

Resurrection Parish

September

30, 2018

26th Sunday

in Ordinary

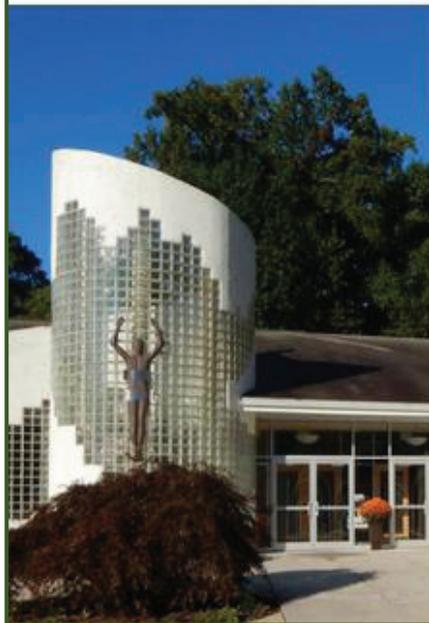
Time

A Catholic Christian Community

3000 Videre Drive
Wilmington DE 19808
302-368-0146
www.resurrectionde.org

Mass Times

Saturday Vigil 5:30 p.m.
Sunday 8:15 and 10:30 a.m.
Mon. Wed. Fri. 8:30 a.m.
Tues. 7 p.m.



Rev. William Graney, Pastor
Rev. Gregory Corrigan, Administrator
John Falkowski, Deacon
Fran Huhn, Retired Deacon
Ruth Sanders, Liturgy/Music
Nancy Maloney, Christian Formation
Elaine Little, Youth Ministry
Sandy Landoll, Social Concerns
Tina Donald, Bookkeeper
Debbie Seymour, Admin. Asst.

Parish Office: 9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Mon. - Fri.
6:30-8:30 p.m. Mon. - Thurs.

Pastoral Council

Al Mercatante Executive Officer
Sharon Gidumal Asst. Executive
Mike Mitchell Secretary
Maritza Poza-Grise Trustee
Dick Schwer Trustee

ext 102

ext. 115

ext. 110

ext. 106

ext. 104

ext. 107

ext. 103

ext. 105

ext. 0

Reconciliation

Tues. 6:30 p.m. Sat. 4:45 p.m.
or by appointment.

Baptisms

Please contact Deacon John.

Marriage

Contact clergy one year prior.

Pastoral Care of the Sick

For hospital and home visits
contact clergy or the office.

Becoming Catholic

Learn more by contacting
Fr. Bill or Deacon John.

Spirituality Outreach Stewardship

THE PARABLE OF THE EMPTY JAR

Jesus said, "The reign of God is like a certain woman who was carrying a jar full of meal. While she was walking on the road, still some distance from home, the handle of the jar broke and the meal emptied out behind her on the road. She did not realize it; she had noticed no accident. When she reached her house, she set the jar down and found it empty. Gospel of Thomas

Parables are a wonderfully rare form of storytelling. Parables "open up" the world of the listener (reader). Parables "work" not by our figuring them out, but by their grace-filled ability to challenge us, to "re-arrange what we think we know," and to pull us out of a smaller way of seeing and being, into the amazing and ever-happening activity of divinity. Jesus is the "parable" par excellence.

Here are some thoughts that one might find in the parable of the empty jar:

The reign of God is often experienced by loss. Like the disciples at the time of Jesus, we want God's "kingdom" to be awesome and victorious and

successful. In reality though, how often have your deepest spiritual experiences happened because life was hard, things went terribly wrong, or you had to face the terrible loss of someone you love?

The reign of God reveals itself "on the journey," when one is "away from home." "There's no place like home," Dorothy reminds us. But following Jesus models for us a movement, a way of life that often requires us to forego the security and comforts of home. We are called to be a church that is "out there" in the world, in the places where people need Jesus the most. We are wanderers and pilgrims, disciples who know that ultimately, we will not rest until we find ourselves in our true home, with God.

The reign of God is not something to be possessed. Rather, the "fullness" of divinity may indeed be experienced in emptiness. "Kenosis" describes the witness of Jesus who emptied himself in an attitude of complete surrender. Paradoxically, by such selflessness, God revealed the fullness of divine glory.

The reign of God happens when we're not looking, in unexpected ways. We sometimes work so hard at trying to understand all the ups and downs of life. But in the end, what God is doing, through the fullness of love and the process of the spiritual evolution of Creation, is beyond our limited ways of knowing. Maybe that's why Jesus so often used the example of children in describing the reign of God. Children are prone to see what others might overlook, to celebrate the little joys and every day beauty of life.

How does this parable speak to your heart?

Peace,

Fr. Greg

INTENTIONS

Monday	Oct. 1	8:30 am	
Tuesday	Oct. 2	7:00 pm	
Wednesday	Oct. 3	8:30 am	+Thomas Gildea
Friday	Oct. 5	8:30 am	
Saturday	Oct. 6	5:30pm	+Francis A. Monaco Sr.
Sunday	Oct. 7	8:15 am	Parish Community
		10:30am	+Helen McGovern and Jere McCarthy



God is the source of all healing and hope, to whom we lift up in prayer the needs of the sick and those who care for them. Pray for all the needs in our Book of Intentions and for those in our Parish Family who are sick:

Lord, allow your healing hand to assist Richard McCracken, Eva Skripchuk, Linda Scarola, Burt & Carol Strasser, Rachel Rose Boucher, JD Howell, Jack & Jane Tabaka, Bill Dorsey, Joseph Hemphill, Alyssa Stover, Chet Andruskiewicz, Jim Gambort, Helen Meys, Candi Smith, Sean McCormick, Janice Kane, Ralph Culver, Kevin Rzucidlo, Mike Pohlen, Cass Thomas, Courtney Corridori, Patty Calhoun, Laurel Milano, Genita Vandell, Brian Duda, Katie Fink, Beth Bell, Julie Edmiston, and others mentioned in our parish book of intentions.

LITURGY

**Pope Francis' Prayer Intention-September 2018
Universal – Young People in Africa**

That young people in Africa may have access to education and work in their own countries.



GOT A PLACE IN THE CHOIR

We invite all children in **grades 1 through 5** to join **Children's Choir!** Children's Choir serves at the 10:30 am Mass the first CFP Sunday of the month, beginning October 7. The children rehearse at 8:40 am, before attending CFP at 9:15. They meet again in the Worship Space at 10:20 for final preparations before singing at Mass. Contact Ruth Sanders, rsanders@resurrectionde.org, 368-0146 Ext. 106.

Calling all Youth Musicians

to join the **Youth Music Group** at the 10:30 am Mass on the second Sunday of each month beginning in October.

Anyone in the **6th through 12th grade** is enthusiastically invited!

If you like to sing or play an instrument, we would love for you to join in. The Youth Music Group rehearses at 9:15 am right before the 10:30 Mass on the second Sunday of the month. The Group is next scheduled to serve on October 14.

Please contact Kate Regan at reganfamily6@verizon.net or 302-738-9989.

Episode 3 of Bishop Barron's "THE MASS" will be available for viewing on Sunday 9/30 from 11:45 am – 12:45 pm.

**Become What You Receive
Living as a Disciple of Christ**

A Virtual Workshop October 18, 2018 - 7:30pm
For EMS, Greeters and Ushers

As people who have been touched by the love of Christ and are committed to discipleship, I invite you to join in a wonderful opportunity to nourish and deepen your life of faith, as well as your ministry. We are offering a workshop that will engage us in learning, reflection, prayer and conversation on what it means to receive and be transformed by the Body of Christ ... and on how we live the call to discipleship that results.

The Body of Christ. The Blood of Christ. This virtual workshop, which brings presenter Jessica DePrizio Cole to us through the magic of the internet, will help ministers reflect upon these often spoken words.

Those who attend this Virtual Workshop will be guided to embrace the mission of discipleship in their daily lives so that they may truly become what they receive. Please contact Ruth Sanders to sign up, rsanders@resurrectionde.org.

PARISH LIFE

Bishop’s Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass

Bishop Francis Malooly invites all couples celebrating their 5th, 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th, 50th wedding anniversary, or any anniversary beyond 50th, to the Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass at **2:00 PM on Sunday, November 4, 2018** at St. Joseph’s, Middletown, at 371 E. Main Street, Middletown, DE 19709. The Bishop will be available for photos with interested couples beginning at 1:00 pm and again after the Mass. If you would like to have a photo taken with Bishop Malooly, please arrive at 1:00 pm or plan to stay after Mass. There is no cost to you, however **reservations are required.** Please make your **reservations by October 8th** by filling out the information below and returning it to the Office for Marriage and Family Life, 1626 N. Union Street, Wilmington, DE 19806, or by emailing ljackson@cdow.org.

Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass

Last Name: _____
 Husband’s First Name: _____
 Wife’s First Name: _____
 Street Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____
 Zip Code: _____ Phone # () _____
 Email Address: _____

Number of Years Married: 5 ___ 10 ___ 15 ___ 20 ___
 25 ___ 30 ___ 35 ___ 40 ___ 45 ___ 50 ___ More than 50?
 Parish: _____

Total number of persons attending (include guests): _____

Mail to: The Office for Marriage & Family Life (Anniversary Mass) 1626 N. Union Street, Wilmington, DE 19806
Or Email: ljackson@cdow.org

Deadline for registration is October 8, 2018.

The Annual Merit of Honor Award was presented last Sunday to Nancy Lennon by Bishop Francis Malooly during a ceremony held at St. Joseph Church in Middletown. Usually one person from each parish receives the award.

Like previous honorees the award is given not for one particular reason or activity but to honor the total person who the honoree is. Nancy’s contribution of who she is as person, as well as her activities in home, parish, and community come together in a collaborative way. Nancy has served in several aspects of her profession as a physical therapist at a local hospital. She has served as a creative teacher in our religious ed. (CFP). She is a single mother of her daughter Katie and one of the children of Kay and Jim Lennon. Congratulations and thanks to Nancy from a grateful community.
 Bill Graney



L.A.F.F. Group: Tuesdays in Room 2. From 11:30 am – 2:30 pm. Bring a bagged lunch, and join a fun group to play card games.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

Food Closet News: *As we implement the planned changes to kitchen facilities, we are losing the space we use for our food closet. We have opted to merge our efforts with St. John the Beloved. They obtain referrals from Friendship House, as we do, and serve the same zip codes we serve. We urge you to continue to make food donations as you have in the past, and they will be distributed to the needy through the SJB closet. Volunteers wishing to help in the distribution are welcome. Contact Sandy Landoll or Ellen Pringle for details. Thank you for all you do to help us feed the poor.*

ELEMENTARY CHRISTIAN FORMATION

We welcome new students to join our returning students in our formation and education programs called here at Resurrection "CFP".



K to 5 Elementary Program

September 30th, October 7th,
October 21st, and
October 28th
9:15am-10:15am

See our website or gathering space for a full calendar and other registration forms.

Would you like more information? Contact Nancy Maloney, CFP Coordinator, at nmaloney@resurrectionde.org, 368-0146 ext. 104.

First Reconciliation Classes

Wednesday, October 10th at 5:45-7:00pm

Wednesday, October 24th at 5:45-7:00pm

Wednesday, November 7th at 5:45-7:00pm

CFP: YOUTH MINISTRY

Middle and High School

Youth Group

Middle school and high school youth group will not meet the weekend of October 6-7. Some schools are off on

Friday and others Monday for the Columbus Holiday. Enjoy the time with your families

October 21 6:30-8:15- *Middle school and high school youth group.* Sign-in in the gathering space and gather in the youth room.

Taking it Home

For the most part we live in a Church today that practices orthodoxy. Orthodoxy means doctrinal correctness; that is that the rituals we perform must meet certain standards if they are to be done correctly. Anything performed outside of these standards is not proper or correct. For example, according to orthodoxy in order to make anointing of the sick a sacrament, the one doing the anointing must be a priest and must anoint according to set procedures, using standard words. But does this mean that if a priest is unavailable and only a lay person is present that that person could not bless and ask God's help to help another person in need? It

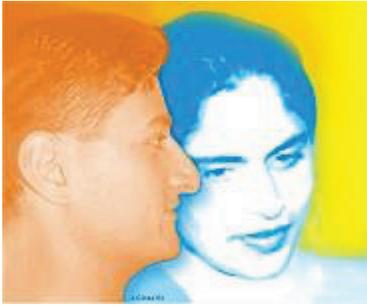
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wouldn't meet the standard for the sacrament of the anointing of the sick, but would it not at least have the affect of helping a person in need? And certainly anyone who has the desire to ask God's help for someone in need would they not be doing that person a kindness and not attempting the practice of religious rites? We would call this orthopraxy. Orthopraxy is right practice. It flows from one's experience of God; that God is larger than anything or anyone we can imagine and that God's power and Spirit cannot be contained to one meaning or one special rite.

In a world where orthodoxy trumps orthopraxy specialization is of paramount importance and so we jealously guard our territory to keep imposters out. It would be unusual for someone not of the right religious group or not with the proper exorcizing authority to try to do so in Jesus' name. We would certainly and rightly criticize that person who tried to do exactly that. They didn't have the proper authority. But when the disciples try to do just that in the gospel after they notice someone not of their group casting out demons in Jesus' name, Jesus reacts differently. He says it's okay! And so perhaps we can sympathize with the disciples. Here was someone who probably didn't know Jesus as well as they did, someone who didn't put in sufficient time with Jesus and someone who clearly didn't have Jesus' approval doing only what the disciples should be doing. So why not put a stop to it. Jesus certainly should affirm the disciples attempt to do so.

But instead of stopping it, Jesus does the opposite. He says: "for whoever is not against us is for us." The issue is not who can or cannot act in the name of Jesus (orthodoxy); it is not who has the right qualifications, but who has the Spirit of Jesus in them (orthopraxy). The Spirit is that life force given to all by God as God's gracious gift. It is the Spirit that in the beginning God breathed on the world giving it life, sustaining it and helping those who live in the Spirit to live as God called us to live – "Lord, send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth." God freely gives this Spirit to all, making it available to anyone willing to act in the name of that Spirit. And this is the reason for Jesus' response to his disciples.

The Spirit is not for the few or the privileged as some might think, but it is for the transformation of the world. And so anyone who would be a prophet for the Lord already has that Spirit in them to make it happen. Those who serve the Church, whether ministering in the church or in the world on behalf of the church, are not meant to be an exclusive group. Instead, all by virtue of their baptism are called to be witnesses of the presence of Jesus and all have the power of the Spirit in them to make this happen. Deacon John



27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME GOSPEL - MARK 10:2-16

The Pharisees approached Jesus and asked, "Is it lawful for a husband to divorce his wife?" They were testing him.

He said to them in reply, "What did Moses command you?"

They replied, "Moses permitted a husband to write a bill of divorce and dismiss her."

But Jesus told them, "Because of the hardness of your hearts he wrote you this commandment. But from the beginning of creation, God made them male and female. For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. So they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, no human being must separate."

In the house the disciples again questioned Jesus about this. He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery." And people were bringing children to him that he might touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this he became indignant and said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not prevent them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Amen, I say to you, whoever does not accept the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it." Then he embraced them and blessed them, placing his hands on them.

Gospel Reflection: In the Western world today, somewhere between one-third and one-half of marriages end in divorce. It's a statistic that we hear wheeled out as a sign of the collapse of family values in our society. However, the reverse statistic is also true: somewhere between one-half and two-thirds of marriages are lasting ones. In the last 30-40 years, divorce has transformed from being a shameful scandal to an accepted, even commonplace, fact of life. It would be uncommon not to know someone affected by divorce. Despite those who argue that divorce is too "easy", it is an emotional and difficult decision for couples to reach and has rippling impacts on children, extended families and friends.

When the Pharisees in the gospel asked Jesus about the law regarding divorce, they really weren't interested in divorce; they wanted to check Jesus' orthodoxy—how he stood in relation to traditional teaching. Rather than respond to them directly, Jesus asks them first of all to name the teaching to which they refer. He then explains that Moses only ever wrote the instruction because the people were so unwilling to listen to God's way.

For the second time in the last few weeks, the gospel shows Jesus welcoming children and praising their attitude as the way to the kingdom of God. Children of the time had no status and were regarded as literally the property of their father. When Jesus laid his hands on the children and gave them his blessing, this was the action of a father "claiming" the child as their own. To welcome the kingdom like a little child is to enter into living the kingdom of God without any claim to position or status; to recognize our complete dependence on others; to let go of our ideas of who is important and who is not; to allow ourselves to be "claimed" by Jesus.

Discipleship: This section of Mark's Gospel explores what it means to be a disciple. While this particular passage may seem to be a bit out of place, Jesus seems to be stressing to the disciples that there are some bottom lines—some non-negotiables—when it comes to being a disciple. Unlike the Pharisees who are preoccupied with the letter of the Law, Jesus encourages his disciples to get beyond that and understand the spirit of the Law—God's dream for humankind. The shift in the passage to the focus on children seems a little disconnected but the whole passage is about living in the kingdom with the right attitude.

Like a little child: Most of us at some time or another have been told to "grow up"; "stop acting like a child"; or to "act your age." It implies that, as we grow older, we have to behave in a more "responsible" or "mature" way than when we were children. Jesus turns this on its head and tells us that unless we "welcome the kingdom like a little child" we will never enter it. The gospels are full of stories about people who call on God's mercy because they recognize that without God they are nothing. When they subsequently receive God's mercy or healing they welcome it all the more—like a little child.

Writ of dismissal: In Jewish tradition, a man could divorce his wife but a woman could not divorce her husband—she could only seek a court ruling to force her husband to divorce her. The grounds for divorce under biblical law were *ervat devar*—meaning "some fault or indecency." One legal tradition held that *ervat devar* applied exclusively to adultery while another applied it to anything that was "offensive" to the husband. To divorce his wife, a man simply had to renounce his wife and ask a court to authorize a writ, or bill, of dismissal—his wife had no chance to challenge his decision.

Q. How does this passage help explain the Church's position on divorce?

Q. Is the clash between the church's position on divorce and society standards helpful or harmful?

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