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SPECIAL EDITION OF THE WINTER NEWSLETTER!

Happy Advent! Welcome to the first part of the Winter Newsletter. This issue is for the Advent season. Another newsletter, the Christmas Newsletter, will be ready by Dec. 24. Enjoy!

The Immaculate Conception, patroness of our country, 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 Alexandre Plans Sauri, pray for us. Little Li, pray for us.

FR. CK'S CORNER: WAITING ...



By Fr. Christopher Klusman

One of the most important things of the Advent season is waiting ...

During Masses at Advent, we wait for the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th candles on the

Advent Wreath to be lit. We wait with biblical figures such as the Prophet Isaiah, St. John the Baptist and the very pregnant Virgin Mary for the Lord's coming. We wait for the coming festive season of Christmas, as well as the arrival of the Three Kings from the East.

Little do we know how waiting is a huge part of our daily lives. We *wait* in line to pay for grocery items or other items in the store. We *wait* in our vehicle for the light to change from red to green. We *wait* in the elevator to reach our destination. We *wait* for the coffeemaker to finish brewing coffee, and we *wait* for our food to be fully cooked in the microwave or oven. We also *wait* for our next appointment with the doctor. We *wait* and *wait* and *wait* ...

With all that waiting, you would think we would be experts of waiting by now.

Do we ever hear St. John the Baptist say, "Hurry up, Lamb of God"? Do we ever hear of the pregnant Blessed Virgin Mary say, "Hurry up, let's be done with this pregnancy"? (We know that the Blessed Virgin Mary is eager to see her Son face to face, but she is still the perfect model of patiently waiting). They understand the importance of waiting. They trust in the Lord to offer times of waiting and times of busyness.

We live in a society that frowns upon waiting. How often do we see someone behind us in line at the grocery store looking at us to hurry it up? How often do we see people rev their engines to take off as fast as possible when the light changes from red to green? How often do we see people pushing the buttons on the elevator to speed it up? How often do we see people want their coffee brewed right away? How often do we see people who do not want to wait in the waiting room any longer for their doctor?

We are called to be countercultural. During Advent, the encouragement to wait gives us an opportunity to slow down ... to enjoy the gift of waiting. Yes, waiting is a gift from God.

► **FR. CK'S CORNER - Continued on Page 3.**

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.



St. Andrew Parish DEAF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION MINISTRY SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

FROM THE DELAVAN CORNER: “THE MARATHON OF PRAYING THE HOLY ROSARY”



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

In last year’s Advent issue (Winter 2021), I talked about how Advent would be a good time for meditation. The “Catechism of the Catholic Church” #2708 defines meditation as:

Meditation engages thought, imagination, emotion, and desire. This mobilization of faculties is necessary in order to deepen our convictions of faith, prompt the conversion of our heart, and strengthen our will to follow Christ. Christian



prayer tries above all to meditate on the mysteries of Christ, as in lectio divina or the rosary. This form of prayerful reflection is of great value, but Christian prayer should go further: to the knowledge of the love of the Lord Jesus, to union with him.

In our Deaf Religious Education classes this year, we are covering some of the Catholic prayers: Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be, The Apostles’ Creed and Guardian Angel Prayer, Act of Contrition, and finally the Holy Rosary. Knowing these prayers would help so much in meditation.

We smile at the idea that praying the Holy Rosary is like running a marathon. The year (maybe a lifetime for many of us) of learning these prayers should help us prepare for the marathon of praying the Holy Rosary. The Holy Rosary includes the prayers above AND the Fatima Prayer, and Hail, Holy Queen!

Now, the good thing about the Advent season this 2022/2023

year is that it is the longest one since 2016/2017. An excellent visual layout of the Advent season is illustrated on the Catholic Lectionary website (<https://catholic-resources.org/Lectionary/Overview-Advent.htm>):

YEAR	2000/01 C 2006/07 C (leap) 2017/18 B 2023/24 B 2028/29 A	2001/02 A 2007/08 A 2012/13 C 2018/19 C (leap) 2029/30 B	2002/03 B (leap) 2013/14 A 2019/20 A 2024/25 C 2030/31 C	2003/04 C 2008/09 B 2014/15 B (leap) 2025/26 A 2031/32 A	(leap) 2009/10 C 2015/16 C 2020/21 B (leap) 2026/27 B (leap)	2004/05 A 2010/11 A (leap) 2021/22 C 2027/28 C 2032/33 B	2005/06 B 2011/12 B 2016/17 A 2022/23 A (leap) 2033/34 C
1st Sun	3-Dec	2-Dec	1-Dec	30-Nov	29-Nov	28-Nov	27-Nov
M	4-Dec	3-Dec	2-Dec	1-Dec	30-Nov	29-Nov	28-Nov
T	5-Dec	4-Dec	3-Dec	2-Dec	1-Dec	30-Nov	29-Nov
W	6-Dec	5-Dec	4-Dec	3-Dec	2-Dec	1-Dec	30-Nov
Th	7-Dec	6-Dec	5-Dec	4-Dec	3-Dec	2-Dec	1-Dec
F	8-Dec	7-Dec	6-Dec	5-Dec	4-Dec	3-Dec	2-Dec
S	9-Dec	8-Dec	7-Dec	6-Dec	5-Dec	4-Dec	3-Dec
2nd Sun	10-Dec	9-Dec	8-Dec	7-Dec	6-Dec	5-Dec	4-Dec
M	11-Dec	10-Dec	9-Dec	8-Dec	7-Dec	6-Dec	5-Dec
T	12-Dec	11-Dec	10-Dec	9-Dec	8-Dec	7-Dec	6-Dec
W	13-Dec	12-Dec	11-Dec	10-Dec	9-Dec	8-Dec	7-Dec
Th	14-Dec	13-Dec	12-Dec	11-Dec	10-Dec	9-Dec	8-Dec
F	15-Dec	14-Dec	13-Dec	12-Dec	11-Dec	10-Dec	9-Dec
S	16-Dec	15-Dec	14-Dec	13-Dec	12-Dec	11-Dec	10-Dec
3rd Sun	17-Dec -O	16-Dec	15-Dec	14-Dec	13-Dec	12-Dec	11-Dec
M	18-Dec -O	17-Dec -O	16-Dec	15-Dec	14-Dec	13-Dec	12-Dec
T	19-Dec -O	18-Dec -O	17-Dec -O	16-Dec	15-Dec	14-Dec	13-Dec
W	20-Dec -O	19-Dec -O	18-Dec -O	17-Dec -O	16-Dec	15-Dec	14-Dec
Th	21-Dec -O	20-Dec -O	19-Dec -O	18-Dec -O	17-Dec -O	16-Dec	15-Dec
F	22-Dec -O	21-Dec -O	20-Dec -O	19-Dec -O	18-Dec -O	17-Dec -O	16-Dec
S	23-Dec -O	22-Dec -O	21-Dec -O	20-Dec -O	19-Dec -O	18-Dec -O	17-Dec -O
4th Sun	24-Dec -O	23-Dec -O	22-Dec -O	21-Dec -O	20-Dec -O	19-Dec -O	18-Dec -O
M	25-Dec	24-Dec -O	23-Dec -O	22-Dec -O	21-Dec -O	20-Dec -O	19-Dec -O
T	x	25-Dec	24-Dec -O	23-Dec -O	22-Dec -O	21-Dec -O	20-Dec -O
W	x	x	25-Dec	24-Dec -O	23-Dec -O	22-Dec -O	21-Dec -O
Th	x	x	x	25-Dec	24-Dec -O	23-Dec -O	22-Dec -O
F	x	x	x	x	25-Dec	24-Dec -O	23-Dec -O
S	x	x	x	x	x	25-Dec	24-Dec -O
Sun	x	x	x	x	x	x	25-Dec

The layout shows the Advent dates through the 2033/2034 Advent season. The next time we have the longest season will be 2033/2034. So, although we all understand that the Advent season covers four Sundays, the four Sundays could spread between three and four weeks.

► THE DELAVAN CORNER - Continued on Page 3.

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

It allows us to be able to slow down, to recognize more of what is around us. When our coffee is brewing, do we enjoy the new aroma that spreads from it and the anticipation of a freshly brewed cup of coffee? Even great smells coming from the oven? Even in the grocery line, to just enjoy the time of shopping. Waiting is a gift because there are pauses in between times of “busyness” in order to be able to recognize and see the blessings God continues to give us at each moment. Sometimes waiting is necessary to be able to see more *clearly* what those blessings are ... Too often we miss them.

Even when the Lord arrived, he waited at various places, such as waiting at the wedding at Cana so that the Blessed Mother Mary could intercede and tell him that it is his time to begin his ministry. He waited at the well to be able to meet and talk with the woman at the well. He waited until the right time to walk on water so he could tell St. Peter to walk on water too and teach him the importance of faith. He waited for the right time for him to be arrested so he could offer himself as a sacrifice on the Cross for our salvation. The Holy Family are models of waiting in various periods of their busy lives. Let us imitate them in this time of waiting for the Lord's coming.

Let's have a blessed time *waiting* during the Advent season.

Begun several years ago of featuring an older article or picture(s) taken from past materials, I hope you will enjoy this brief article about St. Nicholas, whom we will celebrate this Dec. 6, from an older Hand in Hand Newsletter from November/December 1995.

THE FEAST OF ST. NICHOLAS, DECEMBER 6

Saint Nicholas was born around the year 270 on a farm near the town of Patara in what is now Southwestern Turkey. He was an only child. His parents were good people who always helped the poor. They died in a plague when Nicholas was only nine years old. After their deaths he continued their good deeds by using his inheritance to help anyone in need. As a teenager, he would help friends and family. If he was discovered helping someone, he would make the person promise never to tell anyone who had done the good deed.

In later years Nicholas traveled to Jerusalem to pray and study. He later became Bishop of Myra, a town not far from where he was born. He was loved and respected by all the people.

One year there was a famine in Myra and people were starving. Nicholas promised the people that God would provide for them. Soon a fleet of ships was forced to dock at Myra because of bad weather. Nicholas was able to convince the ship's captain to provide the town with a years worth of grain.

During the last years of his life Nicholas continued to endear himself to people by his preaching, his concern for the poor, and his love of children. He died on December 6, in the year 343, and was buried at the cathedral



in Myra. His body was moved centuries later to Bari in Italy, where it remains today.

The best way to celebrate the Feast of St. Nicholas is to do a good deed for someone. That is what he was always doing.

► **THE DELAVAN CORNER** - Continued from Page 2.

Maybe, we should make the most of this year being the longest one with more time available for learning. It would be like “training” for the marathon of praying the Holy Rosary! Using the Holy Rosary as a guide, we have a full four weeks of the Advent season to learn and mediate on the prayers. Like with anything in life, the extra time to train and prepare is always helpful! It is like having a couple of days extra to get your body in shape for the actual marathon of about 45 miles or a couple of extra days to study for a big test worth 75% of the entire grade, for example!

We all know that running a marathon is no easy feat. But the beautiful thing about Christmas is that we only need to learn and train during Advent, and from that point on, we “be still and know” and celebrate the arrival of Christmas!

For a child is born to us, a son is given to us;
upon his shoulder dominion rests.

They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace.

His dominion is vast and forever peaceful,
Upon David's throne,
and over his kingdom,
which he confirms and sustains
By judgment and justice,
both now and forever.

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this!

— Isaiah 9: 5-6

Happy Advent!

LITTLE LI, MODEL “SAINT” FOR ADVENT DURING THE EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

By Fr. Christopher Klusman

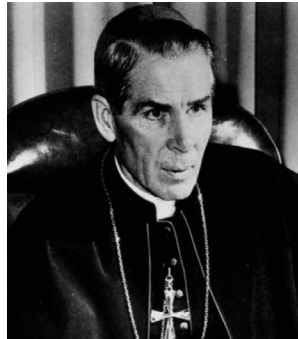
With the 3-year Eucharistic Revival having already begun, we will feature saints, as well as other holy individuals, who can teach us about the importance of the Most Holy Eucharist.

This person, known to us often at “Little Li,” is guaranteed to inspire you. She is known as “China’s Precious Girl Martyr of the Eucharist.” She is chosen for this Advent Newsletter because she is a great example of waiting and reverence. Be ready with a box of Kleenex for this article, reprinted here from <https://www.myfirstholycommunion.com/portfolio-view/little-li/>.

Every now and then, great people walk the earth; people who make a powerful contribution to humanity. These people come from all walks of life and, quite often, they reveal that their real gift was inspired by an experience they had of someone else, whose words or heroic deeds touched them so profoundly that their lives took on a direction they may not otherwise have chosen.

Such a person was the late great American Bishop, Archbishop Fulton Sheen, who is now on the way to becoming a saint of the Catholic Church. For the entire sixty years of his priesthood, Archbishop Sheen never failed to make a daily holy hour before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. His life, particularly his program “Life is Worth Living” that featured on American Television each week, touched the lives of over thirty million Americans – Catholics, protestants and even many of those who professed to no Faith at all.

The Archbishop had been deeply inspired by the story of two heroic young girls, both of whom had a deep and profound love for Jesus in the Eucharist. One of these young girls is St. Therese of Lisieux, known as the Little Flower, whose story is told under Young Saints of the Eucharist on this website. Bishop Sheen wrote lovingly about Therese in a book called “A Treasured Love Story,” in which he refers to the little Chinese



girl martyr.

When the Archbishop was interviewed on national television a few months before his death, he was asked: “Bishop Sheen, you have inspired millions of people all over the world. Who inspired you? Was it a Pope?”

The answer took many by surprise. Bishop Sheen responded that it was not a Pope, a cardinal, another bishop, or even a priest or a nun. “The one who inspired me was a little Chinese girl.” Just imagine, a little girl whose love for Jesus in the Eucharist so impressed him, that Archbishop Sheen, when he was only a seminarian (that is, training

to be a priest), promised God he would make a holy hour of prayer before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament every day of his life.

The story of this brave little girl, Li, brings us back to the early 1950’s, to Communist China where God was not allowed to be mentioned and people who practiced their belief in Him were either imprisoned, tortured or killed by the ruling political class who were all communists. Sr. Emmanuel wrote beautifully about her in the story she penned “The Amazing Story of Little Li,” in her book *The Hidden Child*, and here, slightly adapted is her account of what happened. Also included is some information from other translations, inserted to help understand the background to the martyrdom of Little Li.

The Tiny Steps of a Child

In a parochial school, children diligently recited their prayers. Their teacher, Sr. Euphrasia was pleased because two months

► **LITTLE LI - Continued on Page 5.**

► **LITTLE LI - Continued from Page 4.**

ago, many of the children had received their First Holy Communion, and took it very seriously; from the bottom of their hearts. The children were used to eating rice morning, noon and evening so little 10 year old Li asked her why Jesus didn't say "Give us this day our daily rice?" Sister smiled but she understood why this was difficult for them.

"Well, it's that 'bread' means 'Eucharist,'" answered Sister Euphrasia. She explained that we need rice for the body, but that in asking for daily bread we are really asking for Holy Communion. This is the food for the soul and this bread is the Bread of Life.

In May 1953, when Li made her First Communion, she had asked Jesus in her heart: "always give me that daily bread so that my soul can live and be healthy!" Since then, Li received Holy Communion every day, but she was aware that the Communists who didn't believe in God would not like this and they could stop the Mass at any time. She asked Jesus to make sure this would never happen.

It did happen however!

She would never forget the day these men entered the classroom and screamed at the children demanding that they hand over any holy objects they had. The terrified children gave up their carefully hand-painted pictures of Jesus, Mary and the Saints. Then in a fit of anger, their Inspector pulled the Crucifix off the wall, threw it down on the ground and trampled on it, screaming: "The New China will not tolerate these grotesque superstitions!"

Little Li, who loved her picture of the Good Shepherd so much, attempted to hide it in her blouse. It was the special image given to her for her First Holy Communion. But, a loud slap on her cheek sent her crashing to the floor. The Inspector called Li's father and humiliated him before the children.

That same day, the police made a sweep of the village, and crammed all the inhabitants into the tiny church. The Inspector ridiculed their beliefs and he told them they were tricked into believing that God is present in the tabernacle. The people watched with disbelief, as with a thundering voice, he ordered the soldiers to fire at the tabernacle. All together the people began to pray intensely because their Jesus was in the tabernacle.

In front of all of them, he grabbed the ciborium and threw all the Sacred Hosts onto the tile floor. Stunned, the faithful turned their gaze away from this awful man and the sacrilegious act he had just carried out, all the time trying to hold back their tears. Little Li froze in horror.

Her innocent and righteous little heart bled for the Sacred Hosts strewn all over the ground. "Isn't anyone going to help Jesus?" she wondered in amazement. The Captain continued his tirade of insults, interrupting his blasphemy only to let out his horrible laughter. Li wept silently.

"Now get out!" the inspector yelled. "And woe to anyone who returns to this den of superstition! He'll answer to me!" Before they left, the Communists locked the priest in the large coal bunker in the church, where a small opening helped him to see through to the sanctuary where the Hosts lay strewn on the floor.

The church quickly emptied. When the communists left however, they did not pay any attention to the small girl who remained praying in the church. It was Little Li. As well as Li, there were the angels who are always present around Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament to adore Him, and also there was Father Luke who observed, through the opening in his bunker, a beautiful, well-dressed woman come into the church. She approached the little girl and comforted her, asking her if she would like to leave now with her. Li was very glad to do so and she broke into tears before they both left.

One month previously, foreseeing the takeover of the village, the parishioners had asked Father Luke, their priest from the Foreign Missions, to be careful. The soldiers appeared to have forgotten all about him when they left.

There was little the priest could do. However, feeling very upset at what had happened, there was still one thing he could do. He sank into prayers of atonement for the sacrileges committed against Jesus and suffered because he was not able to come to Jesus' defense.

He prayed in anguish. "Stop this sacrilege! Lord Jesus!" Father hardly noticed the length of time he spent imprisoned. However, he did notice the arrival on the next day of the little girl who very silently came into the church. Slowly, she made her way into the sanctuary and it was then that Father Luke saw her. He trembled: she could be killed at any moment! Unable to communicate with her, he could only watch and beg all the saints in Heaven to protect this child. He observed as she bowed for a moment and adored in silence, just as she had been taught to do in school.

Little Li stayed with Jesus in adoration for one whole hour, knowing that she was supposed to prepare her heart before receiving Him. Her hands joined together, she whispered a prayer to her Jesus who was so mistreated and abandoned. Father Luke never took his eyes off the young girl, and he

▶ LITTLE LI - Continued from Page 5.

continued to observe her as she lowered herself down on her knees, bent over, and with her tongue, took up one of the Hosts. She then remained there on her knees, eyes closed and in deep joy at having her Heavenly Friend within her.

Each second seemed an eternity to Father Luke. If only he could speak to her! However, his fear was gone when the young girl, with a gentle spring in her step, left the church quietly and unnoticed.

Meanwhile, the Communists searched the entire village to rid it of anything holy, and this type of purging was going on right throughout the “New China.” The villagers stayed quietly and in fear in their bamboo homes and were terrified to venture out. Yet, every morning, Little Li slipped away to find her Living Bread in the church. Like on the first day, she repeated the same routine of spending one holy hour in adoration of her Friend Jesus. As before, she then took up one Host with her tongue and disappeared quietly. Father Luke, concerned for her safety, couldn’t understand why she didn’t take more than one. He knew exactly how many Hosts had been in the ciborium: there were 32 of them and surely she would be seen if she came in each of those days?

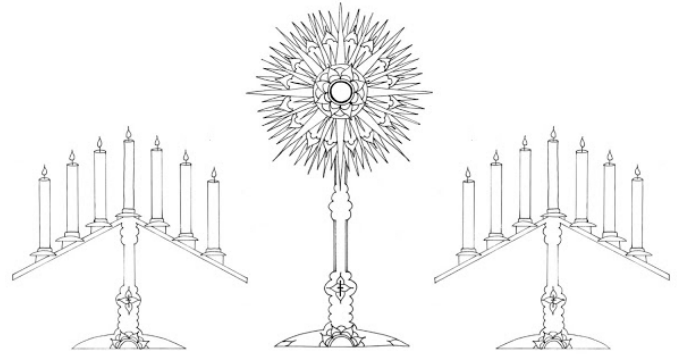
But, Li didn’t do that, as Sister had taught the children they could have only one Host per day and they were never to touch it except with the tongue. The little girl kept to all she had been taught because she knew just how precious the Host was: it was Jesus Himself really and truly present in it.

Father Luke was relieved when the last day came around. Today, Little Li would consume the last Host – her special Friend. At daybreak, she entered the church as usual and drew near to the altar. She knelt to the ground to pray very close to Jesus in the Sacred Host. Father Luke had to stifle a cry when a soldier suddenly appeared at the church door and aimed his gun at her. A single shot was heard, followed by laughter. The child immediately collapsed. Father Luke thought she was dead, but no! Grief stricken, he watched her struggle to crawl over to where the Host was, and could hardly believe his eyes when, in obvious pain, she put her tongue over the Sacred Host to receive her Jesus for the last time. She then drew her last breath and died: a true martyr’s death.

For a moment, the soldier simply looked as if trying to make sense of the terrible thing he just did. Then, he turned and rushed out of the church. However, it left the priest in a state of shock, but he knew what he must do next. The soldier returned, released Father Luke and told him he was free to go. Without any hesitation, he rushed to the sanctuary to see the

“The greatest love story of all time is contained in a tiny white host.”⁹⁹

— Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen



lifeless body of the little girl. As he knelt beside her, the soldier approached him and, by now saddened at what he saw he had done to a small child, said: “Sir, if in every town there was such a little girl, no soldier would ever fight for the Communists!”

Fortunately, Father Luke just had enough time to give little Li a decent burial. As he left the cemetery and walked along the road, a man approached and invited him into his car. He dropped him off at the border. The priest escaped death and was now free and, that is the very reason we know about the story of this beautiful young Chinese girl martyr today.

Little Li was dead, but not before she had ensured that Jesus would not be further desecrated. Though gone from this world, her memory still lives on as it did in the person of Archbishop Sheen, and in the countless millions of people worldwide that he, through her story, encouraged to pray a holy hour as often as possible before the Blessed Sacrament.

Archbishop Fulton Sheen knew that Little Li understood perfectly that the Blessed Sacrament is Jesus, Light of the World and the Joy of all Hearts. O how He longs for people to treat Him with respect and to pay due reverence to Him in the tabernacle when we go into our churches.

Material source:

1. Karl Maria Harrer: Die schönsten Eucharistischen Wunder, quoted in www.americaneedsfatima.org/Articles/the-little-girl-who-inspired-fulton-sheens-holy-hour
2. Sister Emmanuel: The Amazing Story of Little Li taken from *The Hidden Child of Medjugorje*

Little Li, pray for us, especially during the 3-year Eucharistic Revival. Help us to be more like you in our waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, especially through the Most Holy Eucharist!

CLARIFYING MISCONCEPTIONS

Misconception #1

Why can't non-Catholics receive the Eucharist?

Catholics believe that the Eucharist is truly the divine flesh of Jesus, not a piece of bread representing him, not a symbol of him, but *truly* him. Non-Catholics do not believe this fact. On the most fundamental level, that is why non-Catholics who attend a Catholic Mass cannot receive. It is less about their “worthiness”

and more about not putting them in a position to denounce their own beliefs.

Other faiths have “bread and wine” at their services ... we don't. We have the actual Body and Blood of Jesus Christ present in the Eucharist, under the form of bread and wine. Most of the other faiths you're probably thinking of believe that the bread and wine are simply reenactments or remembrances of the actions of the Last Supper, but the Church's teaching goes so much deeper in our belief in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

Read Luke 22:19; it's that part about “This is my body” that I'd like you to notice. We believe that he whom we receive is truly Jesus Christ. In asking a non-Catholic to receive the Eucharist, you are asking them to either deny their own religion and become Catholic or you're saying that you don't really believe in the Real Presence of Christ. Either way, it's not too good.

There is nothing wrong with wanting your friends to feel welcome at Mass, but this can be done without compromising our beliefs. Most dioceses have guidelines for what non-Catholics can do during Communion, and at almost all the



[other] Masses I've been to, the priest gives those instructions at the beginning of Communion. We want people to feel welcome in our parishes, but we also have to remain true to the fact that there are differences in our religious practices. We are not like “other churches,” we are the Catholic Church and proud of it.

I often invite my friends from other religious backgrounds to Mass. I always take the time to explain to them that at Communion they can receive a blessing or simply pray from their pew. Never have any of them been insulted or offended. They expect it in most cases, and sometimes the reverence they see in the Catholics who are receiving starts them on the road to their own conversion of faith and leads them back to the Church.

Put simply, non-Catholics can't receive the Eucharist out of mutual respect. In addition,

most Christians might be surprised to learn that the Bible says it is a no-no too. St. Paul warned people about going forward to receive the true flesh and blood of Christ if they did not believe it to be so. (1 Corinthians 11:23-29)

REFERENCES

1 Corinthians 11:23-29, 12:13; John 6:22-59; Acts 2:42.

Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) 1398, 1374, 1322, 1212, 790, 100

Borrowed from “100 Things Every Catholic Teen Should Know” by Mark Hart and Todd Lemieux, pgs. 169-171.

REFLECTION QUESTION:

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

Think of a moment in which you waited. How was it and why?



CATHOLIC QUIZ

1. Which of these women from the Hebrew Scriptures is not in the genealogy of Jesus in Matthew?

- (a) Tamar (b) Ruth
(c) Rahab (d) Rebecca

2. Which Gospel mentions the census as the reason for Mary and Joseph to go to Bethlehem?

- (a) Matthew (b) Mark
(c) Luke (d) John

3. Which prophet said, "A virgin will conceive and bear a son ..."?

- (a) Isaiah (b) Amos (c) Jeremiah (d) Zephaniah.

4. Eucharistic Revival Q: What event in the Old Testament foreshadows the institution of the Eucharist?

- (a) Noah's Ark; Jesus is the new ark.
(b) The Golden Calf; Jesus is the new Golden Calf.
(c) The Blood of the Passover Lamb (Exodus 12); Jesus is the new sacrificial lamb.
(d) The 10 Commandments; Jesus is the new law.

5. Eucharistic Revival Q: In the story of the Road to Emmaus, Jesus was first recognized when ...?

- (a) He first approached them.
(b) He offered insight into the Scriptures.
(c) After he had left their home.
(d) He broke the bread at dinner.



DEAF APOSTOLATE OF THE ARCHDIOCESE of MILWAUKEE INVITE YOU TO AN:

Autumn Day Retreat

Theme: Is God Messy?

AUTUMN DAY RETREAT A SUCCESS!

On Oct. 15, the Autumn Day Retreat at the Catholic Ecology Center was an incredible experience! There was so much to be thankful for: sunshine, unusual warm weather and colorful trees. We learned about the theme of whether God is messy. Thank you to all the people who have helped to make it a success, and we were so happy with all who came.



Hostess: "Our dog is just like one of the family."

Bored Visitor: "Which one?"



(Answers on page 12.)

WHY DOES THE CHURCH USE CANDLES?

They are so familiar we don't give them much thought ... but what do they really symbolize?

Every time we attend Mass, there are candles on the altar.

Sometimes two.
Sometimes four.

Sometimes six or more.

At some Masses, there are dozens and dozens of them.

In nearly every church, votive candles burn before statues and sacred images.

For us Catholics, they are omnipresent, automatically turning our thoughts and minds to prayer, to worship, to God.

But why *does* the Church use candles? What do they actually symbolize?

Primarily, the candles — with their burning, light-giving flame — represent Christ, the Light of the World.

Candles are traditionally made of 100% beeswax, which symbolizes the pure flesh of our Lord, received from his immaculate Virgin Mother. (Although candles are not required to be pure beeswax, they must at least contain some percentage of that wax.) The wick, enrobed in the wax, represents his soul, and the flame his divinity.



Candles burn near our Lord, present in the Blessed Sacrament.

Since we offer Christ himself on the altar in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, it is only fitting that such a powerful symbol of Christ should be a required element in the Mass.

The layers of meaning in candles run deep. They symbolize our prayers rising up to God. They also contain the idea of sacrifice, since they are an offering made by human hands that we burn — often on an altar — and which

is consumed as it is used. During the Mass, candles are a vivid representation of Christ offering himself to the Father through the hands of the priest.

Candles represent the burning light of faith that compels us to adore God and bring our petitions to him. And, of course, the flame reminds us of the Holy Spirit, the very Love of God dwelling within the hearts of the faithful and sanctifying our prayers and sacrifices.

Taken from: <https://www.catholiccompany.com/getfed/why-does-the-church-use-candles/>

DID YOU KNOW?

At our Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist in downtown Milwaukee, did you know that there is a statue of St. Francis de Sales? He is placed there in remembrance of our archdiocese having a seminary that is named after him. How cool it is to have him in our Cathedral since he is also the patron saint of the Deaf! St. Francis de Sales, pray for us!



A MONTH OF MIRACLES

Here is a story borrowed from "Our Young People: The Friend of the Deaf" December 1960 issue.

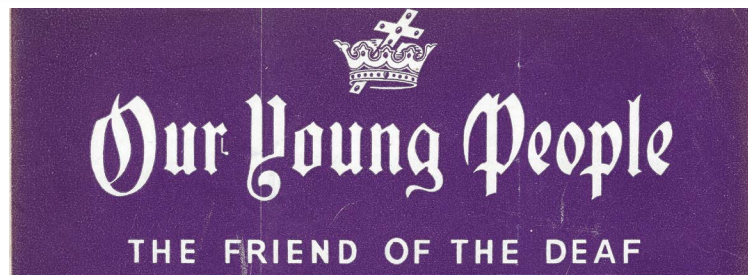
The word "miracle" is here employed in a wide sense and simply means a supernatural effect. How is December a month of miracles? First because three supernatural events take place in it. Secondly, because these events are stupendous and produce feelings of amazement when grasped by an intelligent and reverent Christian.

On the opening Sunday in Advent, during the adorable Sacrifice of the Mass, a Voice issues from within the gates of the sanctuary. "Christ is nigh!" it proclaims. Epistle and gospel, apostle and evangelist, send out the message: "Lo! The Lamb so long expected comes with pardon down from heaven. The Kingdom of God is at hand. God hath received Israel His servant, being mindful of His mercy as He spoke to our fathers." The prediction made in the Garden of Eden is fulfilled: "I will put enmities between thee (Satan) and the woman, and thy seed and her seed. She shall crush thy head."

As our mind dwells on these glad and wondrous tidings we find ourselves saying with King David: "What is man that Thou art mindful of him? Or the son of man, that Thou visitest him?" Humble, grateful, amazed we cannot do better than take up Our Lady's Magnificat and sing, "My soul doth magnify the Lord and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior. His mercy is from generation to generation." Noel!

* * *

Four thousand years have run and the head of the serpent has not yet been crushed. Satan still holds his human dupes in the strangling coils of sin. But lo! The fullness of time has come at last. God in His incomprehensible love for the world is about to give us His only begotten Son. This is the promised seed that shall crush the head of the old serpent. He is Emmanuel (God with us); Emmanuel is to be "made



of a woman." Emmanuel shall have no man for His father, but He shall be "Conceived of the Holy Ghost and born of the Virgin Mary." The Ark of the Covenant that held the Two Tables of the Law was made of incorruptible wood. It was lined within and covered without with plates of purest gold. Shall the Holy of holies know corruption when He is made

Flesh? Shall the Divine Law-giver who spoke on Mount Sinai repose in a bosom that was ever crossed by sin? The dignity of Him who comes at Christmas explains the Immaculate Conception, nay, calls for it. Keeping the sacred day, let us join again in Our Lady's joyous canticle of gratitude. Let us sing Magnificat! "MY soul doth magnify the Lord and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior. Because He hath regarded the humility of His handmaid; for behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. Because He that is mighty hath done great things to me; and Holy is His name." Noel!

* * *

Marvel succeeds marvel and yet the riches of the divine goodness are not exhausted. "There's a wideness in God's mercy," sings Father Faber, "like the wideness of the sea!" Look now at a picture drawn by St. John of the Apocalypse. "And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars." That is a vision of our Immaculate and beloved Queen. It corresponds with one described in the Canticle of Canticles: "Who is this that cometh forth as the morning rising, fair as the moon, bright as the sun, terrible as an army set in array?" The answer is the same as that given at Lourdes: "I am the Immaculate Conception." You are gazing on the Woman of destiny. This

► **MIRACLES - Continued on Page 11.**

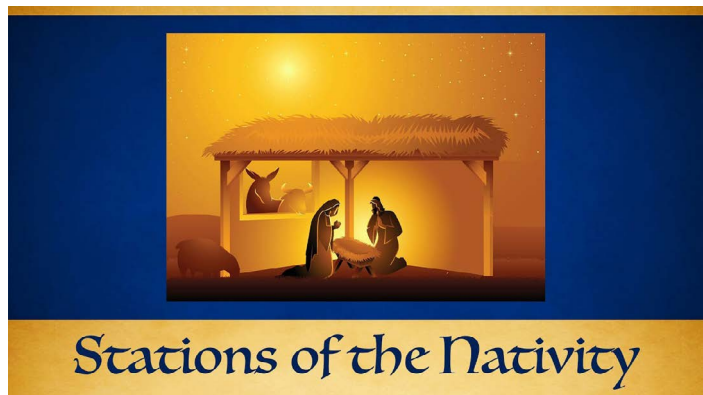
► **MIRACLES** - Continued from Page 10.

is the Woman between whom and the serpent enmities never-ending exist — the Woman whose Seed shall crush the serpent’s head — the “Virgin that shall conceive and bear a Son, and His name shall be called Emmanuel.”

Our Blessed Lady in the earliest instant of her existence was saved from the least stain of original sin because she was predestined to become the Mother of God. Then, how glorious the jewel must be for which so beautiful and costly a casket has been formed! But if the holiness of the mother be so terrible, whose eyes shall ever be able to look upon the holiness of the Son, the only begotten of the Father, the Eternal? And so many poor children of Eve have longed to see Him! So many lonely souls disgusted with the deceitful and unsatisfying pleasures of the world, have cried out with the spouse in the Canticles: “Who shall give Thee to me for my brother?”

Pining souls, you have no cause to fear! “The Heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.” God has worked another miracle. For of a Virgin Mother a Child is born to us, and the Son of the Eternal is given to use by the ministry of the Queen of the Angels. For Christmas will soon be here. We are in Bethlehem. Mary has “brought forth her first-born Son and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger,” for all to see and to draw near to and to embrace. Silent though He be the Heart of the Divine Babe is calling to His newfound brothers and sisters: “Come to Me all you that labor and are burdened and I will give you rest.” And Mary smiles and says “Come.”

Counterculture:



SAVE THE DATES: SIGNED STATIONS OF THE NATIVITY

By Fr. Christopher Klusman

During Lent, one of the most beloved traditions and devotions is the “Stations of the Cross,” where we journey with Jesus from the moment he was condemned all the way to his death and burial.

Did you know that there is something called the “Stations of the Nativity” that can be prayed during the Advent and Christmas seasons? It brings us into the journey starting with the Annunciation to the arrival of the Three Wise Men. I hope you can attend to pray through this beautiful devotion.

Tuesday, Dec. 13 from 4 to 4:30 p.m.

Location: St. Charles Borromeo Parish, 3100 W. Parnell Ave., Milwaukee, 53221.



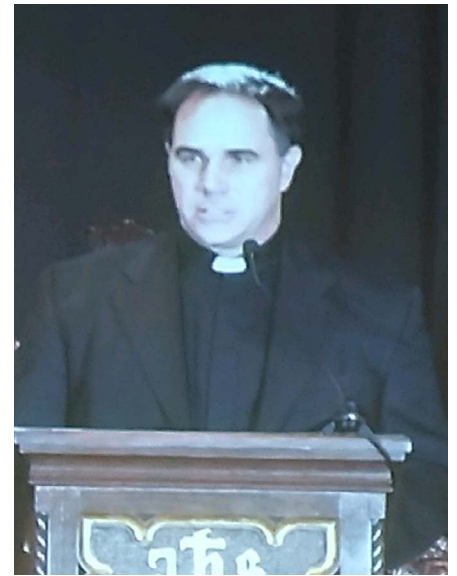
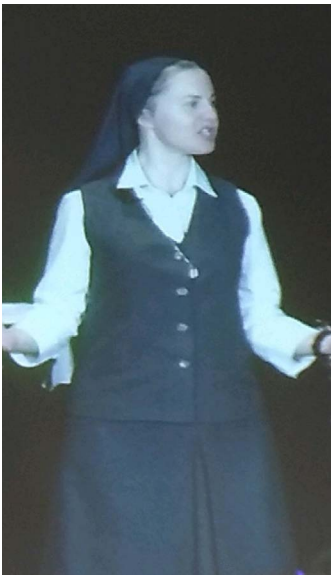
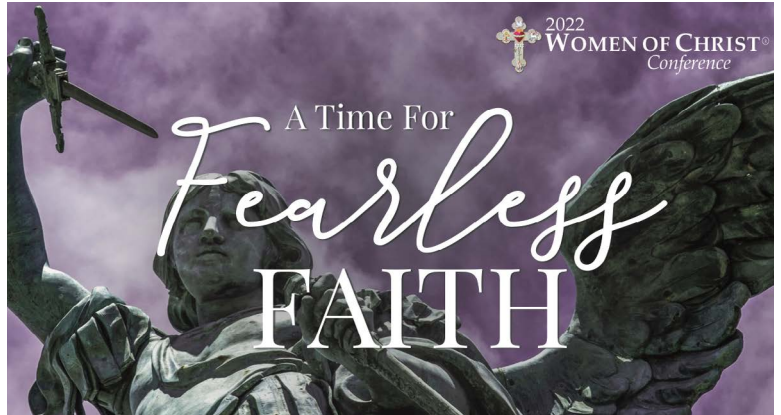
Lady speaking to garage mechanic: “There must be something wrong with [the car]. It keeps hitting things.”



WOMEN OF CHRIST 2022 (AGAIN) A SUCCESS!

The 15th Women of Christ Conference that was interpreted continues to awe women, including those within the Deaf community! The Office of the Deaf Apostolate again thanks WOC for all they did to ensure that this experience is transformative, powerful and memorable. Keep up the great work!

All holy women, pray for us!



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



The senior girls were delighted to see a beautiful luminous Blessed Mother statue night light in their dormitory. Grateful acknowledgment to Sister Ann Catherine, S.S.J., of Pittsburg for her kindness to her little friends at St. John's.

February 1956

A very welcome improvement at St. John's School is a new Rotary elevator, which replaces the old hand-powered one.

October 1957

Man: "I'm certainly glad that my daughter decided she wanted to take music lessons. I've made a fortune."

Friend: "How is that? Music lessons usually are expensive."

Man: "Well, my daughter's practicing has enabled me to buy all the neighbors' houses at half price."

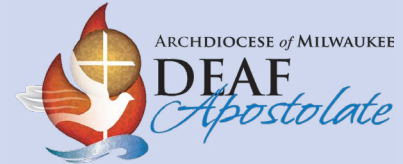


Quiz Answers: 1d; 2c; 3a; 4c; 5d



SIGNED AND INTERPRETED MASSES FOR CHRISTMAS

For any questions about a parish having Mass accessible for the Deaf community for Christmas, please email your question with which area (Milwaukee, Delavan, etc.) it's about to deafapostolate@archmil.org and you will receive a response listing the time and place.



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.

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.



- 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* as of
October 1, 2022*



- 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 & Last 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

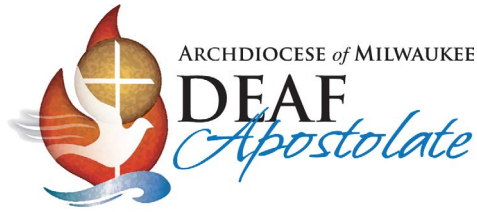
W1562 County
Road B, Eden,
WI 53019

Please email deafapostolate@archmil.org
for schedule

Website: sothparish.org



ARCHDIOCESE
of MILWAUKEE



CONTACT INFORMATION

Office Hours: : Monday, Wednesday — Fridays
(Fr. Christopher is off on Monday early evenings & Tuesdays)

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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: \$10.00 for 4 Newsletters from Jan. to Dec. 2023.

Make checks payable to: The Deaf Apostolate.

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

3501 S. Lake Drive

St. Francis, WI 53235