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St. Joseph The Worker Parish, Russell, MB St. Theresa's Parish Rossburn, MB

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 34): Taste and see that the Lord is good.

St. Joseph The Worker News:

Please remember in your prayers those who are sick in hospitals, care homes, or in their homes & those who care for them. If you wish to receive the Sacraments of Anointing, Confession, or Holy Communion – please call the parish office & leave a message: 204-773-2924.

Praying with Pope Francis August: *For political leaders: We pray that political leaders be at the service of their own people, working for integral human development and for the common good, especially caring for the poor and those who have lost their jobs.*

Mass Intentions For This Week:

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday Aug 17 7:30 p.m. Russell + For Duncan Spurway req by Charm

Sunday Aug 18 9:00 a.m. Russell + For Lucille Nickerson req by Louise Trinder

11:00 a.m. Oakburn Farm Church For all parishioners req by Father Paul

Monday Aug 19 Health of family & friends req by Jean Goba

Tuesday Aug 20 No Mass

Wed Aug 21 No Mass

Thurs Aug 22 10:30 Rossburn Adoration

11:00 a.m. + Suffering Souls in Purgatory req by Rose & family

Friday Aug 23 8:30 a.m. Russell Adoration

9:00 a.m. Mass For health & healing for Fr Paul req. by Eugene & Joyce Lepischak

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday Aug 24 7:30 p.m. Russell + Myron Andrews req by Michelle & Curtis & family

Sunday Aug 25 9:00 a.m. Russell For all parishioners by Father Paul

11:00 a.m. Rossburn + Norma Kaskiw req by Clarence Kaskiw

Oakburn Farm Church Mass will be on Sunday August 18, 2024 at 11:00 a.m.

Followed by the blessing of the cemetery and graves.

A good lunch will follow after Mass so plan to visit a while.

The blessing of the Oakburn Cemetery will be around 2:00 p.m.

Kaposvar Pilgrimage will be held August 18th at Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine – 3 miles South and ½ mile West of Esterhazy on Grid 637. Please see poster at the back of the church.

* “She knows now.” A mother ran into the bedroom when she heard her seven-year-old son scream. She found his two-year-old sister pulling his hair. She gently released the little girl’s grip and said comfortingly to the boy, “There, there. She didn’t mean it. She doesn’t know that hurts.” He nodded his acknowledgement, and she left the room. As she started down the hall the little girl screamed. Rushing back in, she asked, “What happened?” The little boy replied, “She knows now.”



Scripture lessons: In today’s **first reading**, taken from the Book of Proverbs, Lady Wisdom, representing God, offers wisdom and understanding in the form of a rich banquet to all those who are willing to heed her invitation. The early Christians often identified Jesus as the Wisdom of God. They regarded the Eucharist as Wisdom’s banquet, where they shared in the Divine Wisdom now Incarnate in Jesus. The Responsorial Psalm (Ps 34), thanks God for His providential care and His close association with His people, and invites all to *“taste and see the goodness of the Lord.”* In the **second reading**, Paul advises the Gentile Christians to show their gratitude to God for calling them, along with the Jews, to Christianity, and for giving them a share in Christ’s life. They will be able to receive this life by avoiding their former foolish ways, like *getting drunk on wine*. Instead, they are to be Spirit-filled with their talk edifying, always trying to discern and do the will of God. In today’s **Gospel** passage, Jesus asserts that eating the Living Bread, himself, allows us to participate in his life and to grow here and now in our eternal life with God. Jesus emphasizes the eternal-life dimensions of eating his Body and drinking his Blood – that those who have faith in Jesus and do so have already stepped into Heaven in this life, sharing in God’s own life and therefore in eternal life. Our participation in the Eucharist also concretizes and energizes our relationship with Christ and with one another. When we share in the Body and Blood of Christ in the Holy Eucharist, Jesus himself comes to dwell within us. This communion with the Lord makes us one Body, brings us eternal life, and sends us forth to be Christ’s Body for the life of the world.

Life messages: # 1: We need to allow our body to be broken and our blood shed for others as Jesus did: When we receive Jesus in Holy Communion, we accept a great challenge. We accept the triumphs and the tragedies, joys and pains necessary to build up the Kingdom of God wherever we have been called to serve. That is why, at the end of the Mass, we are sent out *to announce the Gospel of the Lord* (Form 2), through the witness of our humble service and exemplary lives, radiating Jesus’ love, mercy, forgiveness, and spirit of service all around us. As we walk away from the altar, we may perhaps hear Jesus saying of us: *“This is my Body, which will be given up for you”* and *“This is the Chalice of my Blood ... which will be poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins”*. What a power we would be for our world around us if each one of us could say that and mean it! That is why, at the end of the Mass, we are sent out with, *“Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life”*(Form 3), through our lives.

#2: We need to keep the hunger and thirst for God alive in our hearts: Every human being is blessed with an insatiable longing for God. We want God as our Father to hold us gently in His arms, keeping us safe throughout the dangers we face. But often we use substitutes as an escape from that need: fast living, fast-food, fast cars, needless luxuries, unrestricted sexual fulfillment. We demand the right to do whatever we want to do whenever we want. But unless we keep the hunger for God strong in our hearts, we will eventually realize the emptiness of our lives without God.

***Life-giving bread in Heaven’s buffet:** This 85-year-old couple, having been married almost 60 years, had died in a car crash. They had been in good health for the last ten years, mainly due to their interest in healthful food and exercise. When they reached the Pearly Gates, St. Peter took them to their mansion, which was decked out with a beautiful kitchen, a master bath suite and a Jacuzzi. As they “oohed and aaahed,” the old man asked Peter how much all this was going to cost.

“It’s free,” Peter replied, “this is Heaven.”

Next, they went to see the championship golf course that their heavenly home backed up to. St. Peter told them they would have golfing privileges every day. The old man asked, “What are the greens fees?” Peter’s reply, “This is heaven; you play for free.”

Next, they went to the clubhouse and saw a lavish buffet laid out for them. “How much does it cost to eat?” asked the old man. “Don’t you understand yet? This is heaven! It’s free!” Peter replied. “Well, where are the low fat and low cholesterol foods?” the old man asked sadly. Peter smiled and said, “That’s the best part...you can eat as much as you like of whatever you like and you never get fat and you never get sick. This is Heaven.” The old man looked angrily at his wife and said, “You and your bran muffins! We could have been here ten years ago!”

Dear Padre,

Are naked statues, like Michelangelo's David, really appropriate for public viewing?

It is helpful to consider if the artwork depicts the body to heighten transcendence, or to objectify the body to satisfy basic instincts. Art is admittedly subjective, and the interpretation of nudity in true art is in the eye of the beholder. Nudity can evoke feelings of shame for some; for others, the nude body in art can be an aesthetic experience of illuminated grace in humanity, and ultimately in the glory of our Maker for all his gifts—including the gift of Christ's resurrection that restored us to the original image and likeness intended by our Creator.

Since ancient times, the nude human form was a common subject in art. The intention is to draw the viewer to a better appreciation of the human body's natural beauty. However, nudity is often associated with sexuality, and for some, sexuality is equated with sin.

In his series of addresses about the theology of the body, St. John Paul II expounded on original nakedness that was referred to in Scripture: "Man tries to cover the real origin of fear with the shame of his own nakedness" (Genesis 3:10). "In the state of original innocence nakedness did not express a lack. Rather, it represented full acceptance of the body..." (*Real Significance of Original Nakedness*, 1980).

So to answer the question, assuming the purpose of the artist is to inspire, and the atmosphere in which the statue is viewed is conducive to such inspiration, yes, such a public display is appropriate. ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org



MORTA PONS MORETA / SHUTTERSTOCK

Our Parish COMMUNITY

August 18, 2024

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

Proverbs 9:1-6 / Ephesians 5:15-20 / John 6:51-58



The Wisdom Meal

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

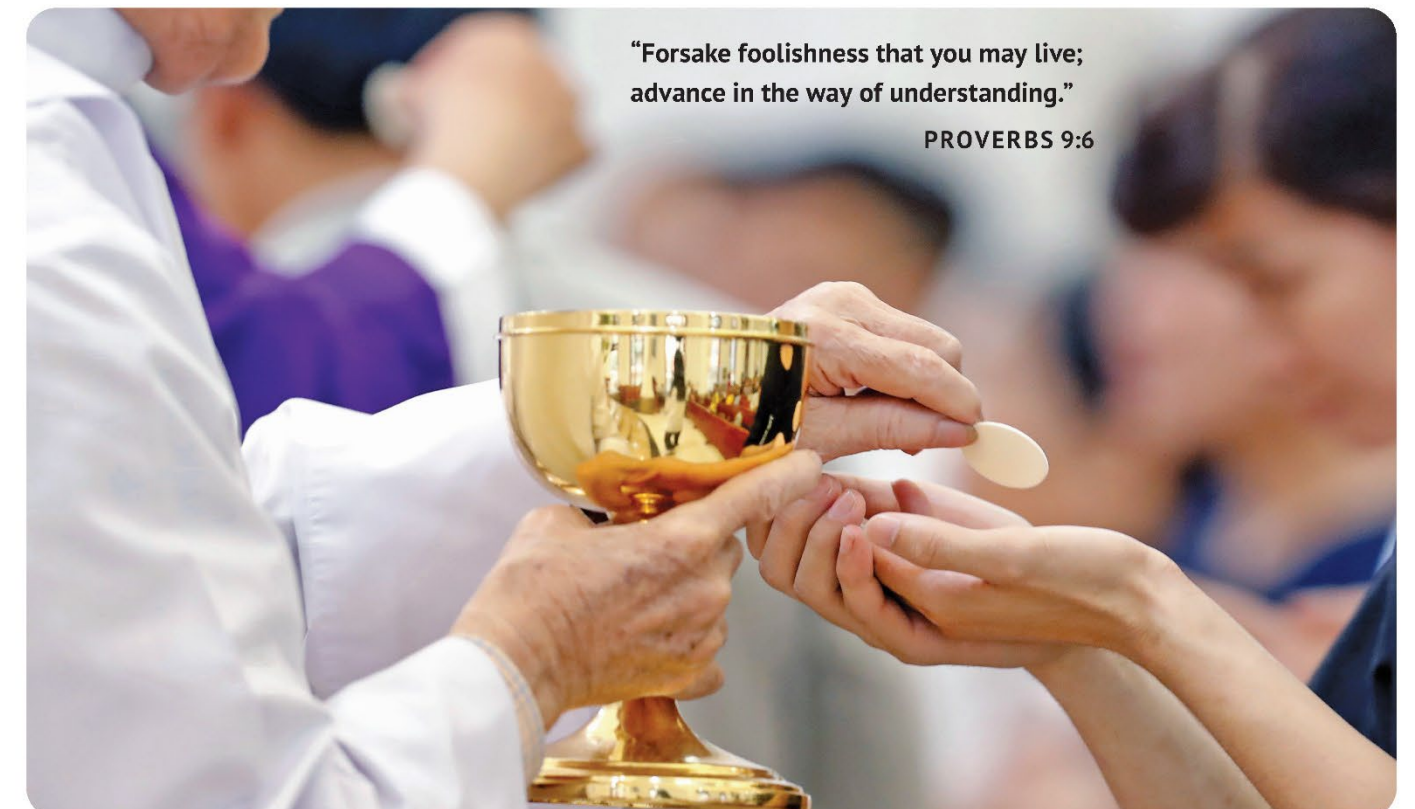
Common sense and wisdom are two different realities, similar but not the same. Common sense can be taught, and it tends to be black and white, rather obvious. For the most part, parents teach their children common sense. *Don't run with a knife in your hands. Look both ways before you cross the street. Wash your hands before you eat.* Wisdom, on the other hand, tends to be more nuanced. It has a depth to it that cannot be taught. Rather, it is learned by experience and is more obscure than obvious. Sometimes, wisdom may not even seem to make sense. *One finds life by losing it. We find meaning not by focusing on ourselves but rather upon others and their needs. Less is more. Might does not make right.* Wisdom is the home of God.

Throughout Scripture, the virtue of wisdom is often personified as Lady Wisdom. She is thought to have been present with God even before creation and with God at creation (Proverbs 8:22-31). Wisdom has spread her table before us and invites us: "Come, eat of my food, / and drink of the wine I have mixed!... / advance in the way of understanding" (Proverbs 9:5-6). Jesus is the wisdom of God made flesh. To feast on Jesus' Body and Blood through the Eucharist is to feast on the wisdom of God. There, at his table, we begin to look at life the way God does. ●

Reflect

When faced with difficulties, do you stop and pray for wisdom—to see as God sees?

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
August 19 Weekday Ez 24:15-23 Mt 19:16-22	August 20 St. Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church Ez 28:1-10 Mt 19:23-30	August 21 St. Pius X, Pope Ez 34:1-11 Mt 20:1-16	August 22 Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ez 36:23-28 Mt 22:1-14	August 23 Weekday Ez 37:1-14 Mt 22:34-40	August 24 St. Bartholomew, Apostle Rv 21:9b-14 Jn 1:45-51	August 25 Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b Eph 5:21-32 or 5:2a, 25-32 Jn 6:60-69



"Forsake foolishness that you may live; advance in the way of understanding."

PROVERBS 9:6



FABIO LOTTI / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Around the altar we find what spiritually feeds us and quenches our thirst today and for eternity.... The Eucharist shapes us so that we live not only for ourselves but for the Lord and for our brothers and sisters. Life's happiness and eternity depend on our ability to render fruitful the evangelical love we receive in the Eucharist.

ANGELUS, ROME, AUGUST 19, 2018