

SEPTEMBER
2020

NEWS FROM AROUND
THE MONROE VICARIATE

MONROE
Vicariate



VICAR

FR. MICHAEL A. WORONIEWICZ
PASTOR, DIVINE GRACE
CARLETON/MAYBEE

www.monroevicariate.com

THE HOMILY: Where Scripture Meets Real Life



When the word “homily” is mentioned, I think that the average parishioner could have one of two possible gut reactions. Some people look forward to hearing engaging preaching in their parish—others find a homily as something to be patiently endured, so they can move on with the Mass! The American Bishops had this in mind in the early 1980s when they wrote a document entitled *Fulfilled in Your Hearing (FIYH)*. The bishops of the United States were concerned that Catholic preaching in our country was not what it should be. In other words, many parishioners heard preaching that was dull and ineffective in their parish churches.

What is a homily? Simply put, it is a dialogue, or conversation, between Scripture and real life. Unlike a sermon that is a talk on any topic whatsoever, a homily opens the readings at Mass and applies them to life experience. So, the task of the preacher is to take the Scriptures, written centuries ago, and have them make sense to people in our day and life situation. Quite a task when you realize that you only get ten minutes on a Sunday morning!

FIYH reminds us that the homily is an integral part of the Liturgy—it is not just a “talk” or time-out from prayer. The proclamation and preaching of the Word of God forms us as disciples and allows us to return thanks and praise to God in the Eucharist, the “Great Thanksgiving.”

FIYH states that people are looking for a word of faith. One of the professors I studied under stated that if people can say “yes” to the question “Did I hear the Word of God in this homily?” then it was a successful one.

As a teacher of preaching, I encourage my students to have one *pearl* or particular point—and only one point—that flows from the appointed Scripture readings and go into it with breadth and depth. Every word, every story, every idea, every real-life example, everything said should relate back to that one point. If it doesn’t, leave it out! In this way, there is no rambling on and on or aimless wandering, and the preaching “holds together.”

I know that some preachers are naturally gifted, others have to work on it and they get better, and others just try the best they can. Pray for those who preach to you. Do give sincere feedback and be specific about what is really helpful to you.

Be aware that listening attentively to the Word of God at Mass (and even better reading the readings and praying over them before Mass) sets one up to listen to preaching on those readings. FIYH reminds us that the preacher only gives half the homily. The other half of the homily is what the Holy Spirit says in the heart and mind of the listener. The hearer must apply it and put it into practice.

“...if people can say “yes” to the question “Did I hear the Word of God in this homily?” then it was a successful one.”

So, what can the listener do when the homily is a rambling, dull, or ineffective one? First, I’ll suggest listening for a word, phrase, image, or idea that hits your heart—maybe some little thing that moves you in the homily. Think about it later that day or in the coming week. Use it in your prayer. Go back to it again and again in your idle moments. Second, if the homily itself is like a dry well, go back to the Scripture readings—surely you will find some profitable image, word, phrase, or idea to use for reflection.

As Jesus Himself tell us, “Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and observe it!” (Luke 11:28) I pray that the proclamation and preaching of God’s Word enriches you!

Peace,
Fr. Mike Woroniewicz
Vicar

THE DEADLINE FOR THE OCTOBER 2020 ISSUE IS MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST
Please email information to: [Crysti Esper at communications@monroevicariate.com](mailto:crysti.esper@monroevicariate.com). Thank you!



River House

The fall will be filled with a variety of program offerings. The first two were created to deepen your relationship with nature, yourself, and the way we view others.

► **“Sacredness of Life”** will be offered as a Webinar sponsored by River House Spirituality Center. Join Joni Scott as she moves us to a desire to create real and positive changes in our communities, nation, and world.

► **“Nature as Spiritual Mentor”** by Sr. Gloria Rivera, IHM is an in-person program offered at Maxis Center in Riverview. This program is limited to the first 10 registrations. Register soon if you would like to participate in a day of reflection exploring how Nature as a mentor and teacher can enrich one’s spiritual journey.

Questions? Please contact the River House-IHM Spirituality Center at 734-240-5494 or riverhouse@ihmsisters.org

Don’t just hear the Gospel, live it!

St. Mary, Monroe is sponsoring an opportunity to “Shelter the Homeless”. We are organizing a Habitat for Humanity building crew for September 19, 2020, 8 am – 3 pm.



Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we can only allow six volunteers on the building site at 2467 Grand Blvd., in Detroit Beach. We ask that all volunteers bring their own face masks to wear for the day.

Please contact Fred Fedorowicz for more information @ (734) 243-4344 or fedorowicz@sbcglobal.net. Lunch, hardhats and safety glasses provided; no experience necessary.

Update on the Roy Sanders Memorial Scholarship Fundraiser

Due to the current situation with COVID-19, our family has decided to cancel this year’s Roy Sanders Memorial Scholarship Pork Chop Chow Down and instead proceed with a Virtual 5k on **September 26, 2020**. Roy loved to run and we believe this will be a wonderful opportunity to honor his memory. We will be holding random gift card drawings and promotions throughout the registration period and the day of the event.

For more information about the “Roy Sanders Memorial Virtual 5K,” go to <https://www.facebook.com/events/287615839111079/> or <https://bit.ly/39zasrQ>; and to keep up with all news regarding the Roy Sanders Memorial Scholarship Fund, visit (and give us a “Like”) <https://www.facebook.com/RoySandersMemorialFund>

Peace & Justice

Welcoming People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD)

According to the Center for Disease Control (2019), developmental disabilities are a group of conditions that are due to an impairment in physical, learning, language, or behavioral areas. Most developmental disabilities begin before a baby is born, but some developmental disabilities can happen after birth because of injury, infection, or other factors. The conditions may impact day-to-day functioning, and they usually last throughout a person’s lifetime. Examples of physical developmental disabilities include cerebral palsy, which is a motor disability that prevents an individual’s ability to move their muscles, and muscular dystrophies, which are a group of genetic disorders that result in muscle weakness over time.

The National Institutes of Health (2016) website explained that developmental disabilities also include intellectual disabilities, which can begin at any time before a child turns 18-years-of-age.

They are characterized by problems with intellectual functioning and intelligence as well as adaptive behaviors. Intellectual disabilities include, but are not limited to, attention deficit disorder, autism spectrum disorder, down syndrome, fetal alcohol spectrum disorders, language and speech disorders, and learning disorders. The capabilities of each person with these conditions vary widely; therefore, assumptions cannot be made about the capabilities of a person with an intellectual or developmental disability. We are called to welcome all people into the Church community, so please help promote the meaningful participation of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

If your parish provides resources and / or accommodations for people with disabilities, please contact Valerie Tyldesley, valerie.tyldesley@gmail.com, so the information can be published in the Monroe Vicariate Bulletin.

Caring For Our Common Home: The Earth

**Saturday, September 19, 2020, 9am – 11:00am
St. Mary Church and School, 127 N. Monroe St.**

**SAVE
THE
DATE**

An event inspired by Pope Francis’ 2015 encyclical: *Laudato Si’*, Caring For Our Common Home. This event is for experienced gardeners as well as recent Coronavirus inspired gardeners 10 years and over.

How Does Your Garden Grow?

Meet some gardening gurus and Take Home Some Gardening Tips – Choose two sessions

- Dale DeSloover – Master Composter; “The Process and Benefits of Composting”
- Charlie and Liz Bohland – “Prepping your garden for next year (Solarization)”
- Bill Bray and Melanie Davis – “The Loss of the Essential Honeybee”

Take Away Tips for a Better Garden, Improve the Yield of your Garden, Increase

your Respect for and Understanding of Nature, Participate in Caring for the Earth – God’s Great Gift to each of us.

This event is **free!** **Registration is limited!** Social Distancing will be observed and participants are required to wear a mask.

Register today to secure your place at: www.stmarymonroe.org More information available by contacting Patrick of Kathy Barley: 734-625-4808

Sponsored by Monroe Vicariate Peace and Justice Committee

Monroe Catholic Elementary Schools

2020

Golf Outing

Saturday, September 26
Sandy Creek Golf Course

Register online at
one.bclpa.net/mcesgolfouting



Parishes and Schools Top "Liked" Photos on Facebook



ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL TEACHERS GATHER FOR PRAYER ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AT ST. GABRIEL PARISH



FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR THESE LITTLE ONES AT MCES - ST. MICHAEL CAMPUS



FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL AT ST. PATRICK'S



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SEPTEMBER 18, 19, & 20

This year, we embark on a "virtual" festival due to COVID-19. We won't let the virus interfere with the fun times and great events hosted by our amazing parish family.

FRIDAY

FAMOUS FISH DINNER
3:00 pm until SOLD-OUT

SUNDAY

BBQ Chicken Dinner
11:00 am until SOLD-OUT

CASH RAFFLE TICKETS AVAILABLE!

Get tickets by contacting one of our chairpersons:
Aaron Jones 734-755-9169 & Bud Mazer 734-546-2794!

RUMMAGE SALE

Thursday - Sunday
9:00 am - 6:00 pm

Visit our in-person Rummage Sale going on under the BIG tent in Carleton. Come and generously purchase great items.

HAVE SOMETHING TO DONATE? Please start dropping off any eligible products Monday 9/14 through 9/16

FUN RUN

St. Patrick School invites you to the 7th Annual Back to School Fun Run to support school programs. Sponsors welcome.

ONLINE/VIRTUAL AUCTION

Opens Thursday at 9:00 am - 3:30 pm Sunday close

Browse our FESTIVAL PAGE on www.divinegraceparish.com



ST. CHARLES FAMOUS DINNERS & RUMMAGE SALE

8109 Swan Creek Rd., Newport, MI 48166

734-586-2531 • www.stcharlesnewport.org

SEPTEMBER 10-13

There is no festival this year but we will still have a rummage sale and be serving our terrific dinners (Drive-Up and Carry-Out only)

We will also have our large raffle. Please support ticket sales! (\$5,000 Grand Prize & 9 Additional Cash Prizes)

DINNERS

LAKE ERIE FISH DINNER
Friday, September 11th
5pm - until sold out

FAMOUS CHICKEN DINNER
Sunday, September 13th
11:30 am - until sold out

RUMMAGE SALE

Starts Thursday, September 10th at 9am
Sale is Friday, Saturday and Sunday too!





The **Spirituality Centers of the IHM Sisters** welcome all seekers and their quest for God. Visit our Monroe spirituality centers at River House and at the IHM Motherhouse for retreats, programs, spiritual direction – or to simply have a respite in places of quiet beauty to **pray, rest and renew.**

For more information visit us at ihmsisters.org/spirituality or contact us at **734-770-0078** or spirituality@ihmsisters.org.

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