

Bulletin Letter August 1, 2021 18th Ordinary Cycle B

From the Pastor:

"First we eat, and then we do everything else." This quote, attributed to the preeminent American food writer, M.F.K. Fisher, brilliantly and simply reflects the primacy of food in our lives. Enchantment with food is not limited to contemporary foods and Food Network fans; rather, human history and our own personal experiences support this simple truth: Life is about food. As believers, we claim that Jesus is the bread of life: The Eucharist is nourishment, our food for the journey. Our Catechism states that the Eucharist is the Source and Summit of the Life and Mission of the Church, (#70.) As Catholic people, we believe in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist: the consecrated bread. The Consecrated Bread is not merely a symbol of Jesus or a reminder of Him. Our foundational belief is that the bread and wine are Jesus, Body and Blood. As we receive him in our Eucharist, let us give thanks for him as our Bread of Life.



Last Friday evening, I attended the presentation of **South Pacific** at the outdoor theater in Clifton Park. Our very own **Zachary Simpson**, from Our Lady of Grace, gave a great performance as Lt. Cable. Zach is a cantor at OLG and a Musical Theatre Major at Syracuse University. Congratulations, Zach. We are proud of you!

Remember our **new mass schedule** begins September 11 and 12. Masses at Immaculate Conception will be offered on Saturday at 5 pm, and on Sunday at 8 and 11 am. Sundays, mass at St. Joseph's will be at 9 am and at Our Lady of Grace at 10:30 am.

IC Facilities Manager, **Chris Belrose**, had some surgery last week. He is recuperating at his home and will be out for a few weeks. Continue to get well, Chris! We are all praying for you!

With so much going on I somehow forgot to include my now very overdue congratulations to IC parishioners **Ray and Joanne Germain**. They recently celebrated 5 years of marriage with a beautiful mass at St Joseph's Greenfield Center followed by a party at the parish. Ray had been married to +Marcia for 55 years, Joanne had been married to +Ward for 40, and with their own marriage they wanted to celebrate 100 years of marriage and family. There was a big spread in THE EVANGELIST, including their photos on the cover. Congratulations and blessings – may many more years be yours!

The now **Three Parish Picnic** is rapidly approaching; September 12 will be here before you know it. We will all gather at 12 noon here at Immaculate for a celebration of our three communities. Keep an eye on the bulletin for details.

I will be away for this weekend and next. **Thank you for welcoming both Fr. Russo and Fr. O'Brien to our liturgies.** We congratulate Fr O'Brien, who recently found out he is going to be headed down to St. Mary's, Coxsackie and St. Patrick's, Ravena. Also, the weekend of August 7/8 Brother James from the Christian Brothers will make his third and final Mission Co-op Appeal, this time at Our Lady of Grace. Please welcome him and remember the Christian Brothers in October for the Mission Sunday collection .

Until next week, be well, do good deeds, and say your prayers.

Fr. Jerry

OUR PRAYER: Loving God, be present to us and grant us wisdom, so that we, who may feel anxious about change, might trust in Your love and rest in the