



PARISH OF CHRIST THE KING

NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2021

MARCH | APRIL | MAY



A LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR

While we prayed that things would be easier in 2021, we were quickly confronted by more unprecedented events that stressed even more the impact caused by the pandemic. In times of confusion, it is not unusual for us to expect a messianic figure who could answer our questions, make us feel comfortable, place a warm blanket on our cold bodies, and tell us that it is going to be fine.

People seek stable images and signs of reassurance when things tend to be elusive. Unfortunately, many of our securities are as unstable as our fears. We can look back like Lot's wife and turn into a pillar of salt (cf. Gn. 19:26) or look ahead with the eyes of faith and rebuild our lives with the certainty that "the Kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking (i.e. physical security), but of righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit (cf. Rom 14:17)."



As we approach Holy Week and Easter, I want to thank you for your firmness in faith and hope. We have embraced the "Year of St. Joseph" proclaimed by Pope Francis and included it into our focus on the Domestic Church. Therefore, this Lent will be a "journey with the Holy Family" as a source of inspiration and determination in times of hardship.

This season, we will reflect on the cultural richness of the Catholic Church with the Lenten Speaker Series, "Unity in Diversity," sponsored by our Social Justice Commission. We will stress solidarity as a tangible exercise in the virtue of charity. We will encourage personal and family consecration to Mary and Joseph as special guides in our relationship with Jesus. We will welcome new Catholics and invite new children to the sacrificial

banquet of the Eucharist. We will keep on praying, hoping, loving, and believing that we can do all things in Christ who strengthens us (cf. Phil. 4:13).

Some of you have lost a loved one during this pandemic and many of us fear the loss of someone we love. In any circumstance, let us rest assured in our faith in Christ. Beyond the fiction of comfort, let us live courageously in the hopeful, patient, and decisive consideration of our challenges, so we can echo in our lives, what Peter once said to Jesus, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets" (cf. Lk 5:5).

Peace!

Fr. Elkin J. González
Pastor



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WE ARE EASTER PEOPLE

By Caitlyn Gonya, Mission & Faith Formation Coordinator

This past year has brought many hardships: loneliness, financial insecurity, sickness, fear. However, as we look toward Easter, we are reminded of a Love that brings us deep, lasting joy. Below is a message given from St. John Paul II in 1986. He reminds us of this Love and how to find this joy. ■



Excerpt from Pope John Paul II:

I have said before on another occasion: "In a true sense, joy is the keynote of the Christian message". As I said then, my wish is that the Christian message may bring joy to all who open their hearts to it: "joy to children, joy to parents, joy to families and to friends, joy to workers and scholars, joy to the sick and to the elderly, joy to all humanity". [...]

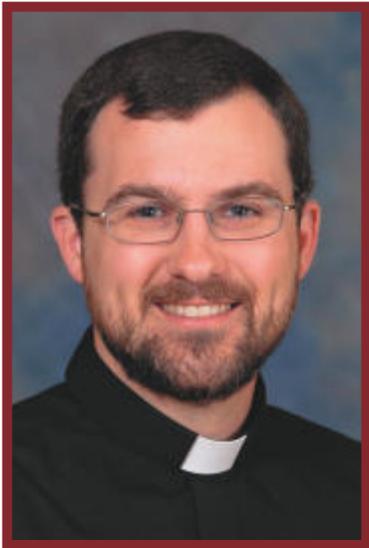
2. Faith is our source of joy. We believe in a God who created us so that we might enjoy human happiness - in some measure on earth, in its fullness in heaven. We are meant to have our human joys: the joy of living, the joy of love and friendship, the joy of work well done. We who are Christians have a further cause for joy: like Jesus, we know that we are loved by God our Father. This love transforms our lives and fills us with joy. It makes us see that Jesus did not come to lay burdens upon us. He came to teach us what it means to be fully happy and fully human. Therefore, we discover joy when we discover truth - the truth about God our Father, the truth about Jesus our Saviour, the truth about the Holy Spirit who lives in our hearts.

3. We do not pretend that life is all beauty. We are aware of darkness and sin, of poverty and pain. But we know Jesus has conquered sin and passed through his own pain to the glory of the Resurrection. And we live in the light of his Paschal Mystery - the mystery of his Death and Resurrection. "We are an Easter People and Alleluia is our song!". We are not looking for a shallow joy but rather a joy that comes from faith, that grows through unselfish love, that respects the "fundamental duty of love of neighbour, without which it would be unbecoming to speak of Joy". We realize that joy is demanding; it demands unselfishness; it demands a readiness to say with Mary: "Be it done unto me according to thy word."

4. Mary, our Mother: I turn to you and with the Church I invoke you as Mother of Joy (Mater plena sanctae laetitiae). [...] Help all your children to see that the good things in their lives come to them from God the Father through your Son Jesus Christ. Help them to experience in the Holy Spirit the joy which filled your own Immaculate Heart. And in the midst of the sufferings and trials of life may they find the fullness of joy that belongs to the victory of your Crucified Son, and comes forth from his Sacred Heart.

SERVICE TO JESUS THROUGH MARY AND JOSEPH

Fr. Bryan Ketterer, Associate Pastor



Consecration (noun) - the solemn dedication to a special purpose or service. The word consecration literally means "association with the sacred"

Consecrations to Mary and St. Joseph have become increasingly popular in recent years among Catholics worldwide. Dating back to the early centuries of the Church, Consecration to Mary was developed by St. Louis de Montfort in the 18th Century and popularized by St. John Paul II. St. Maximilian Kolbe re-invigorated the idea of consecration to Mary through his form of consecration through his Militia Immaculata. In recent years, Fr. Michael Gaitley again popularized consecration to Mary with his book *33 Days to Morning Glory*, which combines elements of both St. Louis' and St. Maximilian's consecrations.

The purpose of a Marian consecration is to actually consecrate ourselves to service to Jesus through Mary, imitating Mary's fiat at the Annunciation when she proclaimed "Behold, the handmaid (servant) of the Lord."

In just the past year, the idea of a consecration to St. Joseph has taken off like wildfire adding to the popularity of consecration. Inspired by Marian consecration, Fr. Donald Calloway became interested in a consecration to the spiritual fatherhood of St. Joseph, but could find no history of such a practice. Thus, he developed his consecration to St. Joseph and published it in his book, *Consecration to St. Joseph*, in early 2020 to immense interest and participation by men despite being designed for all faithful desiring St. Joseph's virtues of purity and humility. Like a consecration to Mary, the consecration to St. Joseph involves a 33-day series of readings and prayers in preparation for the consecration day, typically made on a feast of St. Joseph.

A common practice with consecrations to both Mary and St. Joseph is to prepare and make the consecrations together with a group of other Catholics. The 33-day preparations require a daily commitment of prayer and reading, and a community can be tremendously helpful in encouraging and holding each other accountable. These groups may even meet weekly or more to discuss the readings, pray together, and grow in the desired virtues. The ultimate joy of preparing for consecration with a group is making the act of consecration together, and even renewing your consecration annually if possible.

This Lent, The Parish of Christ the King is offering opportunities to make consecrations to both Mary (Feb. 20 - Mar. 25) and St. Joseph (Feb. 15 - Mar. 19) with in-person and virtual small groups with preparations made according to Fr. Gaitley's and Fr. Calloway's books.

The feedback from parishioners who have already made consecrations to Mary or St. Joseph has been tremendously positive, and I hope you will prayerfully consider consecrating yourself to Jesus in a powerful way through Mary or St. Joseph this Lent. ■

Q&A WITH MADALENE BAEHLER

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION



- CTK Parishioner
- Marquette Class of 2018
- Current Junior at Bishop Kelley

Q: Why did you decide to be confirmed?

A: All of my life I have absolutely loved being Catholic. I have always been so excited to receive the Sacraments, and ever since I got close to the age of being confirmed I have been looking forward to it. My faith means so much to me, and I know that finally having the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation will only fill my faith life with more joy and solidify what I have always believed in and loved about my Catholic faith.

Q: Who was your sponsor ?

A: My sponsor is my middle school science teacher Dru Jenkinson (Mrs. J as I like to call her). I chose her as my sponsor because she sets such a beautiful example of how to live a faithful and happy life. I have always been inspired by her great faith in God and the compassion that she has for others. It has been such a treat to get to know her on a deeper level. She is truly one of the best people I have ever met and such a huge blessing in my life!

Q: What saint did you pick and why?

A: For my confirmation saint, I chose Saint Maria Goretti. I chose her for many reasons, the main reason being that I had the opportunity to see her relics when they were brought to Tulsa when I was in the sixth grade. This experience moved my heart in the best way possible. Ever since that day, I have been extremely inspired by her grace and immense faith at only 11 years old.

Q: After you receive the graces, what is one virtue you hope to more fully live out?

A: After I receive the graces, a virtue I hope to more fully live out is hope. Especially in this difficult time for our whole world and community, I feel like my hope could definitely use some extra strength. I try so hard to see God and remain hopeful in all situations, but it can be very hard at times. I pray that my confirmation will strengthen my heart, soul, and mind with not only hope, but every virtue so that I can become the best version of myself and who I am called to be. ■



Journey through Lent with Joseph and Mary

LENTEN EVENT SCHEDULE

Fridays in Lent

Join us every Friday during Lent for Mass (5:30 p.m.), our Lenten Speakers Series (6 p.m.) and Stations of the Cross. (7 p.m.) This year's speaker series theme is focused on "Unity in Diversity: The Richness of the Catholic Faith Around the World." All talks are in the church.

Upcoming Speakers:

- **March 12:** Claudia Hernandez (Colombia)
- **March 19:** Fr. Leo Ahanotu (Nigeria)
- **March 26:** Fr. David Medina (Mexico)

No registration is required to attend the speaker series or Stations of the Cross.

Fish Fry

The annual Fish Fry will take place on Friday, March 26, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Marquette Vision Gym. Make sure to check our website for the latest information regarding this event and how to place to-go orders as the date grows closer.

Sponsored by: Knights of Columbus

Fr. Elkin's March Spirituality Series

March 13 | "Contemplation in the School of St. Joseph"

Join Fr. Elkin for part two of his Lenten Spirituality Series on Saturday, March 13 as we "Journey through Lent with Joseph and Mary." It will be a morning of prayer, study, and recollection in the Marquette Vision Gym from 9 a.m. to noon. All social distancing protocols will be in place, no food will be served, and in-person registration is limited to 75 attendees. This event will be live streamed.

Extended Confessions

Lent is a time of reconciliation and forgiveness. The Sacrament of Confession is celebrated **every Saturday and Sunday** during Lent from 3 to 5 p.m. in addition to the Thursday confession time from 5 to 5:30 p.m. Location: Fletcher Hall Confessionals

Holy Week & Easter Sunday

In the weeks to come, we will share all details pertaining to Holy Week and the Easter weekend schedule. Make sure to like us on Facebook, follow us on Instagram and check our website for the latest information.

- ◆ April 1 | Holy Thursday | 7 p.m.
- ◆ April 2 | Good Friday | 7 p.m.
- ◆ April 3 | Easter Vigil | 8 p.m.
- ◆ April 4 | Easter Sunday

"Lent is not a time for useless sermons, but for recognizing that our lowly ashes are loved by God. It is a time of grace, a time for letting God gaze upon us with love and in this way change our lives."

-Pope Francis

WHY MARQUETTE?



Current parents share why they chose Marquette Catholic School

"I was born and raised in the Marquette/Christ the King community and I couldn't imagine a better place for my children to be. I know Marquette will give my children a strong foundation in their faith and in their education. The people are what make it so special. My children are growing up in a safe, loving environment surrounded by people who know their faces and who genuinely care about their success in life. It is truly a wonderful school." -*Michael & Libby Elder*

"The facilities and staff at Marquette ECDC are second to none. We were impressed by the focus on play and hands-on exploration as the primary tools for learning. The environment gave us a sense of family versus just an institution. Additionally, the transitional kindergarten program has been such a blessing to us and our oldest son. He has grown tremendously in so many areas including academics, personal confidence and socially with respect to his peers." -*Aaron & Katie Sattre*

"Currently having a 4th and 7th grader, it is hard to imagine our life without Marquette. We have watched our daughters grow academically, spiritually, and emotionally, and I credit the support, compassion and guidance they receive from their teachers at Marquette. The teachers care about each student and teach them in ways that suit them best individually. The teachers want them to succeed and celebrate their success with them. Marquette is so much more to us than a school. It represents our faith, brings us happiness, and embraces us with love and community." -*Jon & Sheri Greer*

"When we toured Marquette ECDC we fell in love with the staff and the cheerful aesthetic. It was like stepping into a tiny village for children with flower boxes outside of each classroom. We loved how we were encouraged to be a part of the community and welcomed to observe and volunteer. When my son started at age three, we were amazed with the knowledge he came home with—both academically and spiritually. Marquette ECDC has become more than just a school, it has been the body of Christ; carrying us through difficult times by the wonderful families we have met." -*Mike & Sarah O'Donovan*

Learn More



Jay Luetkemeyer
Marquette Principal



Pepper McGough
ECDC Director

Marquette and ECDC have limited spots available for the 2021-2022 school year. Please contact the school office for more information or to schedule a school tour.

918-584-4631

A DEACON'S JOURNEY

By Deacon Harrison Garlick



I am often asked whether I felt any different after my ordination. I reply that regarding the liturgy, I have experienced a notable peace. After six years of formation and serving in countless Masses as an emcee, to step into the role of the deacon, especially at my home parish, felt natural. When you begin a new role in the Mass it is difficult to pray. Your mind is focused almost entirely on what step comes next and what is expected of you. It takes time for a habit to form and once formed the soul can ease into a more prayerful state. I am grateful to Father Elkin and others for the opportunities I have to serve on the altar, and I look forward to when my soul can simply rest in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

Other things, however, have been sobering. You receive a call that someone in the Emergency Room needs the Holy Eucharist or someone pulls you aside after Mass to tell you their loved one has died. As a deacon, you come in the name of Christ and His Church. In those moments when a person is in need, their face communicates the heaviness of that reality. “Harrison” is only needed to whatever degree an artist would need this or that brush; it is

Christ who makes beauty out of the formlessness. There is a seriousness in those moments in which you pray with all your soul that you will simply do or say whatever is needed to communicate the love of God to them. Those moments have a gravitas that speaks to the seriousness of representing the Church, and I hope that spiritual weight never goes away.

I entered the diaconate program of the Diocese of Tulsa not knowing whether I was called to be a deacon. I had met with my pastor, the then Msgr. Mueggenborg, and explained to him that what I did feel was a need to give more of myself to Christ and His Church. He encouraged me to discern the diaconate, and I have an immense gratitude toward him, my wife, Father Elkin, those charged with the diaconate program, and Bishop Konderla who helped me discern whether my call to give more of myself was a call to the diaconate.

When I was converting to Catholicism, I recall Pope Benedict XVI imploring the faithful to ensure that each reception of the Holy Eucharist was a conscious act. I took as my practice saying *Domine, non sum dignus*—Lord, I am not worthy—over and over in the Communion line to arrest my imagination to the fact I was about to receive the body, blood, soul, and divinity of Christ. Today, I can think of no greater expression of what it feels to be a deacon than *Domine, non sum dignus*. ■



Save the Dates

Women's Lenten Spirituality Night

- March 11 | 7 p.m. | Virtual Event
- Bishop Daniel Mueggenborg
- "Mary as the Model Disciple"

Men's Lenten Spirituality Dinner

- March 25 | 7 p.m. | Virtual Option Available
- Fr. Celestine Obidiegwu
- "Presence of the Catholic Faith in North Tulsa: Challenges and Opportunities"

March 2021

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			