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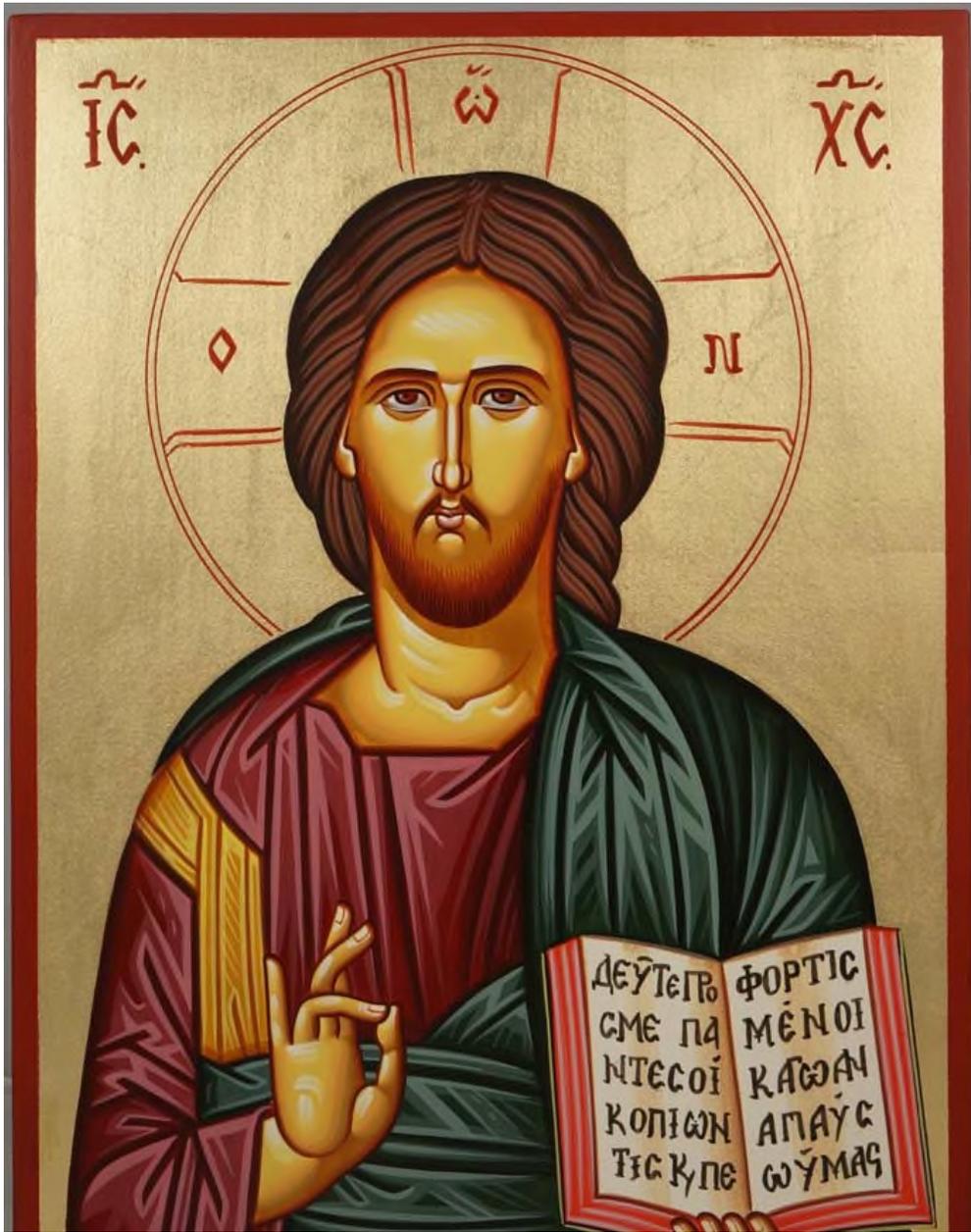
Hudson and Germantown, New York
429 E. Allen St. P. O. Box 323 Hudson, NY 12534

August 19, 2018

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TWENTIETH

SUNDAY

IN

ORDINARY

TIME

REV. ANTHONY BARRATT

Pastor

DEACON RICHARD WASHBURN

Deacon

REV. WINSTON BATH

Pastor Emeritus

SUNDAY 20 (B)

TRUE FOOD AND TRUE DRINK

This weekend, we continue our journey through Jesus' Bread of Life Discourse in Chapter Six of St. John's Gospel. Jesus has taught us how he is the bread that comes down from heaven and how he is food for the journey. Now he goes yet further, as he tells us how his flesh is true food and his blood is true drink. As usual, our other readings help to set the scene for this wonderful, yet astonishing teaching...

Our First Reading comes from The Book of Proverbs (Proverbs 9: 1-6). A proverb is defined as "a short pithy saying in general use, stating a general truth or piece of advice." The Book of Proverbs in the Bible is just that: a collection of advice or life-lessons collected over many centuries. Our excerpt today is a reflection on the nature of *wisdom*. True wisdom, we read, is likened to food or a feast and we are invited to eat and drink of this wisdom. For Christians, this image has a special meaning. Jesus is the wisdom of God and so when we eat and drink of him (in the Eucharist), we also partake in this wisdom of God.

Once again, we sing Psalm 34 during the Mass, as we have done for the last few weeks. We "taste and see the goodness of the Lord." The verses chosen this week focus on a true piece of wisdom. An attitude of trust in God's love and care for us and then of giving thanks to God for all that He does for us is wisdom indeed. Such an attitude brings with it a depth and joy to life.

The Letter to the Ephesians (Ephesians 5: 15-20) also explores what we mean by wisdom, as well as the nature of foolishness. What then is true wisdom? It is allowing the Holy Spirit to help us do God's will in whatever circumstances and situations we find ourselves. As we have seen in our psalm, wisdom also involves having what is often called "an attitude of gratitude."

We are almost at the end of Jesus' Bread of Life Discourse in our Gospel (John 6: 51-58). We hear the same words that concluded the Gospel last week, where Jesus repeats that he is "the living bread that came down from heaven...the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world." These are astonishing and puzzling words from our Lord's lips. Are we to eat his flesh then?

Once again, some commentators say that Jesus was just speaking symbolically or metaphorically when he said this. However, this just cannot be the case. The crowd understands Jesus' words not metaphorically, but literally. They no longer murmur or grumble as they have done earlier in Jesus' discourse. Instead, they "quarreled among themselves." The word in the original language is not so much "quarreled", but something much stronger. They had a violent debate or litigation among themselves!

As the writer Brant Pitre notes, the crowd fully understood the realism and import of Jesus' words about eating his flesh and drinking his blood. So much so that they cry out "how can this man give us his flesh to eat?" It would have shocked the crowd, especially given the religious prohibition of consuming any blood. To drive this point home, Jesus uses words that refer to *eating* seven times in Chapter Six of John's Gospel. No, there is no mere symbolism or a metaphor here but a realism. Furthermore, if the crowd has misunderstood the realism of Jesus' words, he would have corrected them (as he had done on other occasions). Indeed, we will hear in next week's Gospel that many could not accept Jesus' words and so they leave him.

Despite this reaction, Jesus presses ahead and even goes further. He says that *unless* we eat his flesh and drink his blood, we do not have life in us. This is not a suggestion, but an invitation or even a command. Why such a demand? Because, as we read, Jesus' flesh is true food and his blood is true drink. We should note that the word "true" (*alethes*) that is employed here really means not so much a truth but *the* truth. A truth that is real, certain and absolute. Finally, Jesus shows us the result of this real eating and drinking of Him: we abide in him and he abides in us. In other words, we will become like the one we receive and enter a "holy communion." This too is true and real!

As we prepare for the Diocesan Eucharistic Congress, we can again make a strong connection between our readings this week and the Eucharist. May we renew our faith and our appreciation of the real presence of Jesus, body, blood, soul and divinity in the Eucharist.



Father Anthony

THE WEEK AHEAD



Eucharistic Adoration:

New day and time!

You are invited to spend a quiet hour in the Lord's presence on **Sundays** from **2-3 p.m.** in a silent Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration at St. Mary's Church, Hudson. To be held every Sunday from August 5 until the official opening of the Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration Chapel in October. Come join us in praying for the success of the Chapel project as well as for your own needs.

"Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament has His hands full of graces and He is ready to bestow them on anyone who asks for them." (St. Peter of Alcantara)



The following **Eucharistic Moment** has been shared by the perpetual Adoration Committee to promote Eucharistic adoration:

Sunday, August 19

*"Develop the habit of spending a few minutes each day in silence and you will have more clarity about every aspect of your life and peace deep in your soul. Clarity emerges from silence, and passion and purpose are the fruits of clarity." –Matthew Kelly in *The Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic*.*

Come, let us pray for increased joy and peace in our world!

THURSDAY, August 23

■ **Bible Study: 7:00 p.m. St. Mary's Academy**

SUNDAY, August 26

■ **Catholic Home Missions Appeal**

Alight Center's ***Coin Drive!***

This is a simple way to partner with Alight and get involved in creating a culture of life in your community!

- Take a bottle or envelope (or two, or three, or four).
- Fill it with currency, coins or checks.
- Return it to your church when it is full or by Labor Day.
- Pray for Alight and the families in your community.

A Note from Rita



Dear Parishioners:

As you well know, our Choir is a vital part of our liturgy and worship.

Presently we are seeking new members to sing at the 9:00 a.m. Mass on Sundays, mid-September to mid-June. If you can carry a tune, we really need your help. Please give this ministry some serious thought.

Rehearsals are after Mass, thereby eliminating any extra trips during the week.

The more singers we have participating, the more leeway we have to insure free weekends for those who need to be away, but still allowing for a goodly number to sing at Mass.

If you have any questions or concerns, please see me after Mass, or give me a call at 518 851-7393 - or feel free to speak with any choir member.

Blessings, joy and fulfillment are guaranteed!

Most sincerely,

Rita

EUCCHARISTIC CONGRESS

Saturday, September 22nd in Auriesville, NY
Sign up for the Bus! Seats are going fast!

As you may have read in past bulletins, our Bishop is calling for his faithful to join him on a pilgrimage at the *Shrine of the North American Martyrs in Auriesville, NY*, on **Saturday, September 22nd**, for a *Eucharistic Congress*.

The day will include Mass celebrated by Bishop Ed, inspirational speakers, a Eucharistic procession, children's activities and so much more.

In order to make this event easier for as many parishioners as wish to attend, we have chartered a bus. The suggested donation for the bus is \$10. The bus will leave from St. Mary's Academy, 301 Allen Street, at 7:30 a.m. and return at approximately 5 p.m. Seats are going fast! **You must reserve a seat!** Please call **Maura Nedwell at 518-851-3688** if you wish to ride the bus.

It is also necessary for you to register on-line to attend this event – all attendees must be registered. The registration link can be found at this address: <http://webapps.rcda.org/eucharisticCongress/>

If you do not have internet access, please use one of the registration forms at the back of the Church and follow the instructions.

Questions? Please feel free to contact Maura at the above number.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord. Put Christ's love into your relationship by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are Sep 28-30, 2018 in Oneonta, NY and Nov 3-4, 2018 in ALBANY, NY. For more information, call Ed & Rhonda Staats at 518-279-3243 or visit them at <https://www.wwomenalb.org>.

Diocesan Marriage Jubilee

The 46th Annual Marriage Jubilee Celebration will be held **Sunday, October 7th, 2018 at 2:00 PM** at **The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, corner of Eagle St. and Madison Ave., Albany, New York.**

Couples celebrating their 25th, 40th, 50th or other special wedding anniversaries are invited to attend this celebration. Bishop Edward B. Scharfenberger will celebrate the Liturgy at 2:00 PM and greet couples and their guests at a reception in the gathering area at the Cathedral immediately following Mass.

Please register through the Rectory at 828-1334 or by email to Marriage.Jubilee@rcda.org.

School Supplies Needed for Kids

This year, along with the tremendous need in our schools, Catholic Charities has contacted us to say that they have been asked to help approximately 150 children in need of supplies and backpacks. We are happy to help Catholic Charities in any way possible; and so we ask you to please be generous when donating supplies.

Thank you so much for your help with this wonderful service to our community! Again, here are suggested items for donation:

Crayons: small and medium boxes
Colored pencils **Magic Markers** **Highlighters**
#2 Pencils, and fancy pencils **Pens: blue, black, red**
Pencil sharpeners **Erasers**
Pencil Bag or Pencil Box **Glue or Glue sticks**
Calculators
Three-ring binder - Filler (loose-leaf) paper
Black and white (marble) composition books
Ruler: English/Metric **Subject dividers**
Book bags/Backpacks

These items may be left in the Church vestibules.

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

HUDSON

Regular Offertory Last Weekend (Aug. 12)..... \$ 5758.00

GERMANTOWN

Regular Offertory Last Weekend (Aug.12)..... \$ 1342.00
Utilities..... 489.00
Seminarian Support..... 10.00

SACRAMENTS

The sacraments are wonderful gifts from God to us.

BAPTISM: Congratulations! If you would like to arrange preparations and a date for Baptism, please contact the Parish Office.

RCIA: For those enquiring about the Catholic Faith or wishing to complete their sacraments: welcome! Please contact the Parish Office and we will be very glad to help you further.

RECONCILIATION: Celebrated on Saturdays 2.30-3.45 pm in Hudson, before and after Masses in Germantown, or at anytime by appointment. (Note: it is best to call ahead first to check on the availability of a priest)

ANOIDTING OF THE SICK: Priests regularly visit the hospitals, nursing homes and the homebound. Please do contact the Parish Office if you or someone you know is in need of the anointing of sick.

MARRIAGE: Congratulations! So that proper arrangements (paperwork, preparations etc.) can be made, please contact the Parish Office or Fr. Anthony at least six months before the desired date.

VOCATIONS: If you are considering a vocation to the priesthood, diaconate or religious life, please contact Fr. Anthony to share thoughts and prayers further.

Readings for the Week of August 19

Sunday: Prv 9:1-6/Ps 34:2-3, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15 [9a]
/Eph 5:15-20/Jn 6:51-58

Monday: Ez 24:15-24/Dt 32:18-19, 20, 21 [cf. 18a]/Mt 19:16-22

Tuesday: Ez 28:1-10/Dt 32:26-27ab, 27cd-28, 30, 35cd-36ab [39c]
/Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday: Ez 34:1-11/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [1]/Mt 20:1-16

Thursday: Ez 36:23-28/Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19 [Ez 36:25]
/Mt 22:1-14

Friday: Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18 [12]/Jn 1:45-51

Saturday: Ez 43:1-7ab/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [cf. 10b]
/Mt 23:1-12

Next Sunday: Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b/Ps 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19, 20-21, 22-23 [9a]/Eph 5:21-32 or 5:2a, 25-32/Jn 6:60-69
Liturgical Publications, Inc.

READINGS AND HYMNS (HUDSON)

Reading: p. 223 Opening Hymn: # 516 Closing: # 464

MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

MONDAY: St. Bernard, Abbot & Doctor of the Church (Aug. 20)

7:15 AM Stephen Gurny - Nettie Shallo
Ruth Barnaby - Joanne Walker
Anthony Liberti - CDA/Court Columbia 248

TUESDAY: St. Pius X, Pope (Aug. 21)

7:15 AM Bertha Wallace - By Children
Stephen Gurny - Elaine & Dick Holmes
Anthony Liberti - Robin Merante

WEDNESDAY: Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Aug 22)

7:15 AM Sally Van Buskirk - Dolly & Lee Van DeCarr
Philip Graziano - Joanne Walker
Anthony J. Liberti - Mr. & Mrs. Robert Donahue

THURSDAY: St. Rose of Lima, Virgin (Aug. 23)

7:15 AM Stephen Gurny - Mr. & Mrs. Robert Donahue
Priscilla Malak - Rosa Pfeil
Anthony J. Liberti - Antoinette Shallo

FRIDAY: St. Bartholomew, Apostle (Aug. 24)

7:15 AM John "Jake" Halloran - Family
Rose M. Grand Johnston - Family
Byron Hills - Rosa Pfeil

9:00 AM Elizabeth Austin - Dave & Mary Krein
(G'TWN)

21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY VIGIL MASS: (Aug 25)

4:00 PM John M. Barone - Dawn & John Barone
(HUD) Diana Baccaro - Ken & Chrissy Baccaro
Chris Groll, Sr. - Dick & Frieda Van Deusen

5:30 PM Carmela & Philip Manuli - Phyllis Manuli
(LNLTH) Elizabeth Austin
Living & deceased of the parish

SUNDAY MORNING MASS: (Aug. 26)

9:00 AM Nicola Carlucci - Family
(HUD) Thomas, Barbara & Tommy Halpin - Barbara Othote
Lydia Grima - Family

11:00 AM Sherwood Cade (18th. Anniversary) - Sharon Novak
Craft

(G'TWN) Jacque Stewart - Comesanas Family

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better persons;
our behavior does.*

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