



HOLY TRINITY PARISH

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

August 26, 2018

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A classical-style portrait of Simon Peter, the Apostle. He is depicted as an older man with a long, white beard and hair, looking slightly upwards and to the right. He is wearing white clerical robes with three small crosses on the chest. He holds a wooden staff or crozier in his right hand. The background is dark, making the figure stand out.

**21st SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

Simon Peter answered him, "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life." - Jn 6:68

REV. ANTHONY BARRATT

Pastor

DEACON RICHARD WASHBURN

Deacon

REV. WINSTON BATH

Pastor Emeritus

SUNDAY 21 (B) THE EUCHARIST AS A CHOICE

This week we conclude our journey through Jesus' Bread of Life Discourse. Our journey ends with a choice and a decision. We can enter into a covenant or relationship with the Lord, or we can walk away. What is it to be?

The First Reading (Joshua 24: 1-2, 15-18) finds us at a great assembly of the people of Israel in a place called Shechem. Joshua has called everyone together to renew the covenant with God as the people finally come to the Promised Land. He places before them a choice: to serve God alone or to serve false gods. It has to be one or the other. Joshua makes clear his choice: "as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." The people agree and also promise that they will serve the Lord, for He is God. We can fast forward millennia to see that in the Eucharist, the real and living symbol of Jesus the *new covenant*, we too face this choice. As the minister says the "body of Christ" or "the blood of Christ", we respond "Amen"; that is "so be it." We can remember that this simple word of affirmation is also a word of choice or decision. We are saying, "yes Lord, I believe and I chose to follow you."

Psalm 34 makes yet another appearance as our responsorial psalm. Given our other readings, the focus of the verses chosen for this weekend speak about the covenant God has with us. We give glory and praise to God because of His love and care for us. This love and care is seen especially when God comes to help in times of adversity or difficulty. The Letter to the Ephesians (Ephesians 5: 21-32) also speaks about a covenant: the one Christ has with the Church. To illustrate this covenant, the Letter uses a beautiful image of the covenant of love that exists between a bride and a groom.

In the Gospel (John 6: 60-69), we return to the final part of Jesus' Bread of Life discourse. We heard last week how the crowd began to quarrel amongst themselves when they grasped the realism of Jesus' words. Now, it is not just a vague or generic group that is shocked and troubled, but even his disciples. They said: "this saying is hard; who can accept it." Once again, it is clear that Jesus' words about eating his flesh and drinking his blood were understood not in some symbolic way, but literally and really. In fact, the word used in the original language that is translated as

"hard" is *skleros*. This word means not so much "hard" as "offensive."

Jesus then asked, "does this shock you?" Actually, a better translation would be "does this scandalize you?" Many of us may puzzle about the proper meaning and understanding of the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist (body, blood, soul and divinity); so perhaps this question relates to our struggles too. Indeed, our Gospel then tells us that many of the disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied (literally no longer "walked with") Jesus.

Jesus' next question then is also addressed to us: "Do you also want to leave?" St. Peter's answer is also, hopefully, ours. Notice that it is not just a yes or no reply! In fact, he said three things. First, Jesus' question is, in a way, a non-question. How can we leave, as Jesus is "the way, the truth and the life." Where else or rather to whom else would we go? Secondly, Jesus has the words of eternal life. Who would walk away from this? Thirdly, St. Peter said "we have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God." In other words, we still want to walk with Jesus and to make that journey of faith, because we know who he is. It may take us some time to "come to believe" and our journey may take many twists and turns, but our destination is clear. We might add that we are also called to bring others to journey towards faith in Jesus and to walk with them on this journey.

In this last sense, we have come to realize that the Eucharist is at the very heart of evangelization. The Eucharist feeds us and gives us the strength to be true disciples of the Lord; but also the courage and even the motivation to share the gift that we have received with others. As Robert Rivers, in his book *From Maintenance to Mission, Evangelization and the Revitalization of the Parish* wrote: "Evangelization is not an add-on dimension to the Eucharist, rather it is in and of itself an evangelizing experience...we eat and drink the body and blood of Christ in order to become the body of Christ to the world."



Father Anthony

THE WEEK AHEAD

SUNDAY, August 26

■ **Catholic Home Missions Appeal**



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

Sunday, August 26

“Every time we look at the Blessed Sacrament our place in heaven is raised forever.”

- St. Gertrude

Come, let us adore Him!



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)

THURSDAY, August 30

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

SUNDAY, September 2

■ **Sign up for First Friday Eucharistic Adoration**



This weekend we have the collection for the Catholic Home Missions Appeal.

This appeal supports the home missions – places right here in the United States such as Appalachia, the Deep south, the Southwest, the Rocky Mountain States — where the Catholic church struggles just to keep parishes open, and to educate children in the faith.

Some dioceses are terribly short of priests, sisters, and the money needed to run parishes. We will be taking up the Catholic Home Missions Appeal this weekend to strengthen the Church here at home.

The Catholic Home Missions Appeal helps build community within the Church, and works for the common good of Catholics in the United States. Please plan to give generously to assist fellow Catholics in America.

We Need You!

The ministry of Altar Service is an integral and rewarding part of Catholic worship.



- ✘ Are you 8 years of age or older?
- ✘ Have you received the Sacraments of Baptism and First Holy Communion?
- ✘ Do you faithfully attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation?
- ✘ Do you desire to participate more actively in the liturgy?
- ✘ Would you like to serve Christ and His Church?
- ✘ Are you willing to attend Altar Server training sessions and accept direction and guidance?

If you would like to participate in the ministry of altar service, or for more information, please contact Mr. Michael Van Allen at sacristan.holytrinityhudson@gmail.com or 518-828-1334.



**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.

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

**PRAYER: Wireless access to God
with no roaming fees.**

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

Be generous. It is hardly ever the wrong thing to do.
- Anonymous

HUDSON

Regular Offertory Last Weekend (Aug. 20).....	\$6,385.00
Assumption.....	990.00
Seminarian Support.....	782.00

GERMANTOWN

Regular Offertory Last Weekend (Aug.20).....	\$1969.00
Assumption.....	175.00
Utilities.....	70.00
Seminarian Support.....	25.00

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)

ANOINTING 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 26

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
Monday: 2 Thes 1:1-5, 11-12/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 4-5 [3] /Mt 23:13-22
Tuesday: 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13 [13b] /Mt 23:23-26
Wednesday: 2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18/Ps 128:1-2, 4-5 [1]/Mk 6:17-29
Thursday: 1 Cor 1:1-9/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [1]/Mt 24:42-51
Friday: 1 Cor 1:17-25/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11 [5]/Mt 25:1-13
Saturday: 1 Cor 1:26-31/Ps 33:12-13, 18-19, 20-21 [12] /Mt 25:14-30
Next Sunday: Dt 4:1-2, 6-8/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5 [1a] /Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27/Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

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READINGS AND HYMNS (HUDSON)

Reading: p. 225 Opening Hymn: # 569 Closing: # 498

MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

MONDAY: St. Monica (Aug.27)

7:15 AM Tony & Jennie Paone - Son, Joseph
Tony Liberti - Jack & Mary Ann Nytransky
Andrew McDonald - Joanne Walker

TUESDAY: St. Augustine, Bishop & Doctor of the Church(Aug. 28)

7:15 AM Chris, Dorothy, Hank DiCintio - Judy, Tony & Madaline
Nicola Carlucci - Carlucci Family
Sally Van Buskirk - Rosa Pfeil

WEDNESDAY: Passion of St. John the Baptist (Aug. 29)

7:15 AM Stephen Gurny - Barbara Ellsworth
Anthony Liberti - Charlie & Linda Meicht
Andrew McDonald - Christian Service Committee

THURSDAY: Weekday (Aug. 30)

7:15 AM Priscilla Malak - Jack & Mary Ann Nytransky
Sr. Margaret Paul Scrodin - Christian Service Committee
Anthony Liberti - Rosa Pfeil

FRIDAY: Weekday (Aug. 31)

7:15 AM Joseph A. Finn - Wife
Walter Hull - Loving sister, Linda Colwell
Andrew McDonald - Ellen & Dan Miller

9:00 AM For God's Blessings on our Parish
(G'TWN)

22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY VIGIL MASS: (Sept. 1)

4:00 PM Renee Teegarden - Dennis & Debbie
(HUD) Dolores (Mickey) & Peter Colarusso Jr, - Malchow Family
Thomas C. Quigley & Mary Lou Bujanow - Family
5:30 PM Bohdan Pizak - Dave & Mary Krein
(LNLTH) For the Living & Deceased of the Parish

SUNDAY MORNING MASS: (Sept. 2)

9:00 AM Thomas Kappel - Barbara Othote
(HUD) Shanna Estes & John Scalera - Kathy & Leo Weaver
Joseph Nabozny - Wife, Inez Nabozny
11:00 AM Leo Pulcher - Elizabeth Pulcher
(G'TWN) To The Holy Spirit - M.&P. Comesanas
Frank Pancheri - Wife, Ilda

Having thoughts of becoming a Catholic?

At some point in their lives, many people find themselves interested in the Catholic Church. Whatever your reason, know there are many like yourself who desire a closer relationship with Christ and a community in which to thrive and worship to help deepen the relationship.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults helps individuals journey to a deeper understanding of Jesus and the Catholic faith. It is a life-changing journey. To find out if this is right for you, or for more information, please call Michael Van Allen at the Rectory Office: 518-828-1334; or email him at holytrinityhudson.org.

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