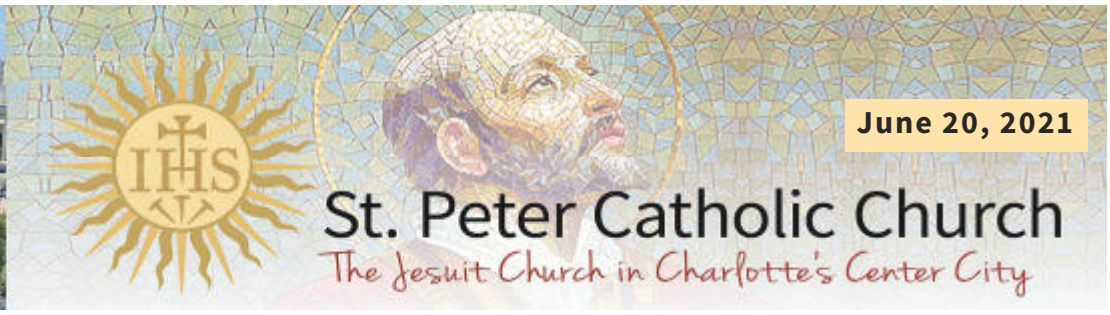


June 20, 2021

St. Peter Catholic Church

The Jesuit Church in Charlotte's Center City

Pastor: Fr. Tim Stephens, SJ
Parochial Vicar: Fr John Michalowski, SJ
Parochial Vicar: Fr. Doug Ray, SJ

Parish Office Phone: 704-332-2901

Non-liturgical events and meetings are not being held on campus.

MASS TIMES: Daily weekday 12:10 pm
Saturday Vigil at 5 pm
Sunday at 9 am, 11:30 am and 5 pm
Seating limited in Church & Biss Hall.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Wednesday 11:15 to 11:45 am in Biss Hall

Today's Readings June 20, 2021
Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading:
Thus far shall you come but no farther,
and here shall your proud waves be stilled!
(Job 38:11)
Psalm:
Give thanks to the Lord, his love
is everlasting. (Ps 107)
Second Reading:
So whoever is in Christ is a new creation:
the old things have passed away;
behold, new things have come. (2 Cor 5:17)
Gospel:
Then he asked them, "Why are you terrified?
Do you not yet have faith?"
They were filled with great awe and said to
one another, "Who then is this whom even
wind and sea obey?" (Mk 4:40-41)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. ©LPi

Important information is sent via our eNews - Signup for eNews topics from our website.

We LIVE STREAM 11:30 AM Sunday Mass
Watch from our Website,
YouTube Channel or Facebook.

Our Mission

As a Catholic Jesuit parish in Charlotte's Center City, we are animated by the spirit of St. Ignatius and welcome all to share in the joy of the Gospel and to come to know, love and serve God and one another.

St Peter Catholic Church
507 South Tryon Street
Charlotte, NC 28202

www.stpetercatholic.org

YouTube
St Peter Catholic Church CLT

Loving God, we hold up all fathers and father figures, living and deceased, who have blessed our lives.

This Father's Day we remember the many sacrifices fathers make for their children and families. So too, we remember all those who have helped fill the void when fathers pass early or are absent; grandfathers and uncles, brothers and cousins, teachers, pastors and coaches and the women of our families.

The Ignatian Year: May 2021 - July 2022

IgnatiuSoo
May 2021 - July 2022

I've been reflecting on this short phrase for a number of months now.

It's the official tagline of the Ignatian Year which begins next week on May 20th – the 500th anniversary of St. Ignatius' battlefield injury at Pamplona where his leg was shattered by a cannonball. (Ouch.) The injury would lead to his conversion, his leaving behind a life of courtly riches and worldly pleasures, and his embrace of his pilgrim journey to God – a journey in which he penned the *Spiritual Exercises* and founded the Society of Jesus.

There's a lot to be excited about for this upcoming Ignatian Year. (see resources on StPeterCatholic.org parish website)

But the phrase – *to see all things new in Christ* – is paramount, both to Ignatius' own life story and our own. Ultimately, the Ignatian Year and all it represents means nothing if we don't dig deeply into the invitation these words represent.

It's easy, I think, to shrug off the weight of this invitation. "Sure," I might say, "I see all things new in Christ. I ask myself *'What would Jesus do?'* now and again, and I'm an avid follower of all sorts of Catholic media personalities. I know what it means to see things as Christ sees them."

The challenge, though, isn't to occasionally check in with Jesus, to bring in the story of Christ's life, death and resurrection when it comes to mind or is convenient or shows up on Twitter. The challenge is *to see all things new in Christ.*

For me, the key words are *all things* and *new*. Christ isn't an occasional check-in; Christ is a radical reorientation of our entire life.

The challenge is more akin to getting married, entering religious life, moving to a new city or having children: *everything* changes and *nothing* stays static.

When my wife and I were starting our married life together, for example, I had to reexamine how I structured my day. I had to prioritize the needs of another person, think of that person – and not just myself – when I made decisions, when I made plans, even when I made breakfast. (I had to remember to update the shared calendar and not just keep dates squirreled away in my head.) I was challenged to see every aspect of my day in a new way – through the hopes and desires of my wife, yes, but also through the hopes and desires of our growing relationship.

And that wasn't a onetime phenomenon. As our relationship grows – as we grow individually and together – there is more *newness* to discover: through travel, through new friendships, through parenting, through *life*.

Fall in Love, stay in love, and it will decide everything, reads the oft-quoted prayer by Joseph Whelan, SJ. (We even read it at our wedding.) But it's true – and it points to the opportunity of the Ignatian Year.

As in any relationship built on love – and determined to muddle onward in and through love – we constantly have the opportunity to see all things anew, in the very person or people whom we love. Our days become radically different as we see the world and all it represents not just through our own life stories but through the stories of another.

How much more so with Christ?

In God's peace,

Eric Clayton
Director of Communications, Jesuit Conference of Canada and the United States

Look for more resources on our Ignatius year page
www.stpetercatholic.org

St Ignatius Loyola and the midlife journey

Just 500 years ago, on 20 May 1521, a cannonball fired by the French forces storming a fortress in Pamplona ricocheted off a nearby wall and shattered the right leg of Ignatius of Loyola. The injury put an end to his career as soldier and diplomat.

After surviving several operations and a long convalescence, Ignatius left home for seventeen years of travel to his final home in Rome as superior general of a new religious order, the Society of Jesus or Jesuits.

Often described as the time of his religious conversion and spiritual growth, these years make up the *midlife journey* of a saint who throughout his autobiography calls himself 'the pilgrim'.

Over forty years ago I drew on the doctoral work of Bridget Puzon to produce *The Second Journey* and reflect on midlife journeys.

Human history, as I realized then and later, throws up everywhere examples of such journeys: from Abraham and Sarah to Moses, from Paul of Tarsus to Mother Teresa of Calcutta, from Dante Alighieri to Eleanor Roosevelt, from John Wesley to Jimmy Carter, from John Henry Newman to Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

Western literature also enshrines numerous instances of such journeys in the 'middle years'. Works like Homer's *Odyssey*, Virgil's *Aeneid*, and John Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress* present heroes driven in midlife to leave their familiar environment, attempt new projects, and travel strange roads.

This is being 'in the middle way', as T. S. Eliot put it in *East Coker.* He takes us back to the picture of the midlife journey with which Dante opens the *Divine Comedy*: 'In the middle of life's road, I found myself in a dark wood—the straight way ahead lost.'

The image of the midlife journey derives from our literary imagination, as well as from undoubted history. The 'real' world of midlife journeys has created its make-believe counterpart which reflects and illuminates these journeys.

Mapping the characteristic pattern of such journeys will allow readers to recognize Ignatius as a case in point. At least six factors create the basic pattern.

Very often the catalyst looks obviously 'negative'.

A traffic accident, a serious illness, the death or infidelity of a spouse, the unexpected loss of a job, or disillusionment over what public success has brought them can plunge people into a unexpected crisis.

Left to themselves, they would never have chosen the pain of such a situation. It simply happened to them.

The battle of Pamplona and a long convalescence initiated a midlife journey for Ignatius. His brush with death caused his world of chivalry and diplomacy to disintegrate.

Without his wanting or planning it, Ignatius suffered that profound upheaval which he records in his autobiography, and his midlife journey got under way. Many deliberate choices feature in the later stages of his story. But the start of the pilgrimage was thrust upon him.

Second, a midlife journey characteristically includes an *outer* component — some specific journey or a physical restlessness that keeps a person travelling in the hope: 'If I relocate, I will find the solution.'

The outer journey may prove like a real *Odyssey* or *Aeneid*. But it may be no more than a shift from the suburbs to the city, or something a little longer like Mother Teresa's 1946 train ride out of Calcutta.

Of course, it is the *inner* component that brings about a genuine midlife journey. The external travelling has only a subordinate function.

All the same time, some shift from place to place seems to be a steady feature of authentic midlife journeys.

Wesley's voyage to Georgia, Bonhoeffer's second visit to New York on the eve of the Second World War, Newman's Mediterranean tour, and Ignatius's wanderings belong here.

He travelled from Loyola to the Holy Land, back to Spain, north to Paris, back again to Spain, and eventually found journey's end at the Jesuit head quarters in Rome.

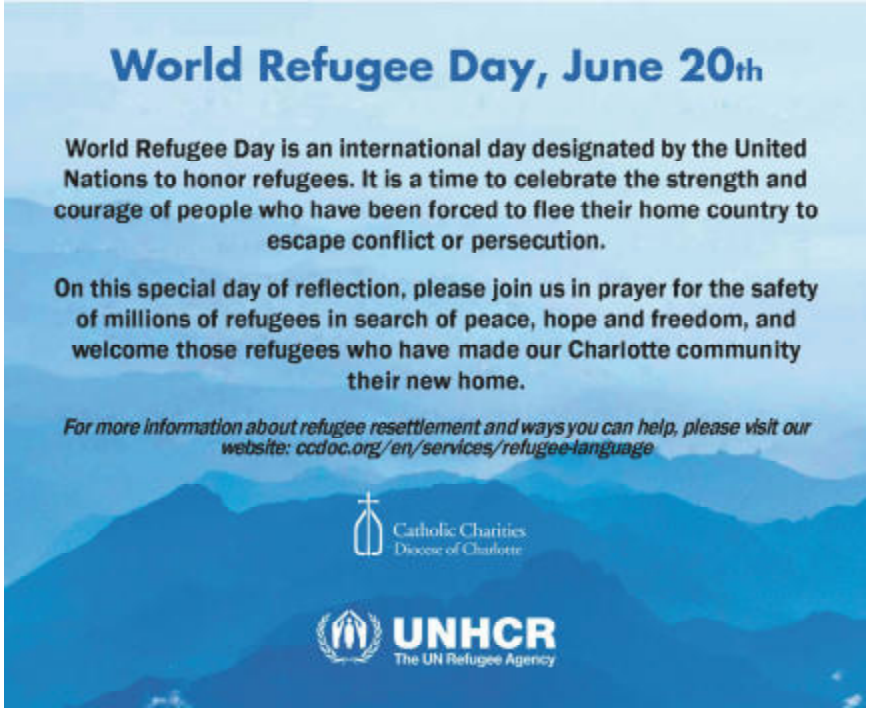
Third, midlife journeys entail a crisis of *feelings*, symbolized by Dante's terror at being lost in a forest. Such a crisis may arise primarily from some current personal failure (Wesley and Carter), unresolved conflicts from the past (St Paul), or fears for the future (Bonhoeffer).

Whatever particular way it goes, a powerful crisis of feelings always seems to blaze up as one is swept into a midlife journey.

Through the months of recovery from his wounds, Ignatius experienced emotions of comfort and distress — 'sad and happy thoughts', as he called them.

Learning to interpret and handle these fluctuating feelings constituted a vital stage in his journey. The Rules for the Discernment of Spirits (found in the *Spiritual Exercises*) pass on to others what Ignatius had painfully found out for himself.

By Gerald O'Collins, in LaCroix International



A Prayer for Welcome and Protection

What we are all experiencing has showed us that we cannot live as nations, races, or people independent of one another. We must come together. As we reflect on our new reality and the challenges that the global pandemic has brought, we pray that we can come together to welcome and protect one another, especially those most vulnerable.

When doors are closed to the weary,

As they journey to find refuge,

May we be there to open,

To welcome our sisters and brothers

Who need care and protection,

A place to rest their head.

And if powers prevent us

From opening our doors,

May we be animated by the Spirit

To cry out at the injustice

That keeps those most in need

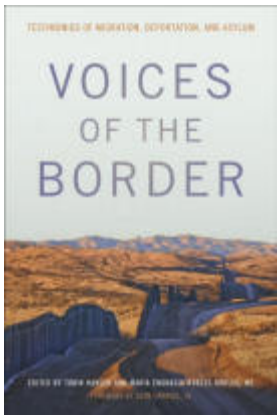
From receiving the protection they deserve.

Lives on the Move…

An important new book is coming out next month that may be of interest to you. *Voices of the Border*, edited by Tobin Hansen and María Engracia Robles Robles, ME, places the voices of migrants and their experiences at the forefront for a unique window into the lives of people on the move.

This book comes out of interviews conducted by migrant advocates affiliated with the Kino Border Initiative (KBI), a Jesuit organization that provides humanitarian assistance in Nogales Arizona and Nogales, Sonora. What comes through in these personal narratives—presented in the original Spanish with English translations—is the incredible strength and resilience of people who have experienced severe hardship and injustice. Original artwork, photos, and essays by migrant advocates, humanitarian workers, religious leaders, and scholars provide additional context. Royalties from the sale of the book will go to KBI.

Voices of the Border
July 1, 2021
Cloth 9781647120849 $29.95
Ebook 9781647120856 $29.95
256 pages. 19 b&w photos. 6 x 9.



Jesuit Refugee Service/USA and Jesuit Refugee Service Mexico have announced a new initiative designed to provide mental health and psychosocial support to asylum seekers on the U.S.-Mexico border.

More on our parish website:

Get Involved/ Justice and Outreach page

Open Wide Our Hearts

Many members of the body of Christ have suffered the pain of racism. It is critical to find opportunities to hear the real-life experiences of others. **Open Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love** is a letter from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops inviting all people of faith to conversion. We are called to open our minds and hearts to Christ's love for all people and to the experiences of those who have been harmed by the evil of racism.
All who seek to open wide their hearts through prayerful engagement with this letter are invited to pray, listen, study, reflect, and respond. Find the bishops' guide at usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/racism

"Every racist act – every such comment, every joke, every disparaging look as a reaction to the color of skin, ethnicity, or place of origin – is a failure to acknowledge another person as a brother or sister, created in the image of God."

– U.S. bishops, Open Wide Our Hearts

Juneteenth - a celebration of freedom

On June 19, 1865, about two months after the Confederate general Robert E. Lee surrendered at Appomattox, Va., Gordon Granger, a Union general, arrived in Galveston, Texas, to inform enslaved African-Americans of their freedom and that the Civil War had ended. General Granger's announcement through General Orders No. 3 put into effect the Emancipation Proclamation, which had been issued more than two and a half years earlier on Jan. 1, 1863, by President Abraham Lincoln. Juneteenth (a blending of June and nineteenth) is also known as Freedom Day, Jubilee Day, Liberation Day, and Emancipation Day.

Juneteenth is usually celebrated on the third Saturday in June. Observances today are primarily local. Celebrations are commonly accompanied by voter registration efforts and community leaders have used Juneteenth to help instill a sense of heritage and pride in their youth. The modern holiday places much emphasis upon teaching about African-American heritage.

See more on the heritage and celebrations of Juneteenth on our parish website Get Involved/ **Justice & Outreach** page.

Source: Rosheene Adams,
African American Affairs Ministry, Diocese of Charlotte
https://charlottediocese.org/african-american-affairs-ministry/

Juneteenth Emancipation Day Celebration, June 19, 1900, Texas ; photo by Mrs. Charles Stephenson (Grace Murray) - The Portal to Texas History Austin History Center, Austin Public Library., Public Domain

Shake Us From Our Slumber

When our eyes do not see the gravity of racial justice,
Shake us from our slumber and open our eyes, O Lord.
When out of fear we are frozen into inaction,
Give us a spirit of bravery, O Lord.
When we try our best but say the wrong things,
Give us a spirit of humility, O Lord.
When the chaos of this dies down,
Give us a lasting spirit of solidarity, O Lord.
When it becomes easier to point fingers outwards,
Help us to examine our own hearts, O Lord.
God of truth, in your wisdom, Enlighten Us.
God of hope in your kindness, Heal Us.

Creator of All People, in your generosity, Guide Us.
Racism breaks your heart, break our hearts for what breaks yours, O Lord.
Ever present God, you called us to be in relationship with one another and promised to dwell wherever two or three are gathered.
In our community, we are many different people;
we come from many different places,
have many different cultures.
Open our hearts that we may be bold in finding the riches of inclusion and the treasures of diversity among us.
We pray in faith.

- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Helping Neighbors with Housing

St. Peter parishioners may know people who need help staying in their homes
during the current health and economic crisis. Perhaps someone whose home is in danger of becoming unlivable because of flooring, roofing, heating, electrical or plumbing problems. If so, you can refer them to **Habitat for Humanity's Critical Home Repair program.**

See https://www.habitatcltregion.org/services/critical-home-repair/critical-home-repair-referral/

Perhaps you know of a family that is in need of emergency assistance to stay in their home. **DreamKey Partners** manages emergency mortgage and rental assistance programs for low-income persons in
danger of losing their home to foreclosure.
See https://www.dreamkeypartners.org/payment-assistance/

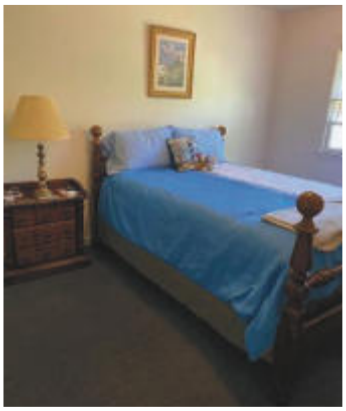
St Peter Hiking Group:

Next hike is Saturday, July 10

The hike will be Woods Mountain Trail off the Blue Ridge Parkway. Distance about 8 miles, moderate difficulty. We will park at intersection of old Hwy. 80 and the BRP and hike the Woods Mtn Trail. Destination is subject to change. Meet in The Green parking garage at 8:15 am, we leave at 8:30 am. Contact Bob Crowley **stpetershiking@gmail.com**

A Welcome Home

The Homeless Relief Ministry team furnished an apartment for a single gentleman from Supportive Housing Communities. The kitchen table used was countertop height, which was great because the client is a very tall man. He was also very excited about the sturdy bed which was provided. Thank you Betty, Diana, Nancy, Rick, Gary, Kevin, Maureen and Barb for preparing for and executing another lovely move.



Don't forget to register for, "Keys To Live Again - A Virtual Night In". It will be held on June 23rd at 7PM EST and will be hosted by the one and only Molly Grantham. Consider becoming a Key Ambassador to help us spread the word and raise awareness about the issue of chronic homelessness in our communities. In addition to attendees, our Key Ambassadors are critical to helping us make the dream of having *Keys to Live Again* a reality for chronically homeless individuals and families. More information at: https://www.betterunite.com/supportivehousingcommunities-keystoliveagain2021

New to the Parish?

Parish Registration is required for Baptism, First Reconciliation and First Eucharist, MACS vouchers, and Baptism or Confirmation sponsorship.

All adult children of parishioners 21 years or older register independently of their parents. Registration cards are in the back of the church, in Benedict Hall Family Mass area, Biss Hall and at the parish office.

Under normal conditions, Baptisms are celebrated on the second and fourth weekends of each month. Contact the Faith Formation Office about the preparation class.

Marriage Preparation - We are scheduling 2022 weddings- it is best to plan 12 months ahead for weddings at St. Peter. Registration and participation prior to your wedding date is required. Preparation with one of our priests should begin at least six months before your wedding. Call Rebekah Thompson in the parish office at 704.332.2901, ext. 212.

iPhone text: ParishApp1 to 555888

Android text: ParishApp2 to 555888

BULLETIN

Please submit Wednesday, 10 days before the Sunday you want published. **On our website please visit the *Our Parish* menu page and go to "Forms" *We track requests with this Communication Request Form:* https://goo.gl/forms/A2SqrJsWeT92TTVt2**

MASS INTENTIONS

June 21	*Ismael Alicea +*
June 22	*Kosmidek Family +*
June 23	*Dr. Kenneth H. Oberheu +*
June 24	*Bob & Joyce Kosmidek Family +*
June 25	*William John Crosby +*

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Pray for Sick:

Members of Our Parish
Julie Cobb, Patricia Long, Craig Robinson and Tom Crozier.

For Friends & Family
Janet & Mike Orr, Holbrook Michael Orth, Fr. Conrad Hoover, Robin Vitez and *all who have asked for our prayers.*

To be added or removed from the prayer list, please ask the person or their family first, then contact Rebekah Thompson in the Parish Office at 704-208-1976. Names will remain on our Prayer List for 30 days unless otherwise specified.

Please be extremely cautious with any emails or texts appearing to come from a Church official that ask for money, gift cards, or an urgent request for a reply. Our parish will communicate to you only via our official communication channels, and we will **not solicit** for cash donations or gift cards via personal emails or personal text messages from priests. If you receive a message that looks suspicious, please immediately delete it and alert the parish office.

Your financial support helps us plan and meet the needs of our faith community. Find the FAQs for e-Giving on our website if you would like to contribute through a WeShare account.

Parish Office Contacts

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Parochial Vicar
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