



IN THIS ISSUE:

Fr. CK Corner1

From the Delavan Corner3

Indulgences4

Synodal Survey6

Save the Date7

ASL YOUCAT Series 7

Reflection Question..... 7

News of St. John's8

Pray for Us8

Catholic Quiz 8

Renewal Prayer for Deaf
Catholic Church..... 8

Misconceptions9

What is the burial of
the Alleluia?10

St. Germaine Cousin 11

Masses/Services for Holy Week
202213

Interpreted & ASL Masses.....14

WELCOME (AGAIN) TO OUR SPECIAL TWO-PARTER NEWSLETTER!

Thank you for your wonderful feedback with the previous two-parter Advent/Christmas and Lent/Easter Hand in Hand Newsletters! I'm truly happy that the reaction was most pleasing. I'm going to mention one more time that the first half is to be read during the Lenten season, while the second half (the Easter section) is to be read anytime starting sunset of Saturday, April 16, 2022 when Easter Vigil begins!

During this Lenten Season, we join Jesus in His journey through His Suffering, Death, and Burial. When He was buried, the stone slab covered His tomb. While we can't peek into His tomb (yet) until

Easter, we shouldn't peek into the Easter section.

I hope you will enjoy this double-parter Newsletter with its many features and photos, including the newly added "Clarifying Misconceptions" section.

Immaculate Conception, patroness of our country, pray for us! St. Joseph, pray for us! St. John the Evangelist, patron of our archdiocese, pray for us! St. Francis de Sales, patron saint of the Deaf, pray for us! St. René Goupil, our Deaf saint, pray for us!

Blessed Lenten and Easter seasons to you! Keep safe and healthy! God bless!

FR. CK'S CORNER: THIS IS THE SEASON, THIS IS THE REASON

By Fr. Christopher Klusman



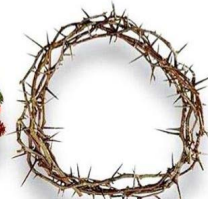
The Lenten season is here. The time seemed to fly by so quickly that it seemed like we just finished the Christmas season. The Lenten season is a very special season for us Catholics and it isn't

going to be easy to try to keep the focus on going deeper into prayer, sharing almsgiving with others and trying to remember fasting (especially on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday) as well as abstaining from meat on those days and on Lenten Fridays. There is so much happening in our world that you are

**'TIS THE
SEASON**



**'TIS THE
REASON**



going to be responsible to stay on track. *The quality of Lent will determine on how much you put into it.* The less you put into it and by doing many other things will make Lent

► **FR. CK'S CORNER - Continued on Page 2.**

MISSION STATEMENT - DEAF APOSTOLATE

The Deaf Apostolate in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee exists to enable all Catholic Deaf and Hard of Hearing people to participate fully in the liturgical, educational, pastoral, spiritual and human concerns ministries in the Church.

► FR. CK'S CORNER - Continued from Page 1.

meaningless and fruitless.

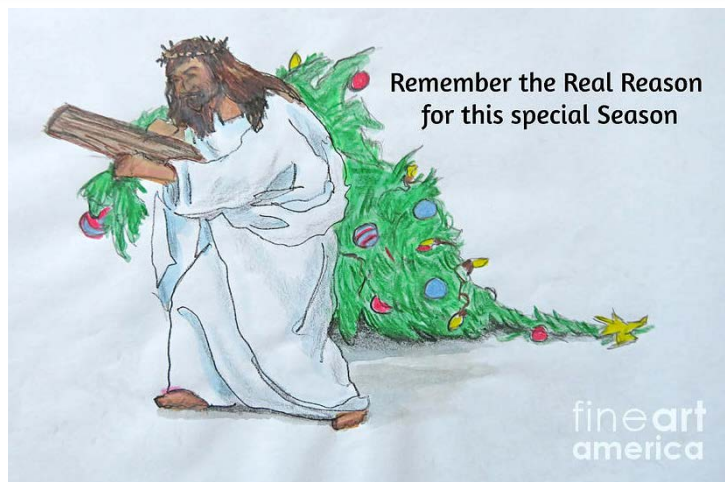
Let's now look at the images in this section. You will see a wreath that we use as a decoration for the beautiful (yet short) Christmas season. Christmas is a season of joy because of the birth of the Word (Jesus himself) becoming flesh. Our Lady and St. Joseph held the Second Person of the Trinity in their loving arms. They were able to see God face-to-face for the first time in all of history. The Second Person of the Trinity is now both God and man. But little do people see that the signs are already there that point to Jesus' suffering and death in the future.

Jesus was placed into a manger, which is an object to feed the animals. Jesus was born so he could become the Body and Blood in the Eucharist to be the Eucharistic food that feeds us. Looking at the wreath, they are from evergreen and pine trees in which their leaves do not fall like other trees do in the Autumn season, which shows us that, being baptized into Jesus, we are "born again" and thus receive eternal life (if we hold on to the faith in Jesus until our earthly death). Sometimes pinecones are used on wreaths which show the resurrection as they are seeds giving new life. Red berries show the saving blood of Jesus Christ that washes away our sins, which we experience during the Sacrament of Reconciliation. These are all made possible due to the reason of the Christmas season of Jesus coming to earth to establish the Sacraments before his ascension into heaven! There is a lot already there that are visible to us during the Christmas season.

Which leads us to this important additional point which I had mentioned in the older newsletter. If NO Christmas, then NO Easter. This also makes true this additional statement: NO Christmas, NO Lent. NO Lent, NO Easter. See how beautiful all the dots connect with each other.

The sad reality is that there are "CE" people – people who only go to Mass on Christmas and Easter. It is like you getting 2 puzzle pieces. The "CE" people do not bother with getting the complete section of puzzle pieces to get the whole picture of the puzzle itself. It would be like if I only go to birthday parties, but do not attend weddings, funerals, graduations, hospitals, etc. A big chunk of meaning is lost. I need a variety of experiences to get a greater grasp of life itself, same as we need all the puzzle pieces of Advent, Ordinary Time, Lent, Easter and on ... to get the full puzzle picture. Once we do that, then we can dive into the journey of attending to the details of the picture, as that will never exhaust in itself until our earthly deaths.

By looking at the images again, you will see a "Crown of



Remember the Real Reason
for this special Season

Thorns" with a phrase: "This is the Reason." Jesus came as the Lamb of God (an obedient and loving Victim). Jesus came also as a high priest. Jesus came to offer the perfect sacrifice through his suffering and death on the Cross. Jesus is the King whose throne is the Cross itself. While the three Kings offered Jesus the gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, they saw in baby Jesus the King of kings. Again, the three gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh show the reason for Lent (Jesus' suffering and death). For example, myrrh is oil used to rub on a corpse as they tried to do for Jesus' body after he died and was taken down from the Cross. Many things in the Christmas season are visible for the Lenten season, if only we are careful to pay attention to them.

Let's look at one more image that you probably never saw before: Jesus carrying a Christmas tree. Please don't misunderstand me – this does NOT mean that Jesus actually carried/pulled a Christmas tree during the Stations of the Cross. This is an image meant to help us think deeply about the deep connection between Christmas and Lent. The Cross is often referred to as THE tree. It is the wood that Jesus carried. So, this image is powerful because it reminds us, again, of the connection between Christmas and Lent.

During the Christmas season, I always cheer when people have Nativity scenes and car stickers saying that "Jesus is the Reason for the Season!" Now we know the deeper meaning of Jesus' actions during Christmas that are deeply connected to his actions during the Lenten season. Are there any more connections that you can think of during prayer about the connections between Christmas and Lent? Perhaps during the Lenten season, you will have more "A-ha!" moments of noticing more similarities.

Remember ... The amount of effort you put into prayer, almsgiving and fasting will reveal how much you will get from the Lenten season. Jesus is the reason for the seasons!



St. Andrew Parish

DEAF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION MINISTRY

SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

FROM THE DELAVAN CORNER: BECOMING FLUENT IN THE “LOVE LANGUAGE” DURING LENT



**By Jennifer Paul, Coordinator
Deaf Religious Education
& Deaf Ministry
St. Andrew Parish, Delavan**

Just before Christmas, I came across a post shared by many Deaf people about being left out at their family holiday gatherings and how they dreaded that. But I also saw posts by many Deaf people excited to be with their family regardless of the communication gap. There are many factors that affect the experience. I would suggest that one of the factors is the “love languages” and how that can influence the experience. This means that we have the dual problem of the communication gap **and** the discord of the love languages.

The widely acclaimed book, “The Five Languages of Love” by Gary Chapman talks about how different people express love in different ways. The author believes that there are five ways to express love: 1) doing acts of service; 2) words of affirmation; 3) spending quality time together; 4) physical touch like hugging; and 5) giving and receiving gifts. No expression of love is better than the other, so it is just the individual’s love language, and it helps the relationship (spouses, children, siblings, friends, neighbors, colleagues, etc.) to show love to that person according to that person’s love language.

Regarding the family holiday gatherings, it could be that a Deaf person’s love language is spending quality time together. In that case, if communication is non-existent or limited, the Deaf person may not be able to spend quality time together,

and therefore feel woefully unloved. On the flip side, another Deaf person’s love language is giving and receiving gifts. In that case, the Deaf person feels loved by exchanges of gifts that often take place at these gatherings and may be more willing to “let bygones be bygones.”

As Catholics, we understand that the Lenten season is about rising above self and instead focusing on the sacrificial love of Jesus for our sins:

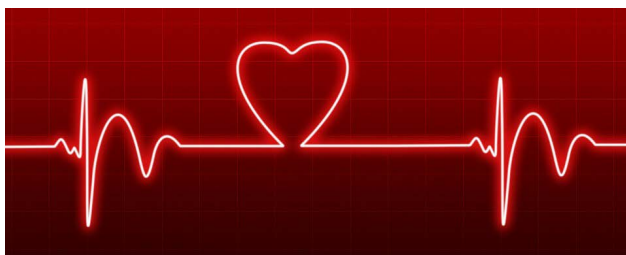
For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. (John 3: 16-17)

So, during the Lenten season, we try to be like Jesus and sacrifice ourselves. We take the effort to learn more about our loved ones’ love languages and make them feel loved in the same way God would want us to feel his love. If it means expressing love in their love language and not in your love language, it would be a beautiful demonstration of rising

above oneself and putting your loved ones first. Your loved ones could also do the same for you and show love to you in your love language.

With the Deaf family member who likes to spend quality time with loved ones, for example, learning some sign language to communicate – and ultimately to spend quality time together – would allow the love connection to pierce through! This

► FROM THE DELAVAN CORNER - Continued on Page 4.



INDULGENCES

Here is a powerful story borrowed from “Our Young People: The Friend of the Deaf,” March 1959 issue.

The Minister had been called away that evening on some affair pertaining to the ministry; so it was to his mother that Jack Roland addressed the question which resulted in unexpected changes in the Roland family.

Mrs. Roland was peacefully darning her husband’s socks at the time. She was a pretty little lady, cheerful, kind; an ideal wife for a minister, a devoted Christian mother to her three boys and one girl.

“Is it true, Mother,” Jack asked then, “that Catholics buy permission of their priests, to commit sins?”

“Why, Jack, what put such an idea in your head?” and Mrs. Roland surveyed her oldest son in some displeasure. Then she paused to consider. “I do not think it is true,” she amended, “but I am not at all familiar with Catholic practices.”

“It was this way,” Jack explained. “I was playing in Will Green’s yard today. He was talking to a boy from next door. I’ve forgotten what started the argument; but Will told this fellow his Church was no good, that Catholics buy permission to commit sins. He called it ‘Indulgences!’”

“Well, didn’t the Catholic boy say whether it was true or not?” Jack giggled. “No, he didn’t say. Just struck out, straight from



the shoulder. I didn’t wait for the finish. The last time, Dad made me promise to keep out of fights, especially religious fights, whenever I possibly could. Besides, I didn’t know who was in the right in this one.”

“Of course, your Father was right,” approved Mrs. Roland. “Fists are not convincing arguments. I’ll inquire as to what Catholics mean by Indulgences. I am really ashamed that I know absolutely nothing about the Catholic religion. A minister’s wife should be better informed,” and Mrs. Roland smiled lovingly on her boys and girl studying around the table. How happy and contented they all were.

Later Margaret Roland asked her husband about Indulgences; but after a moment’s consideration, he announced that he was ignorant of the Catholic definition of an Indulgence. He could tell her what Protestants claimed and

charged regarding it. He could not say positively whether there was truth in the charges; though the name, indulgence,

► **INDULGENCES - Continued on Page 5.**

► FROM THE DELAVAN CORNER - Continued from Page 3.

need for the love connection is so innate – even between hearing people who can easily communicate with each other, there can still be a sense of disconnection with this innate need unmet. That explains why the book is widely popular. With Deaf people, there is the lack of communication gap and crystallizing the disconnection further is the discord in the love languages. Deaf people need to feel love just as anyone.

The Lenten season in 2022 is from Ash Wednesday, March 2 to Thursday, April 14. As St. Mother Teresa said, “Not all of

us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love.” Though we may need to work harder, let’s use the Lent season to sacrifice ourselves out of love. Start by learning about the love languages of the people in your circle. Learn sign language if necessary. Then find ways how you can express their love language daily, weekly, or however often that is appropriate for that love language throughout the Lenten season. Hopefully before long, you become fluent not only in sign language, but also in the love languages for your loved ones for the rest of your lives!

► **INDULGENCES - Continued on Page 4.**

did sound a bit incriminating. Perhaps the name had caused misunderstanding.

Mrs. Roland was still interested and not to be turned aside from her endeavor to get at the truth of the matter. Indeed she found herself presently worrying over it; and it became a form of distraction in prayer or work. It was with the idea of disposing of the question once and for all that she decided to call on the Catholic priest of the town. He could give her the proper definition of Indulgences as Catholics held it. The Catholic Church and presbytery were only a short distance from Mrs. Roland's home. When she found herself waiting to see Fr. Lee, however, she was half inclined to drop her inquiry as a trivial, unnecessary matter. She was not timid or afraid of meeting the priest; Margaret Roland was not the kind to run away to refuse to meet any issue squarely. It was only this: she sensed the fact that she was taking the time of a very busy man. As she arrived someone was just leaving after making arrangements for a funeral; ahead of her a prospective bride was telling the priest how she, not the Church, wanted her wedding.

Fr. Lee proved courteous, kind. He thanked Mrs. Roland for coming to a priest in order to know the Catholic side of a question. He smiled over her account of how Jack had become interested in the matter.

"You will tell your son and others what we claim in this matter," he said. "There are many things greatly misunderstood regarding our Faith. To have the truth known is the best way to dispel prejudice. Perhaps one reason that Indulgences are particularly misunderstood is the fact, that sometimes an alms is a condition for gaining them. Thus, giving rise to our enemies' contention that we barter them. Briefly, this is the Catholic definition of an Indulgence: the remission in whole or in part of the temporal punishment due to sin. Perhaps that does not mean much to you; but at least you understand that it is not permission to commit sin. By the infinite mercy of God any, every sin may be forgiven, but His infinite justice exacts punishment for every sin. Here or hereafter that punishment must be endured: an Indulgence arranges for its remission, by prayer and good works, in whole or in part.

Mrs. Roland was deeply interested. "I knew there was some mistake," she said, then frowned with perplexity, "I've forgotten that definition already."



Just then a knock sounded on the door and: "A sick call," the housekeeper informed Fr. Lee. He arose with obvious regret.

"I am so sorry we cannot have a longer talk," he said. "I would like to explain the matter more fully to you; but if you care to study the subject for yourself, there are plenty of books and pamphlets right here on my table. Would you care to take one home?"

"Yes, I'd like to," Mrs. Roland began, then hesitated. "But I want to be sure you understand my interest in the matters merely to settle a disputed question. My own religion is entirely satisfactory. I have no wish or desire to become a Catholic."

"I understand perfectly," Fr. Lee assured, "I appreciate the spirit of fairness that brought you here. The book will tell you not only what an Indulgence is but why and whence."

As Fr. Lee prepared for the sick call his thoughts were still occupied with his visitor. He knew she was the Methodist minister's wife. To dispel prejudice is always worth while; but it was unlikely Mrs. Roland would show any further interest in Catholicity. It would be to her grave dis-advantage, the courting of disaster, should she become Catholic; but by the grace of

God that was exactly what Margaret Roland did.

The book carried her into deep waters. From the study of Indulgences, she passed logically enough to that of Purgatory, thence to the Communion of Saints – a wide, far-reaching circle comprising the Church Suffering, Church Militant, and Church Triumphant. Then with the uncompromising sincerity, which was a strong part of her character, Mrs. Roland informed her minister husband that she must become a Catholic.

Paul Roland was a fine, upright character, too. He had always been an exponent of the right of private judgment; and if his wife's conscience demanded that she enter the Catholic Church, he could offer no valid objection beyond the suggestion to be careful, to be sure.

The small town where the Rolands lived was not so lenient; nor in the least broad-minded. Prominent members of his congregation interviewed Mr. Roland and informed him that their minister could not have a Catholic wife. Patiently he explained how Margaret had only followed her conscience in becoming a Catholic. She was just as good a Christian, if not better, just as sweet a wife to him, as devoted a mother

► **INDULGENCES - Continued on Page 6.**

▶ INDULGENCES - Continued from Page 5.

to the children as when she had been a Methodist. But the congregation did not see things in the same light. Mr. Roland was requested to resign.

Then must have come to Margaret Roland bitter sorrow. Gladly she would have endured martyrdom for her Faith, in her own person, but now she must bring trouble, suffering on her dear ones. She must snatch the bread from their mouths, take the very roof from over their heads. Yet she stood firm; and did not yield. Secretly the Minister marveled and was deeply impressed by her fortitude. He knew how intense her devotion was to the children and himself; her fondness for their lovely home; the friendships of long standing forfeited by her act. Yet could she have done otherwise? She had found the Rock to cling to. Knowing the Truth, she could not return again, to a house built upon the sands.

The family moved to a larger city in the hope that Mr. Roland could obtain a position there. Bitter hardships, discouragements, poverty to be endured then, but through it all Margaret was cheerful; hopeful, too, that eventually Paul might come to embrace her Faith. For he was seeking a position now as a teacher in a college instead of applying for the place of a Protestant clergyman. That might mean indeed only a fear of criticism; objection might again be taken to a Catholic wife for a Protestant clergyman. He would not care to go through such an ordeal again; or it might mean that Paul's Methodist faith had been shaken. In the days of Margaret's first interest in Catholic doctrines he had read some of her books, with the idea of understanding her point of view, but also in the hope

of combatting it and showing her the error of her ways. So through the years Margaret prayed, toiled, hoped; and was at last rewarded.

Paul Roland obtained a good position eventually and held it through a long, peaceful life. As a teacher in one of our best colleges he was much esteemed and made many friends. In course of time he became a very fervent Catholic.

"It's not that Protestants haven't some of the truth, some of the time," he explained to an acquaintance. "But it is best to have all of the Truth, all of the time, as the Catholic Church has."

Long before, the eldest son Jack, whose question had first started the family Romeward, had become a Catholic. The three others followed his example. All married Catholics, and set about the practical task of bringing up practical Catholic families. Margaret Roland lived to see her children's children practicing that beautiful Faith for which she had sacrificed so much. But that was not all; Margaret had relatives who were shocked, indignant that she should have become a Catholic; and they, too, were won to the Truth.

I know Margaret Roland's daughter, a white-haired, charming, sweet old lady. I am told she is very much like her mother.



SYNODAL SURVEY

As part of the synodal process, the National Catholic Office for the Deaf (NCOD) is gathering feedback from the Deaf community to be shared with the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops (USCCB) who will summarize the national report that will be sent to the Vatican.

While parishes in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee (as well as in others) are working during this first phase of the Synod on gathering information, the Deaf Apostolate had shared with the Deaf and hard of hearing community an online survey created by NCOD that is due by April 30, 2022.

While American Sign Language (ASL) is the first language for some of our Deaf community members in which English is their second language; their 2nd language varies according to fluency. The Office of the Deaf Apostolate is working on



having "listening sessions" in which certain people (who are trained) will type their responses in ASL into English for the online survey. These can be done by appointment in person or through Zoom. Stay tuned for more information!

The survey is done only to gather feedback from the community that will help better understand them.

SAVE THE DATE: “NO GREATER LOVE” LENTEN MISSION SERIES

On Wednesday, March 23, 2022, there will be 18 parishes throughout the Archdiocese of Milwaukee that will provide the final Lenten Mission series. The 18 parishes are made available in three different languages: American Sign Language (ASL), English and Spanish. These Lent (and Advent) series are helping us to grow deeper in appreciation of the Gift of Sunday, most particularly the Mass.



Instead of an evening prayer service, a signed Mass will be offered in ASL with Fr. Christopher Klusman and Deacon David Sommers at 7 p.m. at St. Roman Parish (1710 W. Bolivar Ave., Milwaukee). There will be a special extended homily by Fr. Christopher Klusman. Cost is free and no registration is required. Hope to see you there!

“I believe,” said the cheery one, “that for every single thing you give away, two come back to you.”

“That’s my experience,” the pessimist said. “Last February I gave away my daughter, and she and her husband came back in August.”



REFLECTION QUESTION:

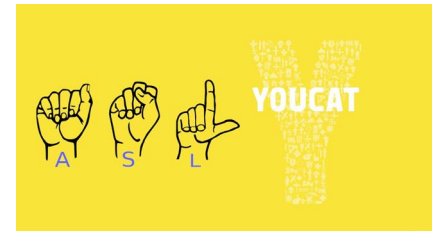
Try to start a conversation with your family and/or friends about this question.

What is your favorite Lenten devotion? Why?



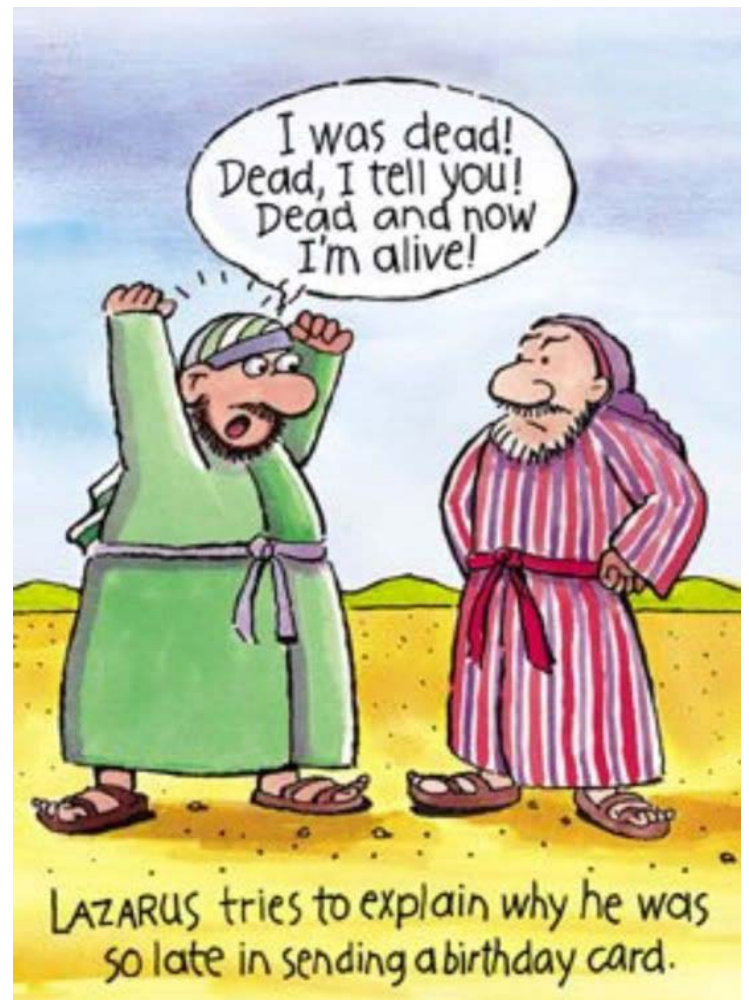
ASL YOUCAT SERIES

I have mentioned this before but wanted to remind you again...I hope you are not forgetting to watch this wonderful weekly series on YouTube. If you are not sure where to find it, it is simple.



Go to www.youtube.com and type in the search box: “ASL YOUCAT.” You should be able to find the videos. Make sure you find and watch the “Introduction to the ASL YOUCAT” video first before watching any of the videos. They have been hard at work on these amazing videos.

Again, please share this with your family and friends! You can easily post them on your Facebook pages, send through texts, and so on. This is a great way to evangelize and to ensure that you are learning the right information about our amazing God and the beautiful Catholic faith – in our own signed language!



In St. John's School for the Deaf's publications of the "Our Young People," there is a section that has their current news. I hope you will enjoy these various news clippings:

News of St. John's



Not satisfied with the beautiful green the trees were turning in April, the small boys flew colorful kites into seven or eight of them.



June, 1955

St. Valentine's Day was marked by a party in each classroom. Games, refreshments, and valentines added up to a good time for all.



April, 1955

Father Egan, S.J., who cares for adult deaf in Chicago, gave a retreat for the older boys and girls on February 9th, 10th, and 11th.



March, 1959



PRAY FOR US

During the weekend of April 1-3, 2022, please pray for all those attending the Deaf Apostolate Lenten Weekend Retreat. May it be a time for them to be safe and to grow deeper with Our Lord, Our Lady, St. Joseph and all the angels and saints.



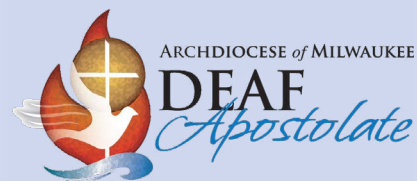
Time to Spring Ahead

CATHOLIC QUIZ (LENT)

- 1. What is the earliest date for Ash Wednesday?**
(a) Feb. 1 (b) Feb. 4 (c) Feb. 9 (d) Feb. 14
- 2. What is the 6th Station of the Cross?**
(a) Jesus meets His Mother
(b) St. Veronica wipes the face of Jesus
(c) Jesus Falls a 2nd Time (d) Simon Carries the Cross
- 3. Which Mysteries of the Rosary are recited traditionally on Tuesdays and Fridays?**
(a) Joyful (b) Glorious (c) Luminous (d) Sorrowful
- 4. What is the first animal Noah let out of the Ark?**
(a) Dove (b) Duck (c) Frog (d) Raven
- 5. The requirement of abstinence during Lent begins at age 14 and ends?**
(a) Age 60 (b) Age 65 (c) Age 70 (d) Death



(Answers on page 13.)



Renewal Prayer for Deaf Catholic Church

Father, we ask you to look with mercy at us,
your Deaf Catholic Church.

We ask you to bless us, inspire us to always love you
above all things and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

We pray to you for our bishops, our spiritual leaders.

Please bless them and give them the strength
and wisdom to guide us, their people.

Help them to recognize, understand and respond
to our unique needs.

Please bless the priests, deacons, religious and lay people
who serve our community.

Inspire them so that they may
then inspire all hearts of deaf people
to know, love and serve you and your Catholic Church.

Father, we pray to you for our baptized
Deaf Catholic brothers and sisters.

Please send your Holy Spirit to enkindle and
renew their hearts

so that they may continue to grow spiritually
through making time for prayers, receiving sacraments
and serving other people.

Our young baptized Deaf Catholics are growing up
in a challenging and confused world.

Almighty God, please help them understand
that the way of the world does not give life;
your way alone gives true life.

Please touch their hearts and guide them to find your love.

Bring them back to the Church.

Put in them the desire to pray, to receive the
sacraments and to serve other people.

Holy Spirit, come and transform each of us
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Holy Mary, our Mother, pray for us. Amen.

CLARIFYING MISCONCEPTIONS

Confirmation is probably the most misunderstood sacrament out of the seven. Let's take a quick look at the misconceptions, shall we?



Misconception #1

Many Catholics view the Sacrament of Confirmation as a type of “graduation.”

The Sacrament of Confirmation does not signify the end of your religious education or formation. Likewise, it is not the end of the parents’ responsibilities, either. The idea that “I just have to get my kid their sacraments” is not only a bad idea, but also bad theology. Confirmation is not the end; it’s a new beginning.

Misconception #2

Some Catholics think that Confirmation is a time for the child/teen to “confirm” or “accept for themselves” what was begun at their Baptism.

Again, this is incorrect. Confirmation completes the reception of grace that was begun with the grace of Baptism. It’s not about what you have to proclaim. It is about the Church confirming what happened to you at Baptism and saying that you are ready to receive the Holy Spirit in this manner.



Misconception #3

Some think that a sponsor has to be a relative or the godparent.

Sometimes, well-intentioned parents insist on who your sponsor “should be.” Their input is great and should always be respected, but the decision is yours. Just because you were named after “Great Aunt Agatha,” or because “Cousin Hector” hasn’t gotten to be a sponsor yet, doesn’t mean they are spiritually prepared for the duty. The sponsor should not only be a confirmed Catholic who goes to Mass every week, but they should be an example of what it means to live the faith. It doesn’t have to be your godparent or even a family member. Find someone you respect in the faith, in or out of your family tree, and prayerfully consider them.

As for Great Aunt Agatha, you can always invite her to the Rite of Confirmation Mass to see you receive the Sacrament. Oh, and tell her to get there early – it’ll probably be crowded!

Borrowed from 100 Things Every Catholic Teen Should Know by Mark Hart and Todd Lemieux, pages 142-143.

<p>WHY THE ASHES? THE MEANING OF ASH WEDNESDAY</p>	<p>1 ASHES WERE USED AS A SIGN OF REPENTANCE IN THE OLD TESTAMENT</p>	<p>2 ASHES ARE A PUBLIC SIGN OF OUR INTENT TO DIE TO OUR WORLDLY DESIRES AND LIVE IN CHRIST</p>
<p>3 ASHES ALSO SYMBOLIZE GRIEF, IN THIS CASE, GRIEF FOR OUR SINS.</p>	<p>4 AS OUR FOREHEADS ARE BEING MARKED, THE PRIEST SAYS: “REMEMBER THAT YOU ARE DUST AND UNTO DUST YOU SHALL RETURN”</p>	<p>5 THE ASHES COME FROM THE BLESSED PALMS USED IN THE PALM SUNDAY CELEBRATION OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR</p>

INFORMATION FROM ARCHTORONTO.ORG AND CATHOLIC.ORG



The family had overslept, and the lady of the house awoke with a start to the clanking of cans down the street. She remembered that the garbage had not been put out, so she raced down to the front door, struggled into her robe, hair in curlers, and looking sleepy-eyed, yelled, “Yoo-hoo! Am I too late for the garbage?”

Replied the accommodating collector, “No, ma’am, jump right in.”



WHAT IS THE BURIAL OF THE ALLELUIA?

This is borrowed from "The Catholic Company's Get Fed: Bite-Sized Faith." Enjoy!

It's an old Church practice that anticipates the solemnity of Lent.

"Alleluia" is the Church's great song of joy and praise, used throughout most of the liturgical year.

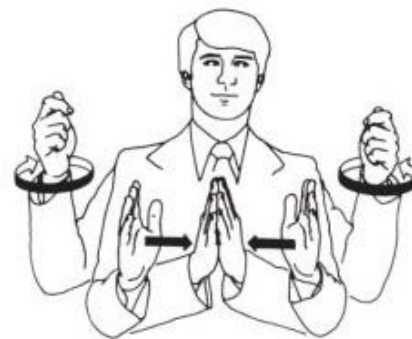
However, the solemnity of the coming Lenten season brings a more somber, reflective atmosphere to her liturgies, which will culminate in the sorrowful mysteries of Our Lord's Passion and Death.

The "burial of the Alleluia" refers to the ceremony surrounding the official liturgical end of the use of this word until the Easter Vigil, when it will be joyfully sung again in celebration of Our Lord's Resurrection.

In the current calendar, the Alleluia goes silent after Shrove Tuesday. In former times, it ceased this coming Saturday, the eve of "Septuagesima" Sunday, or the Ninth Sunday before Easter. In those days, the season of Septuagesima was a "pre-Lent" which prepared us spiritually for the 40 days that begin on Ash Wednesday.

The ceremonial dismissal of the Alleluia from the liturgy began as a simple ritual in the time of Pope Alexander II in the 11th century. However, different regions developed their own, often spectacular, variations.

These customs often included the physical removal of the "Alleluia" from the church: the word being written on a plaque or board, deposited in a box, carried in procession, and removed from view. In France, where these customs seem to have been especially splendid, the ceremony sometimes included placing the Alleluia in a coffin, burying it, and even burning a straw "Alleluia" outside the church!



Many parishes still continue some version of this tradition, either on the eve of Septuagesima or on a day leading up to Ash Wednesday. Even if a physical removal of the Alleluia isn't included, we all participate in the silence that encourages us to gradually gather our thoughts and prepare ourselves to embark on the spiritual journey of Lent.

Taken from: <https://www.catholiccompany.com/getfed/what-is-the-burial-of-the-alleluia/>



Lady speaking to garage mechanic:

"There must be something wrong with [the car]. It keeps hitting things."



ST. GERMAINE COUSIN, MODEL SAINT FOR THE MEANING OF LENT



By Fr. Christopher Klusman

During the season of Lent, who would be the model saint for us this year? Again, having model saints are so important for us because they are actual people who have lived human lives that give us a great example of how we can learn from them for our everyday lives.

This year's Model Saint for the Meaning of Lent is St. Germaine Cousin. It is interesting how her last name is also a word that means our parents' sibling's child/ren. Also,

you all are probably familiar with a famous Disney classic, Cinderella. Did you know that the life of this year's model saint is very similar to Cinderella?

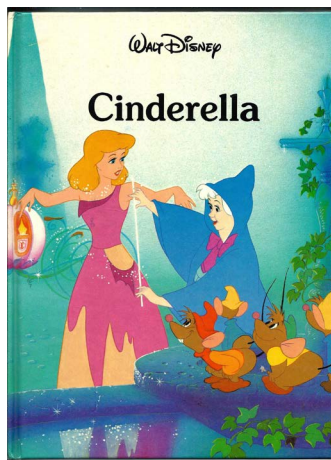
St. Germaine was born in the year 1579 in Pibrac, France, which is in the southern part of France about 10 miles west of the city Toulouse. It is near the border of Spain. The famous city of Lourdes is further southwest of Pibrac. St. Germaine was born into a very poor family. When she was an infant, her mother passed away. Not only that, she was born with a deformed right arm and hand. She also had scrofula, which is a skin disease (tuberculosis of the neck).

Her father, who worked as a farmer, married quickly after his first wife's death. St. Germaine's new stepmother immediately did not like St. Germaine. The stepmother treated her so cruelly



and horribly. Her stepsisters also learned to treat St. Germaine terribly, doing things like putting ash in her food. Don't those things remind you of the movie Cinderella?

Feeling so sick, St. Germaine was kicked out and had to live in a barn with the animals.

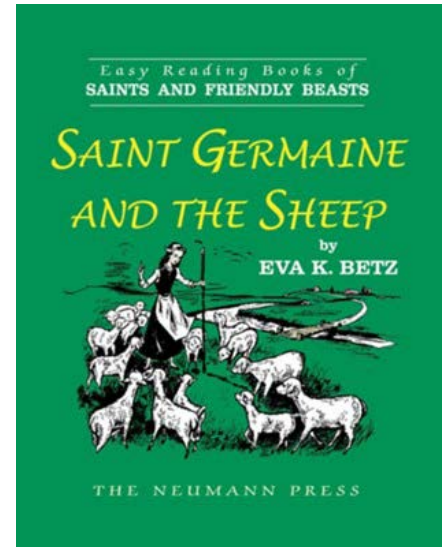


The only warmth that she could find was to snuggle in with the sheep in the barn. St. Germaine then took care of the sheep every day. It was through taking care of the sheep that she found a friend in God, much like what we learned of King David and St. Patrick of Ireland. St. Germaine would make a rosary out of knotted string and repeat a simple prayer, "Dear God, please don't let me be too hungry or too thirsty. Help me to please my mother. And help me to please you (God)."

Through all this, St. Germaine's father didn't do anything, probably because he didn't want to cause problems with his wife.

While I had thought about the story regarding Martin and St. Francis de Sales, in which St. Francis de Sales discovered that the Deaf community at that time were not seen as important enough to learn and be educated. St. Francis de Sales was furious since he felt that each person has a right to learn, especially about the most important topic: God and the Catholic faith. St. Germaine experienced the same thing, in which she wasn't seen as important enough to be schooled, but (Praise be to God!) she was able to learn the foundational basics of God and the Catholic faith. Truth be told that the rosary truly helped her with that. Also, she prayed the Angelus every day on her knees.

There are many incredible stories about St. Germaine. From her simple faith grew a deep holiness and profound trust in God. She also had a great love for Our Lady. As a result, God protected her and showed his favor on her. (1) With the responsibility of watching the sheep, St. Germaine wanted to go to daily Mass. She put great faith in God that her guardian angel would take care of her sheep while she went to daily Mass. It was a risk because it was often near the forest infested with wolves! But, God and her guardian angel never failed in making sure her sheep was well-cared for! (2) During the days when the river rose very high, the waters would part (like it



► ST. GERMAINE COUSIN - Continued From Page 11.

did to Moses) so she could pass through the river on her way to Mass. (3) The people in her village mocked her faith, but the children were drawn to her holiness. Also, more people eventually admired her for her faith. (4) One day in the wintertime, her stepmother chased her around, accusing her of stealing her bread. St. Germaine opened her apron and fresh summer flowers fell out (in the wintertime!!). St. Germaine offered flowers to her stepmother as proof of forgiveness.



And (5) while St. Germaine didn't have much food leaving her very hungry and she was really thin and bony, she still shared the little bread she had with the poor people in her village! Doesn't that remind you too of Cinderella who also shared her little food with the mice and made them clothes?

No matter what, St. Germaine always lived each day with thanksgiving and joy! Amazing! Even during all the hardships, persecutions and sufferings she went through each day! She often offered her sufferings in reparation for the sacrileges done by heretics in the nearby churches. She often went to the Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confession. St. Germaine showed great humility in all she did. She showed how each human life is important. St. Germaine kept on teaching the children about the love of God.

Around that time, St. Germaine's father started to realize how wonderful his daughter truly was. He actually asked St. Germaine if she would want to move back into the house to which St. Germaine politely declined, saying that her real home is with the animals in the barn. Around that time, other men eventually saw such holiness in her.

During the year 1601 when she was 22 years old, her father noticed one morning that she didn't wake up at her usual hour. He went to find her, only to find her dead peacefully on a bed of straw and leaves. She was buried (without any embalming) in the parish church in front of the pulpit.



In 1644 (43 years later), a relative of St. Germaine was buried. St. Germaine's casket was opened and her body was found fresh and incorrupt (preserved),



meaning without decay. While people had always seen her ugly and lowly by worldly standards, the miraculous love of God had transformed and glorified her. Her body was laid out for public viewing near the pulpit. One noble lady (a wife of Francois de Beauregard), decided to offer a lead casket for St. Germaine as an expression of thanksgiving. As a result, she was cured of a malignant and incurable ulcer in the breast, as well as her son's life restored to health. Her casket was laid to rest in the sacristy. In the years of 1661 and 1700, her remains were seen to still be incorrupt.

► ST. GERMAINE COUSIN - Continued on Page 13.

SAINTS FUN FACTS by John Sheppard

St. Germaine Cousin was physically abused by every one in her life, including her mother and siblings. She was very sickly and was made to sleep in the barn. As she grew older, her relationship with God deepened.

She attended Mass daily no matter what the conditions. God swollen river to allow she could attend Mass. He also protected her flock while she was away. She was very holy and her body did not decay after death. Forty years later she was deemed to be incorruptable and her canonization began.

no matter what even parted a her to pass so

(c) 2009 John Sheppard - Distributed by Catholic Online - www.catholic.org



MASSES/SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK 2022

NOTE: As of this date, parishes are finalizing plans for their Holy Week Masses/services, including those that are Signed and Interpreted. The Deaf Apostolate will keep you informed through its weekly broadcast emails. If you want

to know of any Signed/Interpreted Masses/Services for Holy Week, please email at deafapostolate@archmil.org. This is the greatest week of Masses/services, so don't miss out!

Septuagesima, Lent and Holy Week 2022

	Septuagesima Sunday <i>(Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time - Novus Ordo)</i>	13 February
	Ash Wednesday	02 March
	First Sunday of Lent	06 March
	Passion Sunday <i>(Fifth Sunday of Lent - Novus Ordo)</i>	03 April
	Palm Sunday <i>(Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord - Novus Ordo)</i>	10 April
	Maundy Thursday	14 April
	Good Friday	15 April
	Holy Saturday	16 April
	Easter Sunday	17 April

 Catholic Fortress
facebook.com/catholicfortress

► ST. GERMAINE COUSIN - Continued From Page 12.

Sadly, in the year 1793, a revolutionary tinsmith named Toulza desecrated the casket by throwing quick-lime and water on it. After the French Revolution, her body (thankfully) was found intact except for the casket.

Nevertheless, people in the area began to pray for her intercession and many miracles and healings happened through her intercession – especially cures from blindness (both from birth and from disease) as well as hip and spinal diseases. Pope Pius IX beatified her on May 7, 1864 and then canonized her a saint on June 29, 1867.

So, while Cinderella had a tough time with her wicked stepmother and stepsisters, she was able to have a “Happily Ever After” ending. This is the same for the real-life Cinderella: St. Germaine Cousin!

Every year on June 15, we celebrate the Memorial of St. Germaine. You would see her often represented with a shepherd's staff, a watchdog, sheep, or flowers in her apron. She is truly a great Model Saint for the Meaning of Lent and for our whole lives!

St. Germaine Cousin, pray for us!

Quiz Answers: 1b; 2b; 3d; 4d; 5d (The requirement of fasting begins at age 18 and ends at age 60).

INTERPRETED & ASL *Masses* THROUGHOUT THE ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE



- ASL WEEKEND MASS -

**St. Charles
Borromeo
Parish**

5571 S Marilyn
St., Milwaukee,
WI 53221

Time: Saturdays, 6 p.m.

Please email deafapostolate@archmil.org
for updates on Signed Masses, as we are
resuming normal schedules, etc.



- CLOSED CAPTIONED MASS -

St. Clare Parish
7616 Fritz St.,
Wind Lake, WI
53185

E-Mail: bulletins@tds.net

Website: stclarewindlake.org

Times Listed Are Subject to Change



- INTERPRETED SUNDAY MASS -

St. Andrew Parish

714 E. Walworth Ave.,
Delavan, WI 53115

Time: 9 a.m.

E-Mail: [deafministry@](mailto:deafministry@sascatholics.org)

sascatholics.org

Website: standrews-delavan.org



**St. Mary's
Immaculate
Conception**

1610 Monroe St.,
West Bend, WI 53090

2nd Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

Email: rprim@wbparishes.org

Website: stmaryparishwb.org



St. Peter Parish

2224 30th Ave.,
Kenosha, WI
53144

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Please request at least 3 days in advance to:
broadwayterp73@gmail.com.

Website: stpeterskenosha.com



St. Joseph Parish

1619 Washington
St., Grafton,
WI 53024

1st & 4th Saturdays at 4 p.m.
and 3rd Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

E-Mail: parish@stjosephgrifton.org

Website: stjosephgrifton.org



**St. Paul the
Apostle Parish**

6400 Spring St.,
Racine, WI 53406

Time: 10 a.m.

(on certain Sundays)

Please check with office prior to attending

E-Mail: svrana@stpaulracine.org

Website: stpaulracine.org



**Shepherd of the
Hills Parish**

W1562 County
Road B, Eden,
WI 53019

Please email deafapostolate@archmil.org

for schedule

Website: sothparish.org



ARCHDIOCESE
of MILWAUKEE



pssst.

DO NOT OPEN UNTIL

EASTER





IN THIS ISSUE:

- Fr. CK's Corner..... 1
- The Via Lucis 2
- From the Delavan Corner. 3
- Reflection Question 4
- Catholic Quiz 4
- News of St. John's 4
- Reverend James Hall 5
- How can I be a 5
- Good Godparent? 7
- St. Vincent Ferrer 8
- Playground 10
- The Apostolate of Smiling.... 12
- Clarifying Misconceptions... 13
- The Date of Easter 13
- A Splash of Holy Water 14
- Contact Information 17

FR. CK'S CORNER: WHAT IS YOUR IMPACT?

By Fr. Christopher Klusman



The Lenten journey is now finished, and we've now arrived at the holiest solemnity (and season) of the liturgical year: **Easter!** Jesus is Risen, Alleluia!!!

Like I said earlier on page one of the Lenten section, just as when the round stone slab covered Jesus' tomb when he was buried doesn't mean that you can roll away the round stone slab by PEEKING inside yet until Easter, meaning to not also peek into this section!!! When the time arrived for Jesus to rise from the dead – when the round stone slab rolled away – then this section is made open for you to look and read through.

Praise be to God for his greatest gift: Jesus' resurrection. My prayers are with you during this beautiful season of rejoicing!

I had mentioned about my experiences with driving and seeing Christmas decorations. I will also talk about seeing Easter decorations, too. During the Christmas and Easter seasons, I remember seeing lots of decorations about Santa Claus, reindeers, the Grinch, rabbits, duck, and eggs. My heart ached at how the world tries to change the meaning of those two beautiful and “impactful” seasons by replacing Jesus' birthday with Santa Claus and the Grinch (??), while replacing Easter (Jesus' resurrection) with bunny rabbits!! So heartbreaking ...

But I'd pass a house here and there with a Nativity scene during Christmas season. Then I'd pass other houses during Easter with signs of “He is Risen!” My heart, which was weeping, changed to rejoicing! I thought, “Praise that household for their witness to Our Lord!” They are making an impact through their

► **FR. CK'S CORNER - Continued on Page 2.**

Easter Joys

The joys of the Resurrection are with us to gladden many hearts. And true Easter happiness is centered in the Risen Saviour. It spells Christ-like peace and resignation. It is a song of gentle trust in God. It means the clothing of the soul in the white garb of Sanctifying Grace.

The smile of the sun, the fragrance of the flowers, the youthfulness of Spring, the welcome of friends, the soaring of incense are but minor chords in the harmony of Easter. Without the Risen Christ they may soothe, but not satisfy. Without Him they are but vain and empty. “If Christ be not risen from the dead, then our faith is vain, and we are still in our sins; but Christ has risen from the dead, the first fruits of them that sleep.” This is the true Easter happiness – in Christ Jesus, Our Lord.



MISSION STATEMENT - DEAF APOSTOLATE

The Deaf Apostolate in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee exists to enable all Catholic Deaf and Hard of Hearing people to participate fully in the liturgical, educational, pastoral, spiritual and human concerns ministries in the Church.

► FR. CK'S CORNER - Continued from Page 1.

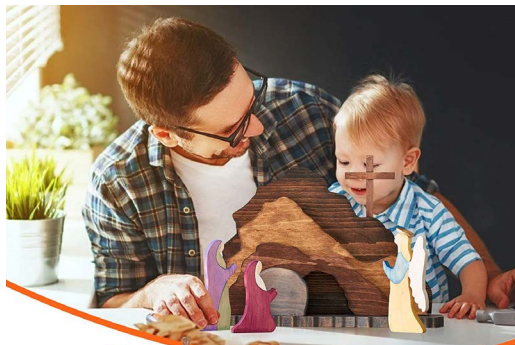
decorations!

This leads to an important question for us: What decorations have we been using during the Christmas and Easter seasons? Do we know how many people pass our homes? Do we know how many people see the items in our homes? And the impact it can have on them? If they see Santa Claus and bunny rabbits, it teaches them something. Or if they see a Nativity scene and a "He is Risen!" sign, what would that teach



them? There is a BIG difference.

Maybe you are thinking, "What is my TINY and ONLY ONE home going to do compared to all the many homes? What



"I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples."

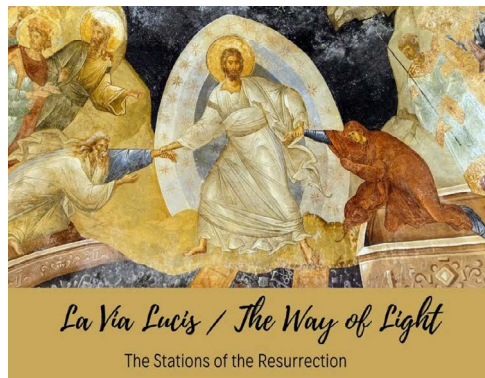
- Mother Teresa

is my impact going to do?" Don't forget what St. Mother Teresa said (see picture): "I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples." And another amazing quote, "If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one." The answer is: YES! Your TINY and ONLY ONE home with Nativity decorations and Jesus' resurrection decorations do make an impact!

I close here with an opportunity for you to think deeply: Think about the one impact your one home can have for people driving and walking by. Think about the impact your home's decorations will have when people go inside and see your Catholic decorations for Christmas and Easter. Happy decorating!!

THE VIA LUCIS: THE STATIONS OF LIGHT

With the Lenten season over in which we have prayed with the Stations of the Cross, we can now turn to a different Stations of the Cross called the *Via Lucis*, the Stations of the Light, which show the many important events of the newly Risen Jesus.



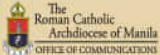
You are most welcome to join this beautiful devotion on YouTube. When you log in, go to the search box and type in "Deaf Apostolate Milwaukee." You will find various videos. You may have to scroll down to find the *Via Lucis* videos in which there are a total of 17 videos. Begin with the Introduction video, then watch in order the 15 Stations. At the end, there is a Conclusion video. They are all in American Sign Language (ASL).

Enjoy! The Lord is Risen, Alleluia!

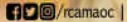
VIA LUCIS

The *Via Lucis*, or The Way of Light, or The Stations of the Resurrection, is a prayer ritual that is much lesser known than the more traditional practice known as The Stations of The Cross. The *Via Lucis* is far more contemporary having been initially presented in 1988 and formally adopted by the Vatican in 2001.

This prayer devotion focuses more on the light and hope that is the direct result of the Resurrection of Our Lord on Easter Sunday. The *Via Lucis* is observed by some parishes on Friday evenings during the Easter season, and in other parishes on Sunday afternoons or evenings from Easter through to Pentecost Sunday.



The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Manila
OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS



/rcamaoc | www.rcam.org



St. Andrew Parish

DEAF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION MINISTRY

SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

FROM THE DELAVAN CORNER: SELF-DISCIPLINE FOR EASTER AND EVERY LITURGICAL SEASON



**By Jennifer Paul, Coordinator
Deaf Religious Education
& Deaf Ministry
St. Andrew Parish, Delavan**

Last year, we talked about how Easter is a liturgical gift to start anew after a period of repentance and sacrifice during the Lenten season. As we begin anew, we need to pray for self-discipline to be better than before. It is like Catholics have a second chance at New Year's Resolutions!

All kidding aside, we pray for self-discipline in thoughts, words and actions so that we can be the best version of ourselves for the Easter season and for all seasons thereafter. Fortunately, along with prayer, we have several more reinforcements to help build up our self-discipline.

Self-discipline is tough. Research shows that we give up on New Year's Resolutions about two weeks into the new year. I know I am guilty of that, and I have only myself to blame. A well-known proverb, "You can lead a horse to water, but you can't make it drink" comes to mind. At the end of the day, we are the ones responsible for our own thoughts, words and actions. We are also responsible for NOT doing things we are supposed to do, i.e., sins of omission. Of course, this is not about people who are intellectually and/or mentally incapable of making such choices. This is for the general population with reasonable capabilities and self-determination over their lives.

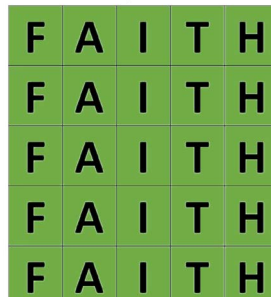
Having made our sacrifice(s) during the Lenten season, which gave us plenty of practice for self-discipline, we can take comfort knowing that we have pulled through the Lenten season. It is

from that practice we have a stronger resolve to start anew and to make a more concerted effort at self-discipline. That is one reinforcement given to us from the Lenten season.

In our Religious Education class, we talked about different ways God shows himself to us. One of the ways God shows himself is the Mass. We talked about the Order of the Mass, which is divided into four parts: 1) Introductory Rites; 2) Liturgy of the Word; 3) Liturgy of the Eucharist; and 4) Concluding Rites. Regarding self-discipline, during the Introductory Rites, there is a step for the examination of conscience called the Penitential Act where we pray the following:

"I confess to almighty God, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God."

WORDLE



This prayer during the Introductory Rites at Mass is another reinforcement. Every time we celebrate Mass, we say the Penitential prayer. It invites the all-powerful Holy Spirit to come in and help hold us accountable. We do feel stronger with the Holy Spirit as it steels us against temptation!

At last, but not least, we have the gift of Reconciliation (also called Confession). It is an opportunity for us to acknowledge our sins with deep repentance. Committing sins and confessing

► FROM THE DELAVAN CORNER - Continued from Page 3.

them repeatedly would not sit well with us, we just would not feel good. We would feel that we ought to know better, though God is Mercy and ever so patient!

Therefore, the gift of Reconciliation is a good reinforcement to keep in mind as we try to nurture our self-discipline. We

take comfort that while we do not need to be afraid of making mistakes (which are, at times, really sins), we also know that the all-powerful Holy Spirit is within us to help us stay strong and true to him with the sins wiped clean.

As we keep learning what thoughts, words and actions would be pleasing for him, we pray for self-discipline to abide by his teachings this Easter season and for many seasons for all eternity!

REFLECTION QUESTION:

Try to start a conversation with your family and/or friends about this question.

What is the true meaning of Easter? Why?



They spent the evening dining. They danced, and then a show. She had no thought of the expense; the money – it did go!

They parted at the front door; she whispered with a sigh, "I'll be home tomorrow night." He answered, "So will I!"



In St. John's School for the Deaf's publications of the "Our Young People," there is a section that has their current news. I hope you will enjoy these various news clippings:



The older children are eagerly preparing for their Confirmation day on May 18th. The Bishop will administer this sacrament at St. John's on that day.

May, 1957

When the Pilgrim Virgin statue was at Sacred Heart Church, just across the street from St. John's the children were privileged to visit the church and see the beautiful statue.

May, 1958

Screams of delight were heard all over the playground one April day when the little tots hunted and found Easter eggs hidden in various places. Again it's thanks to the Optimist

May, 1960

CATHOLIC QUIZ

1. Who raised Dorcas from the dead?

- (a) St. Peter (b) Jesus
- (c) St. Paul (d) St. Timothy

2. How many Sacraments are only received once?

- (a) 1 (b) 3 (c) 4 (d) 5

3. Jesus is from which Tribe of Israel?

- (a) Asher (b) Joseph (c) Benjamin (d) Judah

4. Who asked Pontius Pilate for Jesus' body and placed it into his own tomb?

- (a) Zebedee (b) St. Joseph of Arimathea
- (c) St. Mary Magdalene (d) St. Paul

5. What moved the object in front of Jesus' tomb?

- (a) earthquake (b) the object moved itself
- (c) the 12 Apostles (d) an angel



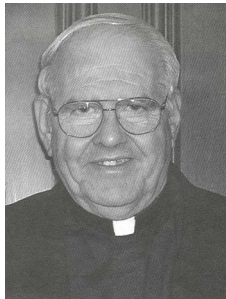
(Answers on page 16.)

REVEREND JAMES HALL, M.S.C.: A MINISTRY FROM THE HEART (SEPT. 8, 1936 – JUNE 26, 2006)

In some of our newsletters, we have interviews or articles about various individuals. In history, there are a few Deaf priests in the world. Do you know about Fr. James Hall? While he passed away shortly after his 5th anniversary of his priesthood June 26, 2006, I hope you will enjoy a beautiful article in tribute of him and his service to God's Deaf flock. This article is from the Society of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart (MSC) Newsletter (called the *Spotlite*), Vol. 27, No. 3, from the Fall of 2006.

By Reverend Joseph A. Mulcrone

Fr. Jim Hall loved to tease people. He saw the humor and irony in many aspects of life. So, it was sadly ironic that for someone who had such a loving heart and who belonged to a religious community committed to the Sacred Heart, that Fr. Jim should die suddenly sometime Monday, June 26th.



Fr. Jim's life was the story of someone with an amazing heart. He was born in Painesville, Ohio, on September 8, 1936. He became Deaf from spinal meningitis at age nine. As a young man, he had to overcome many of

the prejudices and stereotypes people had of Deaf persons. So often, the Deaf person (like all young people with disabilities) is repeatedly given the message, "can't". You are Deaf... blind... in a wheelchair... have Cerebral Palsy... etc., and society, the schools, even your closest relatives tell you, "Well you can't have dreams like everyone else; your goals have to be different (less) than other young people; aim lower."

Fr. Jim Hall had experienced such attitudes, though NOT from his family! Yet, Fr. Jim had a desire to serve Christ from his earliest days. Therefore, he would not allow the faulty attitudes of others to discourage him from seeking the Lord in his own life and choosing to serve the Lord in the way he felt was best.

I was privileged to know Fr. Hall, to work with him, and to have often enjoyed his friendship. He told me once that the reason he had chosen the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart was because of the visual symbol of the Order: The Heart of Jesus. As a young Deaf person, that symbol and what it represented touched him very deeply.

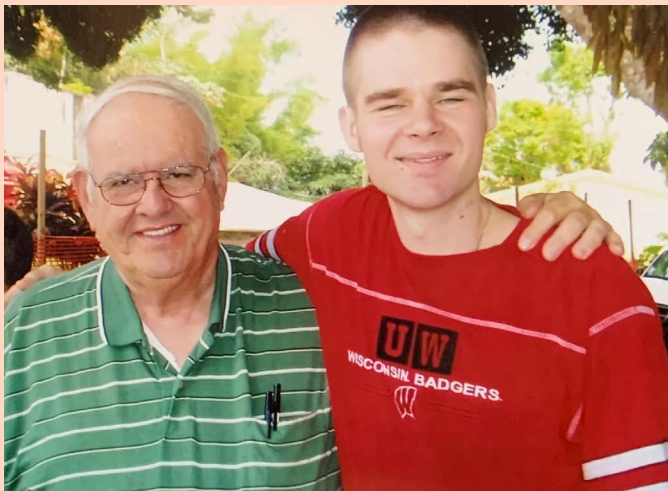
Fr. Jim entered the novitiate of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart at the MSC center in Shelby, OH in 1972. He made temporary profession of vows in 1973 and perpetual vows as a Religious Brother in 1976. Brother Jim enjoyed the various responsibilities he had in the Order. Yet, he was never satisfied. He always believed he could accomplish more.

From 1980-1983, he studied at Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C., where he received his B.A. degree in Psychology (with honors!). After that, Brother Jim wanted to do more for the Deaf community. He realized that the vast

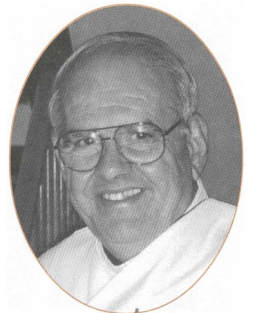
“Becoming a priest is a great joy for me as I reach out and touch the lives of other Deaf in a special way which includes bringing the word of God into their lives and helping them to live His word. I feel especially blessed to be part of this ministry.”

—Fr. Jim Hall, M.S.C.

TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE



Note from Fr. Christopher Klusman: On the 5th anniversary of Fr. James Hall's ordination June 9, 2006, I had the huge honor of being with Fr. Hall. Fr. Hall was going to offer a Mass in celebration of his milestone. He shocked me by asking me, "Christopher, would you do the honor of being my acolyte/ server?" I was like, "YES!" To this day as a future Deaf priest, it truly meant so much to me to be able to share that with him.



► REVEREND JAMES HALL - Continued on Page 6.

► REVEREND JAMES HALL - Continued from Page 5.

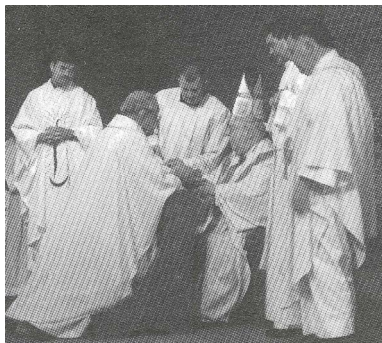


majority of Deaf people in the United States (and the world!) were unevangelized. He believed that as a Deaf person, he could witness to the Gospel in a unique way.

As Brother James Hall, he worked for a number of years in the Diocese

of Gary, Indiana. In his role as Pastoral Worker with the Deaf, he... visited the sick and forgotten... arranged for Masses and sacraments to be interpreted in sign-language for Deaf people... worked to get Deaf children into religious education programs... held a yearly retreat for Deaf people... tried to develop marriage enrichment programs for Deaf couples. And always, ALWAYS, traveled all over — bringing with him his wonderful smile and great sense of humor. He always made himself available for anyone who would come to him with a problem or a question about faith. He chalked up an amazing number of miles in his ministry throughout the northern part of Indiana.

On June 14, 1998, Brother Jim was ordained to the Diaconate at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Hammond, Indiana. As a deacon, he worked at Our Lady of Consolation Parish in Merrillville, Indiana. In 1999, he moved to Aurora, Illinois to do part-time work with the Deaf Ministry in the Archdiocese of Chicago, while continuing his studies for the priesthood. (At this point, it would be a natural question to ask, “how did he live in Aurora, do ministry with the Deaf in the Archdiocese of Chicago, and study for the priesthood?”) Locked inside that large body and behind that always-smiling face, was a heart that burned with deep desire to be of service to God’s people. Jim Hall knew that in the United States, there are less than 10 Catholic priests who grew up Deaf. Jim understood better than most how much a DEAF PERSON’S VOCATION was an incredible symbol of hope for people in the Deaf community.



After diligent study, Most Reverend Thomas G. Doran, bishop of the Rockford Diocese, ordained Deacon James Hall to the priesthood on June 9, 2001 at St. Therese of Jesus Church in Aurora, Illinois. At the age of 64, he became only the 7th Deaf

person to be ordained a Catholic priest in the United States.

The day of his ordination and the next day’s celebration of his First Mass were incredible

events. These were days filled with the sacramental liturgies of the Church, the gathering of the MSC community, a tremendous turnout of family, friends, and Deaf people; all expressed in voice... and SIGN LANGUAGE! It is hard to overestimate the incredible sense of pride and joy felt by Deaf people at Fr. Jim’s ordination. As much as he was a member of his own human family and a deeply committed member of the MSC family, it was his Deaf “family” to whom Fr. Jim brought an authentic sense of the “Good News” of Jesus Christ.

After his ordination, Fr. Jim maintained a busy and, at times, hectic schedule. He celebrated the Mass and Sacraments in the Archdiocese of Chicago, as well as the Dioceses of Joliet and Rockford, Illinois; Gary, Indiana; and Madison, Wisconsin. He traveled around the country and gave retreats to Deaf communities from Texas to the East Coast. He participated in Catholic ministry workshops with the National Catholic Office of the Deaf, located in Washington, D.C. Yet, there was a particular ministry that Fr. Jim did with unalloyed enthusiasm.

Fr. Hall never tired of visiting people in nursing homes and hospitals. He would get into his car early in the morning after celebrating Mass, and off he would go from Aurora to... the northern suburbs of Chicago... a small town in Indiana... the residential facility for Deaf senior citizens in the heart of Chicago... anywhere a Deaf person needed a visit or wanted the comfort of the sacraments. He brought people the Eucharist, shared with them the Sacrament of Reconciliation, anointed them with the comforts of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. Yes, Fr. Hall liked the other aspects of ministry, but his gift of care and concern for those who were suffering and alone was special.

I have been a diocesan priest for over 35 years. My experience of religious life and how each Order has its own charisma is not part of my experience. Yet, through Fr. Jim Hall, I came to appreciate what the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart believe as their particular ministry in our world today.

The motto of the MSC is “May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be Loved Everywhere!”



► REVEREND JAMES HALL - Continued on Page 7.

HOW CAN I BE A GOOD GODPARENT?

This is borrowed from “The Catholic Company’s Get Fed: Bite-Sized Faith.” Enjoy!

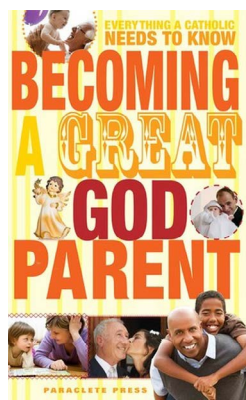
Being a godparent is a joy – and a big responsibility.

When a friend asks you to be the godparent of their new baby, you likely feel a sense of great honor. As you should — choosing a godparent isn’t a decision that Catholic parents take lightly! The godparent has a huge role to play in this child’s life.

The responsibilities of godparents are quite lost in today’s society and, since we live in society, it’s easy even for us Catholics to forget what a godparent is really for. The modern world seems to consider it just a sentimental gesture, a nice way to pay tribute to a family friend.



For the Church, however, the godparent is much more. In fact, at least one godparent is required for the Sacrament of Baptism.



So what does a godparent do that is so important? Well, in short, it is his or her job to make sure the child is raised in the Faith.

While this, of course, is primarily the parents’ responsibility, a godparent provides surety for the child’s faith if the parents are unable or are struggling to form their child in the Faith. Even



if the parents are doing fine in this department, a godparent still offers everyday guidance and assistance. Additionally, a good godparent is an extra source of support for the child in other arenas — offering advice and encouragement

throughout the child’s life.

The handy little book [Becoming A Great Godparent](#) offers some insights from Catholics regarding their relationship with their godparents. Some say that their godparents were deeply involved in their lives and were an invaluable support through thick and thin. Others say that their godparents weren’t involved at all. Of course, we all want to be the former, not the latter!

But how?

It starts, of course, with a godparent’s presence at the baptism and with prayer. No matter what happens, we as godparents can and should always pray for our godchildren. We should also try to be present — as far as possible — at their reception of the sacraments as they grow older. And for all the time in between, we should strive to keep up communication with our godchildren, encourage them in their faith practices, teach the Faith when necessary, and offer support, especially in times of difficulty.

It’s a lifelong commitment. We won’t always do it perfectly, but if we accept the role and its responsibilities, the rewards for us and our godchildren will be eternal.

Taken from: <https://www.catholiccompany.com/getfed/how-can-i-be-a-good-godparent/>

► REVEREND JAMES HALL - Continued from Page 6.

Fr. Jim Hall gave his heart — with a ready smile, a great sense of humor, and a deep love — to all he met. In the most special way, he proclaimed THE GOOD NEWS of JESUS CHRIST to Deaf people everywhere — many of whom had only seen the Church as belonging to hearing people only.

His death truly broke the hearts of many Deaf people and those hearing people, like myself, who were privilege to minister with him and call him “friend.” As we gather with his sister, Joan Hall, his sister-in-law, Alice Hall, and their families, and joined with

his MSC family, we prayed, smiled, cried, laughed, but most of all — MOST OF ALL — celebrated God’s great love. He had given us a loving son, a caring brother and uncle, a dear friend, a wonderful priest, a model of ministry, and a truly wonderful example that what counts most in the end is the memories we leave. Our memory of Fr. Jim Hall is of someone who believed in the love of God, and never stopped communicating that love — in all he did, in how he preached, but most important — in the way he loved us all.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.

ST. VINCENT FERRER, MODEL SAINT FOR THE MEANING OF EASTER

By Fr. Christopher Klusman

Jesus Christ is Risen! Alleluia! While thinking about Jesus' Resurrection, this led me to think: "Did any of the saints ever raise anyone from the dead?" Be careful about this, as there is a big difference between raising people from the dead versus Jesus' Resurrection.

Jesus is the only person who rose from the dead (particularly, resurrected). The others who were raised from the dead, such as Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead, St. Peter raising Tabitha (Dorcas) from the dead (Acts 9:36-43) and St. Paul raising Eutychus from the dead (Acts 20:7-12) are more like "resuscitations" in which those people will die again. But with Jesus' Gift of finally rising from the dead (particularly: the resurrection), now those who had died (after Jesus' Resurrection) leading lives of faith in Our Lord will be resurrected at the Second Coming of Jesus. Be sure to know the difference. So, thinking and praying for who would be the model saint for the meaning of Easter this year... it has to be about a saint who did raise (resuscitate) several people from the dead!

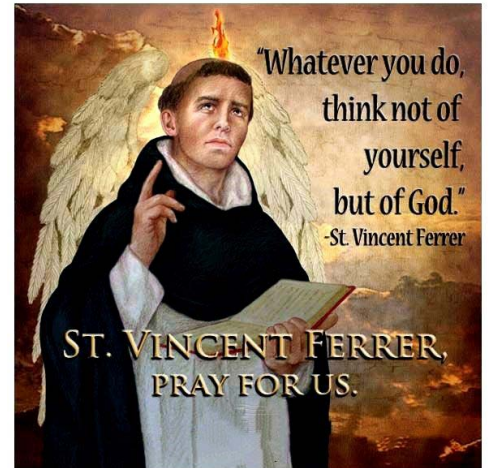
For this newsletter's Model Saint for the Meaning of Easter, we will learn about St. Vincent Ferrer, a famous and powerful saint who had raised people from the dead. Let's look at this fascinating saint and what he can teach us... I have borrowed some of these stories from a website whose author is Sunil Saldanha at: <https://medium.com/@suniljepc/st-vincent-ferrer-and-the-stories-of-those-he-raised-from-the-dead-3a3d0f48d057>.

St. Vincent was born in Valencia, Spain on January 23, 1357. During the year of 1374, he entered into the Order of Preachers, otherwise known as the Dominicans, which is the same order as the famous St. Catherine of Siena and St. Thomas Aquinas. In his studies, he had received his doctorate. After that, St. Vincent worked hard to try to become a perfect follower of Jesus Christ on a daily basis. When St. Vincent was 46 years old, he became very ill. Our Lord appeared to him with St. Dominic and St. Francis.

Jesus said, "Arise, then, and go to preach against vice; for this have I specially chosen thee. Exhort sinners to repentance, for my judgment is at hand." St. Vincent was immediately healed and went to be a missionary: evangelizing in nearly every province in Spain. Having a gift of languages, he went



on to preach and evangelize in France, Italy, Germany, Flanders, England, Scotland and Ireland! Many conversions (and miracles) happened as a result of God working through St. Vincent! He even converted St. Bernadine of Siena and Blessed Margaret of Savoy.



There is a cool story about an innocent man who had been condemned to death in Pamplona. St. Vincent knew that the man was innocent and tried to help him without success. While they were having a procession to lead the man to the scaffold for his execution, they ran into another procession that included people carrying a corpse to a cemetery. St. Vincent had an inspiration and spoke to the corpse, saying, "You no longer have anything to gain by lying. Is this man guilty? Answer me!" The dead man on a stretcher sat up and said, "He is not [guilty]!" As soon as the dead man spoke those shocking words, St. Vincent offered to reward him to become alive again. The man said, "No, Father, for I am assured of salvation." After having said that, the man laid back on the stretcher and was dead. So they went on to carry his body to the cemetery for burial.

There is one story that showed the important lesson that no one must mock the gifts God gives to others. There was an incident when a boy pretended to be dead, while his friends snickered. St. Vincent went over to the boy and said, "He pretended to be dead to amuse you, but evil has come upon him; he is dead!" Yikes! A cross was placed there to help people remember that lesson.

There was a horrible incident that was made better by St. Vincent. While on a missionary journey, St. Vincent was allowed to stay at a place welcomed by a married couple. The wife was said to be a virtuous woman, but she suffered from bad attacks of the nerves that led her close to madness. One time after the father had left to listen to St. Vincent's preaching, he came home to find his son dead, chopped up with a portion of his son served to him as a cooked meal from his wife!! Realizing what happened, he fled in horror to St. Vincent. St. Vincent went back to the place with the father and prayed as he gathered the pieces together. He said to the father: "If you have faith, God, who created this little

▶ ST. VINCENT FERRER - Continued on Page 9.

► **ST. VINCENT FERRER - Continued from Page 8.**

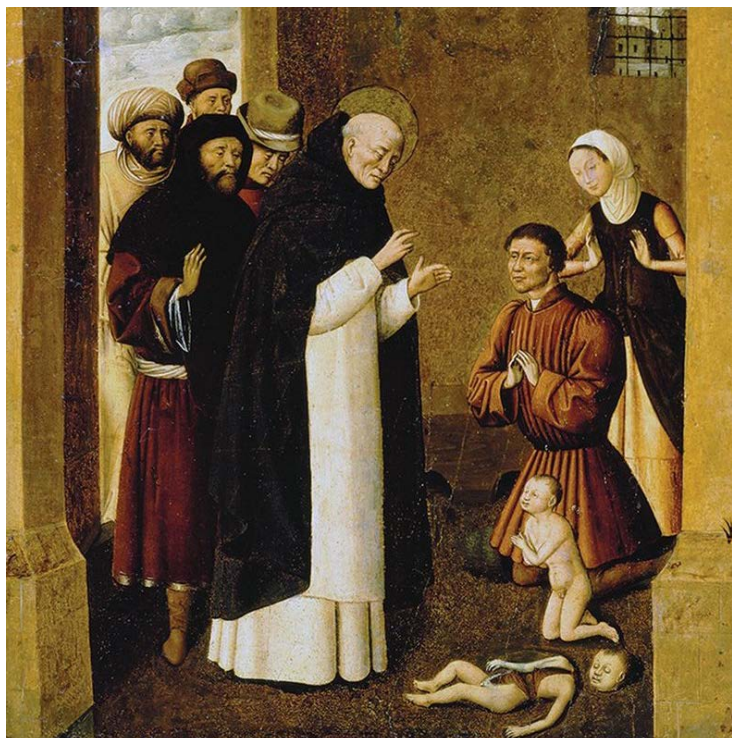
soul from nothing, can bring him back to life.” St. Vincent knelt and prayed and made the Sign of the Cross over the reassembled body. The pieces came back together, and the boy came to life and St. Vincent gave back his son to the father. Praise be to God! This incident is made into a painting that now hangs in the Vatican Museum by Francesco del Cossa. This miracle is one of many submitted by the bishop for St. Vincent’s canonization.

There were other events as well. I will include one more that happened after St. Vincent Ferrer became a canonized saint. Here is an excerpt from the website by Saldanha:

In another report, a priest judged a child to be dead. The child’s whole body was mangled and broken. A vow was made, and the child was restored to life. It is not known for certain whether this is the same child as that in the following miracle.

Fifty years after Vincent’s death, young Jean de Zuniga, son of Don Alvar de Zuniga, Duke of Placensia and Arevola, and of his Duchess, Leonor de Pimentel, died at the age of 12. The Duchess’ confessor, Jean Lopez de Salamanca, O.P., counseled the noble lady to invoke his fellow Dominican, the newly canonized Vincent Ferrer.

The mother made a vow to build a church and convent in St. Vincent’s honor. As soon as she had formulated her vow, the boy came back to life. This boy became the Grand Master of Alcantara, the Archbishop of Seville,



The tomb of Saint Vincent Ferrer inside the Vannes Cathedral, with a reliquary bust on top where his relic is placed.

and a Cardinal. The Duchess became very devoted to Vincent and fervently desired that his life, virtues, and miracles be written about. When a grand ceremony was held at the newly finished cathedral, the Duke and Duchess presented their son, and the raised boy then understood all about his resuscitation.

On the feast day of St. Vincent Ferrer at that same cathedral, the scheduled preacher became ill and did not appear. But a wonderful, charming, unknown preacher appeared from nowhere – and mysteriously disappeared after giving his sermon. Many believed it was Vincent repaying the honors given him.

Records show that St. Vincent had raised (resuscitated) from the dead about 24 people! It was done solely for the purpose of giving greater glory to God and for the conversion of sinners! The saints said it was not their power (which they had none) but God’s power working through them.

St. Vincent Ferrer died at Vannes (Brittany, France) April 5, 1419. April 5th is his feast day. He is considered a patron saint of builders because he built up the Catholic Church’s community and helped make her stronger through his preaching, missionary work and teachings.

St. Vincent Ferrer, pray for us!

Boo: “My brother fell from a fifty-foot tree this morning.”

Hoo: “Goodness! Was he killed?”

Boo: “No, he had only climbed up three feet.”



“ANGELS” TRANSFORM PLAYGROUND INTO CHILD’S PARADISE



Saturday traffic jam — Patrick O'Brien, Eddie Hoberg and Kevin Haggjenjos deliberate at the crossroads.



Donna Sheehan and Brenda Wernimont gallop across the prairie while Jean Glenn and Janet Jerins slide the time away.

Begun in the previous Fall 2019 Newsletter, an article/feature is chosen from an older newsletter to revisit important people, events and places in our rich history. I hope you enjoy this selection from the St. John's Newsletter dated May 1968. With spring already here, as well as the newly Risen Lord giving us a new life with God, this article fits in with a new chapter at St. John's School for the Deaf in which they have a new playground. Enjoy the article and photos!



Intent on kite flying are Bradley Nesmith and Marty Sphatt . . .

Spring activities began unusually early this year, due to the mild winter. The first sure sign was the kites. Spring was heralded by Rita Kucinic. Soon after, many more colorful kites began dancing high overhead. It was fascinating to see boys standing on empty oil drums or on the hill, slowly moving their heads back and forth. Their string and kites were barely visible, and then somehow the trees suddenly loomed up and

swallowed quite a few.

Hardly a day passed this year that our little boys did not run around our beautiful new one-fifth mile racetrack. This winter it filled the big gap created by the lack of snow for sleigh riding and the absence of the gym. But Spring brought a new sight. Sister Marie Celeste felt that her Fair Ladies should get some fresh air and exercise, so she set the good example. The little boys loved it. First, they raced with Sister. What a panic. Some went around twice. She persisted. Now the High School Girls use the track, and the little boys look up admiringly at them.

No Birds

We have only one sad note this spring. The birds have not moved into our area as their familiar landmarks are gone. We hope that by next year they will reestablish themselves.

Sitting back and watching Cinderella's Fairy Godmother change a little thing into a dream come true might prompt some practical people

to say that it is only fantasy. It can not be true. But we at St. John's have seen something little and very unassuming looking, change our play areas into a child's paradise. And who is the Fairy Godmother? Why it is you, and you, and you.

For the elementary and high school boys there are three basketball courts in back of school. There is a constant stream of balls going in and out of the nets. Sometimes the teams have four players, other times there are 12 or more, but there are always enough players to keep the game interesting.



. . . but look where it went. Oh well, no matter. That's Kevin Crawley to the rescue.



Okay you guys. On your mark! And before you can say "bang" John Colleran, Nick Flanagan, Leo Dignan, Steven Levin, Neal Ahearn, and Kevin Crawley are on their way down the track.

► ANGELS - Continued from Page 10.



And what's better than a sand pit when digging for silver?

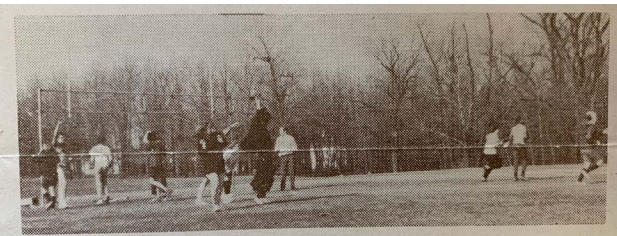
For the first time the Nursery set has its own play area, and do they ever have a ball or (should I say bawl) out there! The setting is two large concrete figure eights for bike riding. A climb around, a space saver slide, six special swings, and two sand pits are in the centers of the eights, while attractive

airplanes and animals on Chrysler springs are lined up along the shrubs. Bill Keane and Charles Schulz could find much aspiration while watching our 20 imaginative 3- to 6-year-olds go through their capers.

A child's concept of fun on the slides is to climb up the slide section and walk down the steps, or to go down the slide head first, backwards or over the side. On the swings, it is best to stand, sit two to a swing, twist the chains, twirl back to normal position and then start all over again. How come grown-ups keep spoiling all of the fun?

Tether Ball

Something entirely new for us is playing tether ball. The boys' court is right by the back door and so from the minute they get outside until minutes after the last boy is back in the building the ball is in perpetual motion. Many of the neighborhood children have made friends with our boys over a game. Our boys really can wallop that ball.



High school baseball game. Who caught that fly — the flying nun?

Another first at Saint John's is a baseball area for the elementary girls. It is out on the parking lot

between the pond and the front of the school. Now the girls will not have to be afraid of having their home runs spoiled by the ball sailing through a window. [The area] is intensive, imaginative, and adequately equipped.

Fairy Godmother we still need you! Please wave your magic wand and keep those S and H Green Stamps coming our way.

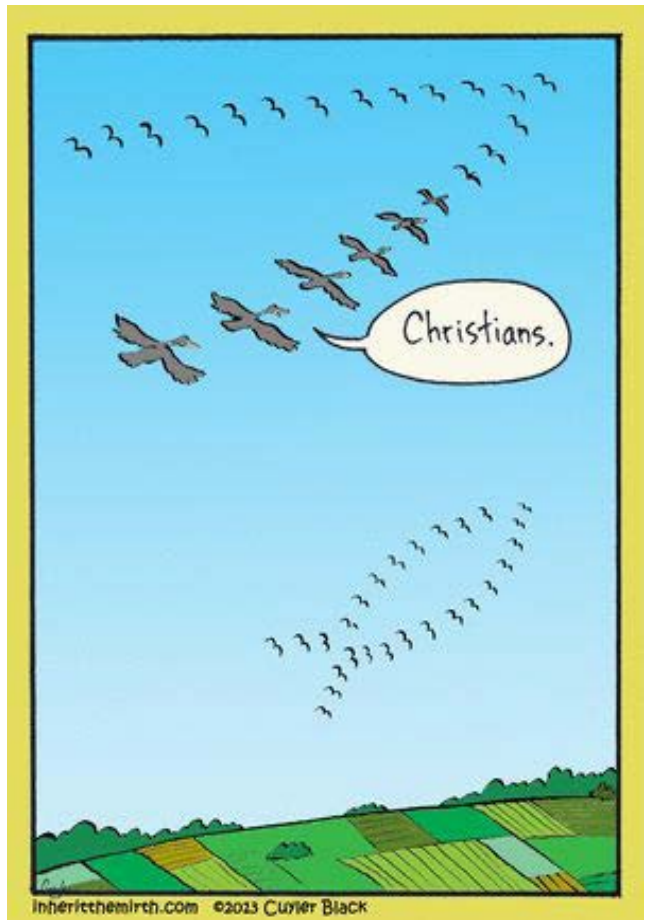
We think you're just grand!



Good form there, Gary Smith! But did he make it to second base?

Hate has 4 letters, so does Love.

Enemies has 7 letters, so does Friends. Lying has 5 letters, so does Truth. Negative has 8, so does Positive. Under has 5, so does above. Cry has 3 letters, so does Joy. Anger has 5 letters, so does Happy. Right has 5 letters, so does wrong. Hurt has 4 letters, so does Heal. It means life is like double edged sword... so transform every negative side into an aura of positivity... We should choose the better side of the life.



THE APOSTOLATE OF SMILING

Just a Little Smile on Your Lips

Cheers your heart
Keeps you in good humor
Preserves peace in your soul
Promotes your health
Beautifies your face
Induces kindly thoughts
Inspires kindly deeds



Smile to yourself . . . until you notice that your constant seriousness, or even severity, has vanished.

Smile to yourself . . . until you have warmed your own heart with the sunshine of your cheery countenance. Then

Go out — and radiate your smile

That smile . . . has work to do — work to do for God. You are an apostle now, and your smile is your instrument for winning souls.

Sanctifying Grace dwelling in your soul will give the special charm to your smile which will render it productive of much good.

Smile — on the lonely faces

Smile — on the timid faces

Smile — on the sorrowful faces

Smile — on the sickly faces

Smile — on the fresh young faces

Smile — on the wrinkled old faces

Smile — on the familiar faces of your family and friends — let all enjoy the beauty and inspiring cheer of your smiling face.

Count . . . if you will, the number of smiles your smile has drawn from others in one day. The number will represent how many times you have promoted contentment, joy, satisfaction, encouragement or confidence in the hearts of others. These good dispositions always give birth to unselfish acts of noble deeds.

Your smile . . . can bring new life and hope and courage into the hearts of the weary, the overburdened, the discouraged, the tempted, the despairing.

Your smile . . . can help to develop vocations if you are a Priest, a Brother or a Sister.

Your smile . . . can be the beginning of conversations to the Faith.

Your smile . . . can prepare the way for a sinner's return to God.

Smile, too, at God . . . Smile at God in loving acceptance of whatever he sends into your life, and you will merit to have the radiantly smiling face of Christ gaze on you with special love throughout eternity.

The Wounds of the Risen Christ

JESUS said to the Apostle Thomas: "Put in thy finger hither, and see My hands; and bring hither thy hand and put it into My side; and be not faithless, but believing." (John xx, 27.)

Yearly during Eastertide, we have before us by faith the risen Saviour ascending to heaven and sitting at the right hand of His Father, whence He sent the Holy Ghost down upon the Apostles.

The Gospel and the Doctors of the Church teach that in this glorious and triumphant state, our Divine Saviour preserved the marks of His Passion, and it is thus that He is always represented by Christian painters. Saint Thomas in his *Summa Theologica*, says: "It was fitting for Christ's soul at His Resurrection to resume the body with its scars." (3a. q. liv. Art. 4.)

1 In the first place, for Christ's own glory. For Bede says on Luke xxiv, 40, that He kept His scars not from inability to heal them, but to wear them as an everlasting trophy of His victory. Hence Saint Augustine says (*De Civ. Dei. xxii.*): Perhaps in that kingdom we shall see on the bodies of the martyrs the traces of the wounds which they bore for Christ's name: because it will not be a de-

formity, but a dignity in them; and a certain kind of beauty will shine in them, in the body, though not of the body.

2 To confirm the hearts of the disciples as to the faith in His Resurrection (Bede loc. cit.)

3 That when He pleads for us to the Father, He may always show the manner of death He endured for us (Bede loc. cit.)

4 That He may convince those redeemed in His blood how mercifully they have been helped, as He exposes before them the traces of the same death (Bede loc. cit.)

5 That in the Judgment-day He may upbraid them with their just condemnation (Bede loc. cit.)

Hence, as Saint Augustine says (*De Symb. ii.*): Christ knew why He kept the scars in His body. For, as He showed them to Thomas, who would not believe except he handled and saw them, so will He show His wounds to His enemies, so that He who is the Truth may convict them, saying: Behold the Man whom you crucified! See the wounds you inflicted! Recognize the side you pierced, since it was opened by you and for you, yet you would not enter!

Grade Three was making up a spiritual bouquet for the priest, and one of the little boys proudly presented his offering of 225 litanies recited during a fifteen-minute recess period.



"But Tommy," the Sister objected, "how could you possibly say so many litanies in so short a time?"

"It was easy, Sister," said Tommy. "I took my prayer book and made the Sign of the Cross and I said:

"All the saints on this page, pray for us."

"All the saints on the next page, hear our prayers."

"All the saints on the next page, we beseech you to hear us."

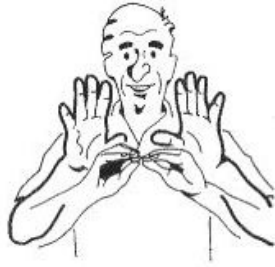
"And from all things on the last page, O Lord, deliver us."

CLARIFYING MISCONCEPTIONS

In my conversations with some members of the Deaf community, I'm always surprised when they realize that the Holy Spirit is also God, too ...

Misconception #1

The Holy Spirit is not God, but has some important role with God.



No matter how many times, but I'm always so shocked when the Deaf people look at me with their eyes open wide and mouths gaping open as they say, "the Holy Spirit is God too?!"

Here is a quotation from the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* #253: "The Trinity is One. We do not confess (believe) three Gods, but one God in three persons, the 'consubstantial Trinity.' The divine persons do not share the one divinity among themselves but each of them is God whole and entire: 'The Father is that which the Son is, the Son that which the Father is, the Father and the Son that which the Holy Spirit is, i.e., by nature one God.'"

From #254: "The divine persons are really distinct from one another. 'God is one but not solitary.' 'Father,' 'Son,' 'Holy Spirit' are not simply names designating modalities of the divine being, for they are really distinct from one another: 'He is not the Father who is the Son, nor is the Son he who is the Father, nor is the Holy Spirit he who is the Father



A good concrete illustration of the Blessed Trinity is an equilateral triangle. Such a triangle has three sides equal in every way, and yet distinct from each other. There are three sides, but only one triangle. As we see in this illustration, each Divine

Person is different from the other two, but all three are God. Each one is God, distinct from the two others, and yet one with them. The three Persons are equal in every way, with one nature and one substance: three Divine Persons, but only one God.

or the Son.' They are distinct from one another in their relations or origin: 'It is the Father who generates, the Son who is begotten, and the Holy Spirit who proceeds.' The divine Unity is Triune."

So, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit is God. This means that the Holy Spirit is God Himself. I also double-check with others to make sure they also know that Jesus is the Son and that he is God himself, too.

THE DATE OF EASTER

Easter is the first Sunday which occurs after the first full moon of the spring equinox, or more accurately the fourteenth day of the moon. The earliest date is March 22 and the latest is April 25. In the first centuries of the Church there existed a very famous dispute in determining Easter. Some churches followed the Jewish computation and celebrated Easter on the fourteenth day of the moon of the vernal equinox no matter on what day of the week that date fell. The Western Church held forth for Sunday as the day for the celebration of Easter, and through the authority of the pope, that custom prevailed and became the law. This dispute occurred under Pope Victor about the year 190. The council of Nice (A.D. 325) determined for the universal Church that Easter should always be celebrated on a Sunday, that this Sunday should follow the fourteenth day of the paschal moon and that the paschal moon was that whose fourteenth day followed the spring equinox.



A SPLASH OF HOLY WATER

Here is a moving story shared to me from the "Our Young People: The Friend of the Deaf" issue. The front cover is missing, so the date is unknown.

I shall ever remember the shock I received when Mother Kelly ushered me into that neat little sitting room at her plain old boarding-house. Everyone called her Mother Kelly and the name came to be regarded among the boarders as a respectful honor. She was a real dear of a mother to them all, but she had her [unique] little ways. Has there ever existed a boarding-housekeeper who hasn't had them?

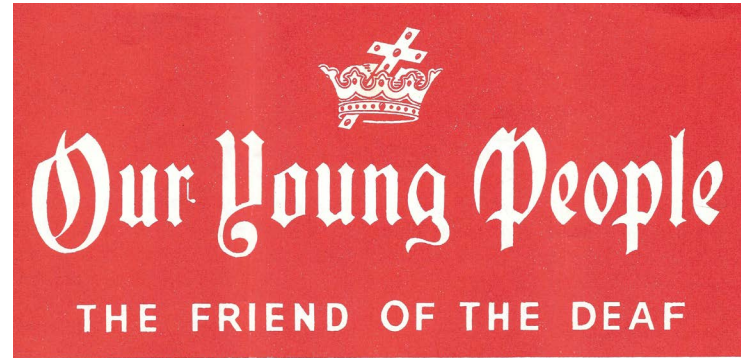
The group will always remain in my memory as they were sitting there that night – a truly happy family.

Looking out over a newspaper was big Dan McCarthy with his merry blue eyes twinkling and his laughing mouth humorously dispelling the adverse situations. "Big-hearted Dan" he was affectionately termed, and the name was fitting because his generosity, both in and speech and in material assistance to many a poor fellow, was his outstanding characteristic.

Molly Kelly, the widow's only child, a girl of twenty summers, almost took my breath away when she seemed to search my thoughts with her big brown eyes. Placing her fancy-work on the table as he stood up, she tossed a wisp of brown wavy hair over her ear and displayed as attractive a person as one could desire to view. I had a suspicion then, that I'd love this new acquaintance, but I might have realized that every young man must have felt the same way toward her.

Young Brian Pitt sat at the end of the table and chewed the handle of his pen over his half-finished school exercise. Brian had been sent by his father from the country so that he could benefit by attending the Christian Brothers' College. He grinned, shook hands with me, and shuffled back to his chair to chew the pen handle again.

A rather superior young fellow, Ken Bowman, rose, placed his book and pipe on the table and gave me a courteous welcome. His very correct manners seemed to remind one that Ken was a little above the ordinary – but still tolerable. He was a bank accountant and a friend of the "Big-Hearted Dan." Usually Mother Kelly would not accept boarders until they were



recommended by the priest, and Ken was not even a Catholic but he was allowed in temporarily to please Dan.

Molly slipped out and placed my belongings in what was to be my room. She was one of those thoughtful types of girls to whom it never was any trouble to do just the right thing to make people pleased. Tea was announced and as we sat down to table I got a shock. "Bless yourselves now" said Mother Kelly, "and let us say Grace." I confess I almost blushed, but the rest of the "family," excepting Ken Bowman, complied without any noticeable concern.

Mother Kelly then proceeded to brandish an ordinary eight-ounce medicine bottle while she held her finger partly over the opening of the neck. Large drops flew into every corner of the room and over every person there. "There now," said she, quite contented with the purifying effect of her administration.

"Hmmm," came from Ken as his head reappeared over the level of the table and a splash immediately flew in that direction with the general remark, "A drop wouldn't do you any harm."

Mother Kelly had no respect for persons in the distribution of Holy Water; she believed in it and used it profusely.

Even when Molly was going to the theater and had finished the application of cosmetics so as to appear a startling beauty, she would receive a shower which would leave the holy drops upon the eyelids and nose. Never did the sweet child do other than smile.

Another thing was conceded to Mother Kelly – her love of news. Everyone of the household would unburden to her the latest that was abroad, but this was seldom "news" to Mother

► **HOLY WATER** - Continued on Page 15.

► **HOLY WATER - Continued from Page 14.**

Kelly. Sometimes she was a little late with the meals after spending a few minutes at the corner shop. Sometimes she was late as she strolled slowly down from the church on the hill, a smile across her brow and her calm eyes expressing the pleasure of a contented mind.

Ken would tease her by referring to the shortage of water in Father Mahon's house and prophesied a curtailment of the water in the font. The smile never left her face.

Sometimes when Ken was abed and his thoughts of the day's cares were slipping, while sleep invaded his person, a few drops of Holy water would fall on the semi-conscious form of the "heathen," as he was playfully referred to.

Every one of us admired her neat, clean home and enjoyed the kindness she daily showed to her "family," but the wheels of Time never rest, and, as the years passed round, one morning saw the sunshine and Mother Kelly had not raked the boys out for Holy Mass. She was ill, so it was Molly who knocked on the doors that morning.

There was always some good intention why we should bestir early; perhaps it was Brian's examination; perhaps someone was "entering" today; perhaps the Holy Souls; perhaps a sick friend; an anniversary; a thanksgiving or a favor. We often said that we did more novenas than would fit in the year, and all except Ken, from the church hill, saw the sun rise morning after morning. Ken received the enviable cup of tea before the party, who were fasting, left the boarding house. It was evident that Ken was very often in the old lady's thoughts.

What a strange feeling it was to imagine her ill. It was not possible for us to know Mother Kelly other than she always was - happy. As we joked and smiled to cheer her, the days drifted on and quietness crept into the household. No one hinted that she was not improving. The doctor came twice a day instead of once. Molly never left the bedside, but, nevertheless, it became necessary to remove her to the hospital. A few days later big-hearted Dan, who was in touch with the doctor, depressed the household by informing them that there was "No hope."

That night at the hospital a quiet, thoughtful party endeavored to take the old lady's mind off herself, while we talked by the bed which held the fading frame.

"You'll soon be right again and you'll be out of here in a few days, Mother," said Ken.

"Yes, only a few days, Ken, but I want to ask you something before I go."

Molly hurriedly fumbled and straightened the bed clothes. "Yes,

Mother, when you do get up, it will do, don't worry Ken now."

"There's many a good kick in you yet, Mother," cheerfully contributed Dan.

"This time I am going to meet my God."

An awkward pause followed this declaration. The frank statement froze me to helplessness; I could not make any remark. My eyes involuntarily turned to Molly. She had turned quietly away to fix the flowers by the window, while tears glistened on her long eyelashes.

"Er, you're not going to do anything like dying; we're expecting you home in a week," said Ken, trying to banish the idea.

"Yes, I am," was the resigned reply. "I am not so dull as to misunderstand my condition. The impression from Father Mahon's long talk to me today convinced me."

"You wouldn't be so happy; you know that well."

"Why shouldn't I be happy?"

"If you were going to die!"

"That makes me happier, my boy."

"Oh! Mother, how could you die and feel happy? I'd feel intensely miserable and perhaps I'd be shaking and howling."

"My boy, I always trusted God; I believe in Him and He'll not forsake or disappoint me now. I am ready when He wishes to call me."

Silence fell on the party. Mother Kelly lifted up her Rosary beads which had heard numerous supplications from her during the past years. "God will welcome me. What more do I want?" Such sweet faith.

It was soon time for us to go and we left Molly conversing with the Sisters and awaiting the arrival of her aunts.

We passed out into the street. The cold silence of the night seemed to magnify the tread of our heavy feet.

Ken brought us back to our world of reality. It seemed odd to hear him speak; his voice was different. "Do you mean to say that counting the prayers on the Rosary gives one courage like Mother Kelly has?"

If you were suddenly asked that question by a non-Catholic, about whose sincerity you previously were skeptical, you would understand that feeling which confounded me. Big Dan relieved the strain; his worlds were slow and kind.

"Ken, the beads are not required to make one believe in God. Beads, books, statues, crucifixes, and even churches only help us

▶ **HOLY WATER - Continued from Page 15.**

to honor God and pray to Him; the basis of the Catholic religion is Faith in God - the rest are adjuncts to His praise and glory.”

“Well, I always thought Mother Kelly was a good principled old lady. I know tonight my opinion of her is right, but this has made me think.” He lit his pipe and continued, “There’s more in this than I anticipated – it’s not window-dressing. This is the first time that I’ve come so closely in contact with one facing death.”

Dan and I remained silent. I doubt which of us was thinking the harder.

Ken was determined to spend as much time as he was allowed in Mother Kelley’s company, and, in her last hours which passed quickly, he sat at the window and watched her. I reserved all my support for Molly and Dan scarcely slept. Ken told us later that he was desirous to know how she traversed beyond her last few milestones on this earth. He afterward told me, “I benefited from the valuable example of a weak old woman with just her faith in her church, defying with a soft smile the terrors of death.”

When the sorrowing day came, the hundreds of tearful eyes of downcast persons too truly told the history of her good actions in life – out of which she passed peacefully while praising God.

Molly’s aunt managed the boarding house and she was precise and exact. The boys always got their meals on time then, but they got no Holy Water, except in special danger, when Molly would administer it.

Again the wheels of Time demanded change – I was transferred to a position in another town. I kept in touch with Molly and Dan by as many letters as I conveniently found time to write, which, however, became rarer as the years passed.

Molly invited me back to spend my annual holidays with them. I accepted. The old home was filled again with laughter. As big-hearted Dan and I walked up the steps, a [different] feeling that I felt in some past years came over me. The room was much the same. Molly enthusiastically welcomed me, and her eyes – between tears and smiles – drew my affections to breaking point. She looked more beautiful than ever and I felt I must tell her so – when I noticed the ring.

I ventured to congratulate her without showing my feelings. “Oh! Who is the lucky man?”

“Ken.”

“The heathen?” The word slipped playfully from me.

“Yes,” was her slow quiet answer, and she pressed my arm with an expression that seemed to hope I’d express approval. “I’ll tell you all about it later, but you remember that night when Mother

wished to ask Ken a question?”

“I’ll never forget.”

“Well, she never asked it and that worried him; he told me so; he thought she would ask it of him before she died. That was why he remained in her presence so much.”

She hesitated a while and we seemed to be very much alone.

“Well, I asked him that question.”










“What was it?” This demand was spoken before I had time to check my tongue. I felt annoyed that I was so careless as to ask it.

“Had he a soul? Mother wished him to supply the answer to his own conscience, satisfy himself that it was honest, and answer it any time – even on his death bed. Well, that question led to many a long talk. Once he admitted he was really afraid Mother Kelly would conquer him when the stray drops of Holy Water seemed to accompany him to peaceful sleep.”

I smiled as the thought of those happy old days passed through my mind. Molly’s lips parted also and her eyes shone.

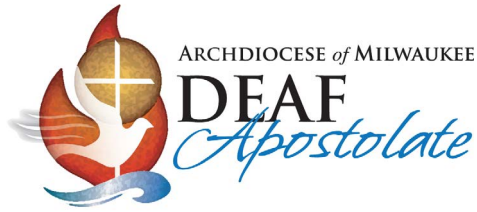
“He’s no longer the ‘heathen’ now!” she said.

I told her I was glad and I felt so because I was sure Mother Kelly prayed for his conversion. Certainly, Ken had found matter for thought and in the end Mother Kelly could claim another victory.

 <p>HOLY WATER & ITS MEANING</p> <p></p>	<p>1 ORIGINS</p> <p>ACCORDING TO THE CHURCH'S TRADITION, POPE ST. ALEXANDER I INSTITUTED THE USE OF HOLY WATER, AND DETERMINED TO USE SALT IN ITS BLESSING.</p> 	<p>2</p>  <p>WHY WAS ITS USE INTRODUCED IN THE TEMPLE?</p> <p>TO REPLACE AN ANCIENT JEWISH TRADITION IN WHICH MEN WASHED THEIR HANDS BEFORE PRAYING, AS A WAY OF ASKING GOD TO PURIFY THEM.</p>
<p>3 WHAT DOES IT SYMBOLIZE?</p> <p>IT SYMBOLIZES OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST'S SWEAT ON THE MOUNT OF OLIVES, AND THE BLOOD THAT FLOWED FROM HIS PIERCED SIDE.</p> 	<p>4 WHAT ARE ITS EFFECTS?</p> <p>DISPELS ANY DEMONIC POWER OVER PEOPLE AND PLACES WHERE IT IS SPRINKLED.</p>  <p>TAKES AWAY DISTRACTIONS DURING PRAYER.</p>  <p>REMOVES VENIAL SINS.</p>  <p>INFUSES US WITH THE DIVINE BLESSING TO RECEIVE THE SACRAMENTS AND ADMINISTER THEM.</p> 	
<p>SOURCE: Churchpop.com • 5 cosas que no sabías sobre el Agua Bendita (Translated) http://es.churchpop.com/2016/09/13/cosas-que-no-sabias-sobre-el-agua-bendita/</p>		

Quiz Answers:

1a; 2b; 3d; 4b; 5d



CONTACT INFORMATION

*Office Hours: Tuesdays to Fridays
(Fr. Christopher is off Sunday early evenings & Mondays)*

Fr. Christopher Klusman
Director
klusmanc@archmil.org
Office: 414-501-2022 (Videophone/Voice)

General Inquiries:
deafapostolate@archmil.org
Office: 414-455-2245 (Videophone)

EMERGENCIES Only: Text Fr. Christopher at 414-793-1369

HAND IN HAND SUBSCRIPTION

Two ways to get the Hand in Hand newsletters:

- (1) **E-mail:** Cost is FREE and will be emailed to you. Please fill out this online form to get your Newsletter at: <https://www.archmil.org/deaf-apostolate/offnav/Subscription-Form.htm>
- (2) **By Mail:** Fill out and send registration form & check below.

MAILED (PAPER COPY) SUBSCRIPTION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, & Zip Code: _____

Cost: \$8.00 for 4 Newsletters from January to December 2022.

Make checks payable to: The Deaf Apostolate.

Mail to: **Deaf Apostolate, Archdiocese of Milwaukee**

3501 S. Lake Drive, PO Box 070912

Milwaukee, WI 53207-0912