

Our Lady of Light & Saint Osyth

“Come Holy Spirit,
by means of the powerful
intercession of the Immaculate Heart
of Mary, Your well beloved spouse.”

~ prayed after each decade of the
rosary in our church ~

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“Come, O Divine Spirit, fill my heart
with Thy heavenly fruits, Thy
charity, joy, peace, patience,
benignity, goodness, faith, mildness,
and temperance, that I may never
weary in the service of God, but by
continued faithful submission to
Thy inspiration may merit to be
united eternally with Thee in the love
of the Father and the Son. Amen.”



“Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of
Your faithful and kindle in them the
fire of Your love. Send forth Your
Spirit and they shall be created. And
You shall renew the face of the earth.
O God, Who taught the hearts of the
faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit,
grant that by the gift of the same Holy
Spirit we may be always truly wise,
and ever rejoice in His Divine
Consolation, through Christ Our
Lord. Amen.”

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“To pray we must lower ourselves,
so that the Holy Spirit may come
into us and guide us in prayer.”

~ Pope Francis ~

National Shrine of Our Lady of Light, Spouse of the Holy Spirit

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PENTECOST SUNDAY ~ 9TH JUNE, 2019

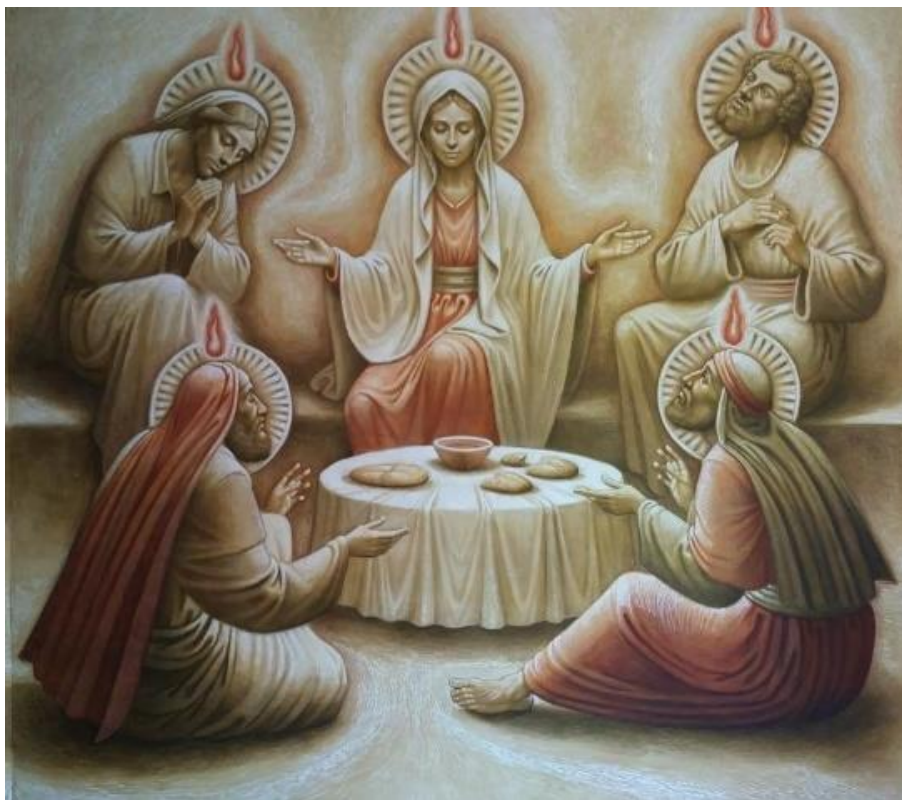
Canon Peter Writes ...

Becoming Saints

The potentiality of sainthood which is being offered to us through the implementation of The Vision Document, Part 1. “What will this child turn out to be?” Those were the words of wonderment and joy spoken by the neighbours and friends of Zechariah and Elizabeth as they witnessed the unusual circumstances surrounding the birth of their son, John the Baptist: the fact that he had been conceived at all! by a hitherto barren wife way beyond the age of child bearing; that he should be called John and not Zechariah, and that his father should suddenly regain the power of speech after ratifying in writing what his wife had decreed about the naming of their son. The reaction to the birth of Christ’s forerunner and herald was made in response to a unique and miraculous event in the history of humanity. But along with the initial joy which should arise when every child is born, there also come thoughts of the future for the new baby: hopes and dreams running through the minds of parents, family and friends about what this little boy or girl will turn out to be. What will they become? What will they achieve in life? Of course answers to such questions are all conjectural because none of us are able to look into the future with any certainty. The only truthful answer to such wondering is, “God alone knows.”

And indeed it is Almighty God who does alone know the potentiality of every single child from the very first moment of conception in their mother’s womb. That potentiality is infused by God into the soul of every person when, with the





cooperation of husband and wife, He brings a new life into being. That Divinely given potentiality is to become a saint, the only reason why God loves anyone into existence. For a saint, by definition, is someone who is enjoying, for the rest of eternity, the fullness of life and joy in heaven, sharing by invitation in the life of The Trinity, the life of The Three Persons in The One God, a life of perfect love. The desire by God for all of us to be with Him in heaven was clearly expressed by His Son, Jesus Christ, at the Last Supper. When trying to reassure the unease of the Apostles, He said, *“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father’s house; if there were not, I should have told you. I am going now to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am you may be too.”*

Whatever we might become or achieve in this fragile, uncertain and short-lived part of our life, whether we experience success or failure, health or sickness, die young or old, alongside fulfilling our responsibilities, making

good use of the talents which God has given us, and enjoying the goodness of His creation, there is only one goal to aim for with all our strength, only one legitimate ambition we should all, single-mindedly, strive to fulfil, and that is to become a saint. Such a status is what the Father wills for all of us. When we pray the Prayer which Jesus taught us and say, “Thy will be done” we are praying to be a saint. This is not spiritual presumption or pride but what the Father wants, and to coyly think, “I could never be become a saint” is denying the power of God’s grace to help us overcome every temptation, weakness and sin which plague all of us and which try to undermine that resolve to forget the past and to strain ahead for what is still to come; to weaken us as we race for the finish, for the prize to which God calls us upward to receive in Christ Jesus (cf Saint Paul). But to say, “I could never become a saint” might also imply that I do not really want to make the efforts necessary to achieve heaven, that in this life I would rather take the lower, easier road which will eventually lead us, if we do not abandon it, to the only other ultimate alternative to heaven, which is hell.

Of course the legacy of defective “vision” and a penchant for taking the easy way out left to us by Original Sin is going to be with us all through our lives here, and so it will never be easy to gain that prize of heaven, sainthood. As Our Lord said, Anyone who wants to follow Me (in this life and then into heaven) must pick up their cross every day. But He also said, I will be with you always, every day, like a shepherd watching over his sheep, like a mother hen sheltering her chicks, I will not leave you as orphans. And so, nothing happens in our lives without Almighty God being fully aware of the laughter or tears which situations cause us; nothing happens in our lives without Almighty God either allowing or causing it to happen (and we know for certain, through the suffering and death of Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, just how much He loves us and therefore how He will never cause us suffering), and nothing happens in our lives without Almighty God using it to help us to get to heaven, to become saints. So, as we take stock of the Catholic Church in the Western Hemisphere and in particular our Diocese of Brentwood, we are certain that Almighty God is also fully aware that we have fewer priests today and fewer laity attending Mass than “yesterday”; He knows too, that this will be the likely trend for the immediate future and that it will not be viable to provide the number of Masses which are currently celebrated, He is fully aware that the status quo is not sustainable.

The seven gifts of the Holy Spirit are wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord. They belong in their fullness to Christ, Son of David. They complete and perfect the virtues of those who receive them. They make the faithful docile in readily obeying divine inspirations.

~ Catechism of the Catholic Church #1831 ~

To be continued.

TEA AND COFFEE are available after the Sunday morning Masses. Everyone is welcome.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED URGENTLY to help serve tea/coffee after our 10.30am Masses on Sundays. Please see one of the current volunteers.

THERE WILL BE A SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND FOR DAY FOR LIFE Please give generously.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2019/2020 Application Forms for the next Parish First Holy Communion Programme are now available in the church. Before filling in and returning these Forms you are urged to read what you are promising to do when you enrol your child for their preparation. These promises you make to Almighty God, as you did when your child was Baptised, when you promised then to bring him/her up in the **PRACTICE OF THE FAITH**, the minimum requirement to fulfil this promise is attending Mass every week. These Forms have to be returned to the Parish Priest by Sunday, 21st July.

PARISH LOTTERY 25/26 May: Bonus Ball No 57. Winner: Canon Peter.

Saturday, 8 th June	9.45am-10.40am 9.45am 11.00am 1.00pm	CONFESSIONS Rosary, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Midday Prayer Mass ~ Cathleen Freyne RIP (Tim) Mass in Malayalam preceded by the Rosary
	4.00pm-4.40pm 5.00pm	CONFESSIONS & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Vigil Mass ~ Queenie Hughes RIP (Byrne Family)
Sunday, 9 th June <i>Pentecost Sunday ~ Year C</i> <i>Day of Prayer for the Church</i>	8.30am 10.30am	Mass ~ Calum Lee Intentions (Nicola) & All Parishioners Mass ~ Rita Beadle RIP (Breda)
<i>End of Pashaltide ~ Beginning of Week 10, Year I in Ordinary Time ~ Psalter Week 2</i>		
Monday, 10 th June <i>Mary, Mother of the Church</i>	9.45am 11.00am	Novena to Our Lady, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Midday Prayer Mass ~ Mary Christy RIP (Nicola)
Tuesday, 11 th June <i>St Barnabas</i>	9.45am 11.00am	Rosary, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Midday Prayer Mass ~ Anna Stuart & Family Intentions (T & C)
Wednesday, 12 th June		<i>No Mass or Exposition</i>
Thursday, 13 th June ~ <i>Our Lord Jesus Christ the Eternal High Priest</i>		
Friday, 14 th June	9.45am 11.00am	Rosary, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Divine Mercy Chaplet & Midday Prayer Mass ~ Anne Jordan RIP (Family)
Saturday, 15 th June	9.45am-10.40am 9.45am 11.00am	CONFESSIONS Rosary, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Midday Prayer Mass ~ Terence Cohen RIP (Nicola)
	4.00pm-4.40pm 5.00pm	CONFESSIONS & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Vigil Mass ~ Patricia Hughes RIP (Hanna) & All Parishioners
Sunday, 16 th June <i>The Most Holy Trinity ~ Year C</i> <i>Day for Life</i>	8.30am 10.30am	Mass ~ Ahmet Family Intentions & Ebrem Ahmet RIP Mass ~ Michael & Bridget Hand RIP (Family)

Praising your Son we also praise you
 as His living sanctuary, Mother of God.
 He who dwelt in your womb, who holds all things in His hand,
 He, the Lord, has sanctified you and glorified you
 and taught us to sing:
 Hail, O hail, Temple where God's Word found repose,
 you are holy above all the saints.
 Golden Shrine of the Holy Spirit; priceless fountain of life.
 You are the crown of glory of all who fear God;
 you are the honour of your priestly servants.
 In you the whole Church has its home,
 invincible wall of the Kingdom.
 You are the sign that we shall be victorious;
 through you our enemies will be vanquished.
 It is you who guide my soul, it is you who heal my body.
 Hail, O hail, O virginal Mother!

~ from Akathist hymn to the Mother of God ~



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