







### MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, June 24 - Thursday, June 26 Emmaus Convocation- No Mass

**Friday, June 27** The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Jack Kalchthaler (Barbara & Daniel Eichenlaub)

#### **SOLEMNITY OF SAINTS PETER & PAUL**

**Saturday, June 28** 4:30pm Tom Duda (Barbara & John Miller)

**Sunday, June 29** 8:00am James P. Morgan (Virginia Morgan)

11:00am For the People of the Parish

## CHILD PROTECTION AND CREATING SAFE ENVIRONMENTS

LISTEN: This summer, when children are out of school, meeting new people and going to new places, make sure that you talk to them often about their experiences and the people they've met. Listen carefully to your children. If possible, observe and get to know the other children and adults who are part of your children's summertime fun. Above all, communicate your safety concerns to your children. Make sure your children know they can come to you with any concerns they may have about the people they interact with. And if you hear of or observe behaviors that may be inappropriate, make sure to communicate your feelings to people who are in a position to intervene. Communication is key in creating and maintaining a safe environment all year round. For additional resources visit: www.eriercd.org/childprotection/.

### WEEKLY CALENDAR

June 24:	Divine Mercy Chaplet 3pm.
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June 25: NO Confessions - Priest Retreat.

June 26: Parish Picnic Meeting 7pm Large Meeting Room. All are welcome.

June 28: Confessions 3pm-4pm.

### THE EMMAUS PRAYER

This prayer is offered to the faithful of the Diocese to pray for the Priests and Deacons of the Diocese who will be away at their annual Emmaus Convocation this week in Latrobe.

Lord Jesus, hear our prayer for the spiritual renewal of priests and deacons. We praise you for giving their ministry to the church. In these days, renew them with the gifts of your Spirit. You once opened the Scriptures to the disciples on the road to Emmaus. We ask you to renew your ordained ministers with the truth and power of your Word. In the Eucharist, you gave the Emmaus disciples renewed life and hope.

Nourish priests and deacons with your own Body and Blood. Help them to imitate in their lives the death and resurrection they celebrate at your altar. Give priests and deacons enthusiasm for the Gospel, zeal for the salvation of souls, courage in leadership, humility in service, fellowship with one another and with all the faithful. For you love them, Lord Jesus, and we love and pray for them in Your Name. Amen.

# A WORD FROM FATHER BRANDON

This weekend is the hat-trick, triple crown, of the post-Easter Sundays that sit with the deep and rich theology of God: Pentecost, Trinity, Corpus Christi. These Solemnities ponder deeply - and inexhaustibly - the nature of God and how God creates, saves, redeems, and sanctifies. On one level, the existence of God and how He operates and engages with His creation can be a vague concept of dialogue among the privileged few who have nothing else to do with their lives or any real obligations to concern themselves with! All those monks, nuns, priests, and academics who live in their 'bubble of obliviousness' have nothing better to do with their time - oh how nice it must be to be that carefree so as to ponder the depths of the divine - can be a common critique from those who feel God too often remains the sport of privileged and the erudite, and not the refuge of sinners and hope for the hopeless!

I know I'm being a bit hyperbolic with that, but I think we often feel that tension within our souls... part of us would love to be that armchair aesthete who pours over the beauty of the divine nature and the language of the saints and plumbs the distant depths of Scripture...but then, we look around us and we are drowning, not in beatific serenity, but debt, worry, shattered relationships, anxiety, illness, loneliness, persecution....and when that is one's lived reality - not the monastic cell where all you have as companions are your tinnitus and the stillness - it can be real hard to plumb any depths of God or get hungry for the beauty of Theology - and then go and seek it.

That is the tension of the Christian life, the Spiritual Life: we long for the ideal, yet we feel imprisoned in the chaos and agony. That is something we all experience in our own way and in our own language and analogies. The beauty of this threefold Sunday Solemnties on the nature and workings of God is to show us, in part, that even imprisoned in the chaos, we are still fully accessible to God and God to us! In the midst of the pains and illnesses and brokennesses of our life, you and I just celebrated Pentecost, Trinity Sunday, and now Corpus Christi. Without escaping the prison bars of our fallen flesh or the tortures of sin all around us, we were able to bring ourselves to worship the mystery of God: His nature, how He speaks to us, and how He feeds us! Don't take that for granted! The Christian life is not about finding the Beatific Vision here, nor finalizing Theosis while in the flesh...the Christian life is about hobbling and crying and bandaging ourselves along the way. The Church is not the refuge *from* the world, but the place of healing in the *midst* of the world! We're not trying to be spiritual isolationist, rather we are continually bringing our broken selves every day to our Lord; we are bringing our broken selves to The Trinity, not to become armchair theologians, but to find our home, our life, our true sustenance. All the world feeds us is more sin, death, destruction...what God offers is life! Yes, we are not escaping the world, we are finding life within the world because we are not abandoned or alone - we are intensely united to and fed by The Holy Trinity...and what more could any of us want!? Whenever you feel overwhelmed or that it's unfair that you can't seem to find God or experience Him because your life is too broken or you are too far gone...just remember that you came here for three successive weeks and worshiped the mystery of God! Was it perfect? No. Was the priest perfect? A resounding No! But was God present to you and was He filled with nothing but delight for you, His Son or Daughter for just showing up? Yes... don't discredit how the little we seem to do is magnanimous in the eyes of God and truly is the fuel to make all of theologians! Remember, the one who prays, who cries out to God is the theologian - not the degreed scholar.

Love, Father Brandon