AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER

Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) affects millions of individuals around the world, and more and more children and adults are being diagnosed each year. It is a condition characterized by “difficulties in social interaction, verbal and nonverbal communication and repetitive behaviors.”

In the past individuals who possessed these traits were highly misunderstood and often badly treated. They were viewed as different, “quirky,” or in severe cases locked in mental institutions.

However, with all the struggles of being on the autism spectrum, there is hope that this apparent defect can be united to the cross of Christ and lifted up to become a great benefit to others. There have been many saints over the centuries who struggled greatly with their behavioral difficulties, but who persevered and followed God’s will in the midst of it all.

Having such little information about the life of a saint makes it difficult to make a certain diagnosis of autism (indeed, the spectrum is broad enough that diagnosis is complex under the best of circumstances), but there are a few individuals where a positive diagnosis may have been likely. For the purposes of this article here are three saints who, if they lived in the 21st century, may have been labeled as “on the spec-

trum.”

Servant of God Brother Juniper

One of Saint Francis of Assisi’s original followers, Brother Juniper was well loved by Francis for his devotion and profound humility. However, according to the *Little Flower of St. Francis*, Juniper did not always understand the accepted standards of social interaction.

Once while visiting a sick friar, Juniper asked him if he could be of any service. The friar asked for pig’s feet to eat, as it would give him great consolation. Brother Juniper, feeling compelled to help the sick friar, took a knife from the kitchen, went into the forest and found a group of pigs feeding. Juniper caught one of the pigs, swiftly cut a leg off, and ran back to the kitchen to prepare it (leaving the rest of the pig in the forest). Unknown to Juniper, the man in charge of the pigs was standing there watching it all happen and quickly informed his master of the situation.

When St. Francis confronted Brother Juniper, he was entirely confused why the master of the pigs would be upset at what he did. In Juniper’s mind, he was doing a charitable deed and there was nothing wrong with cutting off a pig’s foot to help someone else out. Brother Juniper was eventually able to win over the angry master with his humility and simplicity.

There are many other similar stories regarding Brother Juniper’s inability to recognize social cues that make it possible he was “on the spectrum.” In the end, despite his apparent defects, Saint Francis was famous for saying, “Would to God, my brothers, I had a whole forest of such Junipers.”

Servant of God Léonie Martin

Born the middle child, Léonie was difficult, unattractive and sickly. Her mother, St. Zélie Martin, wrote in a letter to her sister-in-law, “The poor child worries me; she has a very undisciplined nature, and mentally she is underdeveloped.”

Léonie was expelled from school on multiple occasions for being unruly and disruptive. It took Zélie’s sister (who was a Visitation sister) great effort to discover how to teach the young child.

Even after trying different approaches to understanding, Zélie remained challenged by her daughter. She wrote in a letter, “I am fairly pleased with Léonie; if we could only subdue her obstinacy and soften her character, she would be a good girl — faithful and unafraid of the suffering she must endure. She has a will of iron; when she wants something, she will fight her way past any obstacle to reach her goal.”

Léonie’s struggles continued throughout her childhood and into her adulthood. However, she was able to persevere and, encouraged by her sister Thérèse, she learned the “little way” of sanctity. On account of her many struggles and mental challenges, the Leonie League for the Advancement of Autistic Persons has taken her as their patron.

When the Holy Spirit was poured forth at Pentecost, Christ's Paschal Mystery was brought to completion, and the Church was fully equipped to carry on his redemptive work in the world. At Pentecost, it is revealed that we remain always intimately united to our heavenly Father, who will shepherd his people home to the glory of heaven. "On that day, the Holy Trinity is fully revealed. Since that day, the Kingdom announced by Christ has been open to those who believe in him: in the humility of the flesh and in faith, they already share in the communion of the Holy Trinity. By his coming, which never ceases, the Holy Spirit causes the world to enter into the "last days," the time of the Church, the Kingdom already inherited though not yet consummated" (CCC732)

PENTECOST

St. Christopher/Good Shepherd Religious Education

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Or call the rectory at 845-876-4583

(Continued from previous page...)

Saint Joseph of Cupertino

Throughout his life, Joseph was highly misunderstood and ridiculed by everyone. His frequent visions and sudden outbursts of anger made him an object of mockery. Additionally, Joseph was very absent-minded, awkward and extremely sensitive to his surroundings. When the school bell rang, Joseph would jump and drop his books on the ground.

In school, Joseph earned the nickname "open-mouthed" because his mouth was always open. He could barely read or keep focus and often would forget to eat his meals. However, even though he barely progressed in education Joseph didn't seem to mind or notice and sought to gain entrance into a monastery despite this deficiency. Joseph figured that at least he could beg for bread as a Franciscan.

This also did not go well for Joseph. The community did not understand him and his inability to complete simple tasks without breaking something, and the experiment proved too difficult to handle. He was expelled from the monastery, but with nowhere to turn, Joseph came back and begged the community to at least hire him as a servant. The Franciscans consented, enrolled him in the Third Order and assigned him the task of taking care of the monastery mule.

Joseph's joyful demeanor was infectious and over time they gave him a second chance and allowed him into the community. Joseph was eventually ordained a priest and is most famous for his ability to levitate while saying Mass (they tied a rope around his leg so that he wouldn't fly into the ceiling). Despite his lack of education, awkwardness in social situations and inability to complete basic tasks, Joseph was widely known for his extreme piety, simplicity and humility.

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Cardinal Appeals Update:

Thank you to all who contributed to this year's Cardinal's Appeal. To date, we have 94 gifts pledging \$33,570.00.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will **NOT** meet next Sunday, May 30, but we *are* knitting and crocheting Prayer Shawls for those in need of God's merciful healing and compassion. For a shawl, or for further information, please contact Bette Sturm, 233-1201, or any Ministry members. Please pray for our ministry and for those we serve!

"Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love."

Alleluia, friends... Alleluia!

Pray for the Sick

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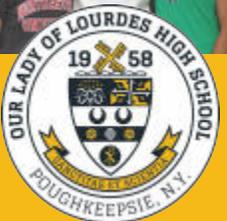
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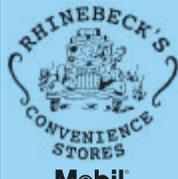
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