

COVE SIDE CHATTER

February, 2019

A Common Thread in The Gospel Stories

This whole season after Epiphany leading to Lent will be filled with epiphanies, these manifestations of who Jesus is, what God is like. The glory (presence) of Jesus will become more and more evident in the life of Jesus, and the superabundance of the grace of God coming into the world. As we read and reflect on the Gospel stories each week, we notice that God comes to us in the midst of ordinary life. The Gospel stories of the “Star and Three Wisemen”, the “Baptism of the Lord”, the “Wedding at Cana” and the “Spirit of the Lord is Upon Me” all have a common thread running through them of God coming into the world through the ordinary events in the life of Jesus. Here is the greatest epiphany of all: God comes to us as we go about our ordinary lives, doing ordinary things – and sometimes we recognize God and sometimes we don’t – but God is there.

Here is the Good News for us today: Ordinary life holds the sacred, even when we don’t recognize God in our midst. Epiphany and the Gospel stories challenges us to look around with open eyes, and to rejoice in this marvelous God who walks among us. As we experience the gospel readings in the liturgical seasons of the Church, look for the common thread for each season and how the little epiphanies of God are present and how they touch your life.

Ava and I are retiring from our financial and insurance business we started 46 years ago back in Iowa and enjoy spending time here at Kimberling City. We have found Our Lady of the Cove a very warm and welcoming parish. We look forward to being part of the Parish. We are moving from the Diocese of Des Moines, where I was ordained a deacon 35 years ago. We recognize the common thread of faith in our life that has brought us to this parish in the harvest season of our life.

We are drawn back to Iowa frequently to see friends and family, including 5 grandchildren with busy lives. We have many interests and hobbies, including boating/fishing, music, gardening, cooking, quilting, photography, seeing the many points of interest near Table Rock Lake. We look forward to meeting all of our new friends and getting to know you all better.

Deacon Gregg and Ava Erickson



• Common Thread in Gospel Stories

• Meet Deacon Gregg & Ava Erickson

• True Devotion to Mary

• PSR Happenings

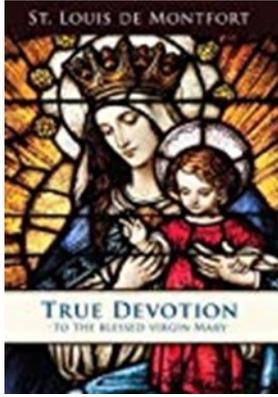
• Celebrating “Nifty Nineties”

• February Birthdays and Anniversaries

• The New Testament Epistles

• Welcome New Parishioners

• Prayer Chain



True Devotion to Mary

By Sherry Bradl

St. Louis De Montfort himself prophesied regarding *True Devotion to Mary*: “I clearly foresee that raging beasts shall come in fury to tear with their diabolical teeth this little writing and him who the Holy Ghost has made use of to write it—or at least to smother it in the darkness and silence of a coffer, that it may not appear. They shall even attack and persecute those who shall read it and carry it out in practice.”

St. Louis De Montfort was born on January 31, 1673 in France and died on April 28, 1716. He was ordained a priest in 1700. Due to opposition to his preaching in the dioceses in western France, he walked 200 miles to Rome to ask the Holy Father, Pope Clement, if he was doing God’s will. The Pope told him to continue with his traveling missionary work and named him Missionary Apostolic, but told him he must always work under obedience to diocesan authorities. The saint’s treatise, *True Devotion to Mary*, was kept hidden and not brought to light until 1842, when it was found in a chest of old books.

This devotion is a permanent disposition of living and acting habitually in dependence on Mary; it embraces one’s entire life, not just one’s prayer times or specific religious acts. The saint proclaims that he brings an authentic message from God about the greater honor and wider knowledge and more prominent love of His Blessed Mother, and her connection with the second advent of Her Son. He also says, “The more the Holy Ghost finds Mary, His dear and inseparable spouse, in any soul, the more active and mighty He becomes in producing Jesus Christ in that soul, and that soul in Jesus Christ.”

By True Devotion, the person always goes to Jesus through Mary. This devotion renews our Baptism, by which we were rescued from Satan’s slavery to become servants of Jesus and Mary. The devotee gives everything to Mary. All of God’s graces are entrusted to her. As the prayer of consecration says, “I consecrate to you...my body and soul, my goods, both interior and exterior and even the value of all my good actions, past, present and future.” In return, Mary does everything for her devotees, protecting and blessing them on earth and guiding them safely to heaven.

The recommended preparation for the consecration to Jesus through Mary involves a period of thirty-three days. The first part consists of twelve days in which one desires to free oneself from the spirit of the world. The second part consists of three one-week periods: the first week devoted to the knowledge of oneself, the second to that of the Blessed Virgin, and the third to that of Jesus Christ. During each of these periods, St. Louis recommends various reading and prayers each day.

The actual consecration occurs on the thirty-fourth day, and should take place on a Marian feast day (e.g. Solemnity of Mary, Annunciation, Immaculate Conception, etc.). One should also go to confession and to Communion, with the intention of giving oneself to Jesus Christ in the quality of slaves of love, by the hands of Mary. The written Act of Consecration should be recited and signed. Thereafter, the devotee should make an annual renewal of the consecration on the same Marian feast day.

Refer to *True Devotion to Mary* by St. Louis De Montfort for additional information. There are also several shorter contemporary books available: *33 Days to Morning Glory* by Rev. Michael E. Gaitley, MIC and *Consecration to Jesus Through Mary*, both available at www.myconsecration.org.

Sign up now for Youth Conferences!!

Seventh and Eighth Grade Class is eligible to attend the Conference "IGNITE". Held on Saturday March 30, 2019. In West Plains Missouri. Departure Saturday Morning March 30th at 7:00 am. Registration fee per person is \$25.00 t-shirt and lunch provided. Bishop Rice will celebrate mass at 4:00 pm. (which counts for your Sunday obligation).

High School Students are invited to the **Diocesan Youth Conference, (DYC)** Friday March 29-31. Departure for West Plains, Friday March 29, after school at 4:30 pm. The registration fee is \$60.00 and includes a t-shirt, pizza and lunch.

Steubenville Mid America is for all those entering 9th Grade in the Fall and present High School students. Steubenville Mid-America is July 12-14th in Springfield MO. The Non-refundable Deposit is \$50.00 per person. Three days of lodging on MSU campus and five meals in their dining hall are included.

National Catholic Youth Conference, (NCYC) in Indianapolis, Indiana. November 20-24, 2019 with departure after school on Wednesday Nov. 20th and return Sunday Nov. 24. For those entering 9th Grade in the Fall and present High School students. Total cost is \$650.00 a person with initial deposit of \$250.00 due June 1st.

Sign up sheets are located on the bulletin board in the dining hall.
Please Sign Up Prior to THIS Wednesday January 30, 2019.



Oops!

Something happened to this photo in the January issue.

We are sorry.

Dawn Osborne and son, Michael Burns made this beautiful wreath during the youth advent event.



Thank you, Melody, Mitzi, Gabby and Marleni for teaching Mary the fine art of Tamale making.

More are coming soon.

Thank you for supporting the Youth.



PCCW honor the woman from the parish who are celebrating the Nifty Nineties

Not pictured : Helen Staugaard, Eleanor Griskel, Esther Moulder, Marion Benes, Norma Holt and Shirley Hawes.



Present to Celebrate

Lorraine Vasconcelles
 Rose Brown
 and
 Doris Lowry



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

1st *Marcia Raines*

3rd *Robert Bliven*
Charlie Boyd
Hayden Yartz

4th *James McGuire*
Joseph McIlvaine

5th *Magdalene Row*
Lorraine Vasconcelles

6th *Karen John*

7th *Ruth Baird*
Roland Douglas
Marian Foerster

8th *Robert Peduto*
Geraldine Rehwoldt
Eleanor Schubach

9th *Heather Algya*
Linda Decker
James Taylor

10th *Abbey Everett*
Lawrence Montagno
Emily Pankovits

11th *Judy Cummings*
John Risolvato

12th *Wendie Dooley*
Edward Row

14th *Bentley Cardenzana*
Marissa Chapman
Staci Haroutounian
Joseph Klempin
Janice Throckmorton

16th *Barbara Ciolino*
Beverly Ryan

17th *Becky Allen*
Joan Anderson
Melody Maldonado
Barbara McFerron
Rachel Pryor

18th *Richard Dean*
Eleanor Griskell
Allen Row

19th *Christina John*

20th *Mindy Smolnik*

21st *Sebastian Davis*
Makenzie Yartz

22nd *Rosalie Davis*
Donna Farrell
Jo Ann Kaleher
James Perry

24th *Richard Meyerkord*

25th *Betty Alexander*
Barbara Vitter

26th *Norma Massman*
Jan Myers

27th *Shirley Ewing*

28th *Robert Bangert*

*May God's blessing
be upon you this day!*



Please contact the church office if your birthday is not listed.

FEBRUARY
WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

2nd Sylvester & Carol Mutz

3rd Barry & Lana Maycock

8th Donald & Teresa Sinclair

14th Michael & Kathy Sadler

19th William & Christine Gravlin

20th Byron & Barbara Westerman



The New Testament Epistles

Don Gazdik

The New Testament of the Bible consists of 27 books: four Gospels, Acts of the Apostles, twenty-one Epistles (letters) and Revelation. The twenty-one epistles can be further broken down into thirteen letters attributed to Saint Paul and seven others called the General Epistles or non-Pauline epistles. It should be noted that Protestant bibles contain the same twenty seven books as a Catholic bible although the various translations exhibit some differences in wording. Catholics are encouraged to always use a Catholic translation as notes and commentary may slant the reader with an interpretation which may not be completely in line with Catholic doctrine and teaching.

It is interesting to note that the dates of authorship of the epistles in the New Testament do not follow in chronological order. Although we cannot know with absolute certainty, James and the letters of Paul were most likely all, except Hebrews, written before the first Gospel was written. It is believed that the letter of James was the first known letter, written around 50 A.D., with Paul's two letters to the Thessalonians following around 52-53 A.D. Approximately eleven known letters are placed before the first Gospel appears in 60-63 A.D. The last of the letters in the New Testament, the letters of John, are placed as late as 90-95 A.D. *(Please note that all these dates are approximate and open to debate by biblical scholars.)*

We also know that there were letters written by Paul which have not been found and that there are letters in existence which were not included in the Canon of the bible for various reasons.

Chapters and verses were not part of the original bible documents. Chapters weren't added until about the 13th century and verses around the 16th century. They were added to the Bible for convenience with no authoritative basis for division. They are sometimes arbitrary and sometimes even interfere with the sense of the passage.

The non-Pauline letters as opposed to the letters of Saint Paul are least familiar to most of us. These seven general epistles consist of James; Peter 1 & 2; John 1, 2 & 3; and Jude. These seven letters aren't addressed to any specific individual or church and so are considered to be universal letters addressed to everyone and tend to deal with the themes of faith, hope and love. Much of these letters deals with the practical side of our faith and serve as a guide for getting through the difficult times of our lives.

There are thirteen letters in the New Testament which are attributed to Saint Paul as author. Seven of these are uncontested as being written by Paul and six which are debated by scholars as to actual authorship. These disputed six letters are sometimes called the deuteron-Pauline epistles. Although the authorship of these six letters may be in dispute by some, they all bear a strong influence of Paul.

Just as with the four Gospels, the early church unanimously accepted all thirteen letters as authentic. Also, in ancient times it was not uncommon for a disciple to write in the name of the master as the disciple shared the same beliefs and world view as the master. Cont'd →

Paul's letters were not written with the intent of documenting all of the beliefs and teachings of the early church as some would believe, but were written in response to problems that Paul became aware of in various church communities that needed to be addressed and to lost letters written to Paul raising various questions concerning the early church.

Unlike what we might believe, the letters of Paul in the New Testament are not arranged chronologically but roughly by length of the letter with the longest first and then next longest. If there were two letters written to the same entity, the longest is first with the shorter second regardless of the timeframe in which they were written. Also Paul's letters to the churches come before his letters to individuals and Paul's letters come before the non-Pauline letters.

Of all the epistles, the authorship of Hebrews tends to be the most controversial among biblical scholars. Some attribute it to Saint Paul and thus classify it as Pauline, while others ascribe it to an unknown author and thus is placed last in the Pauline letters. No author is named in the letter and since it doesn't follow the typical style of Saint Paul, there continues to be uncertainty. Second Peter is attributed to Saint Peter but its true author is uncertain but is attributed to Peter.

This article has gone on far too long and it has only been started. The epistles are an important part of the Bible and all are encouraged to read them along with the Gospels. They are an invaluable insight into the early church and to the practices of The Church and the formation of our faith.

