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ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

St. Eugene Church
Mondays 4 - 6 pm.
Benediction at 5:45 pm.

CHURCH ETIQUETTE
In order to fully partake in the Mass, the Priest should be the last one in and the first one out.

Dress Appropriately ~ remember, you are in God's house.



FROM THE DESK OF FR. RICH

This weekend we celebrate the Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time.

The book of Sirach was written by a wise teacher who lived 200 years before Christ. Sirach ran a school for young people in Jerusalem. In today's section, he teaches his students the importance of forgiveness.

After dealing with the controversies which divided the early Christian Community in Rome, Paul wrote about the need for tolerance and for sensitivity to the feelings of others. In today's second reading, he points out that this affects our use of the gift of freedom.

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On Monday, we celebrate the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Early in the fourth century St. Helena, mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine, went to Jerusalem in search of the holy places of Christ's life. She razed the second-century Temple of Aphrodite, which tradition held was built over the Savior's tomb, and her son built the Basilica of the Holy Sepulcher over the tomb. During the excavation, workers found three crosses. Legend has it that the one on which Jesus died was identified when its touch healed a dying woman.

The cross immediately became an object of veneration. At a Good Friday celebration in Jerusalem toward the end of the fourth century, according to an eyewitness, the wood was taken out of its silver container and placed on a table together with the inscription Pilate ordered placed over Jesus' head: Then "all the people pass through one by onc; all of thcm bow down, touching thc cross with thc inscription, first with their foreheads, then with their eyes; and, after kissing the cross, they move on." (This is why on Good Friday we venerate the cross in a very similar way).

To this day the Eastern Churches, Catholic and Orthodox alike, celebrate the Exaltation of the Holy Cross on the September anniversary of the basilica's dedication.

Next weekend we will be taking up a second collection to support our seminarians on their journey to the priesthood through the Annual Seminarian Education fund. Your generosity is so much needed and deeply appreciated. The funds that are generated from this important collection will continue to grow the mission of Mundelein Seminary as they strive to form compassionate, well-trained priests for the future of the Church.

Seminarians take a great leap of faith and invest vast amounts of time, talent, and their own treasure to answer God's call to serve his Church. To provide the necessary formation they need, please give generously in next weekend's 2nd collection.

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Beyond Mass

Jesus was a marvelous storyteller and in one message He compares our speech, our actions and our attitudes to the fruit from a tree. And He reminds us that "every tree is known by its fruit."

It is important to remember that being a Christian and doing God's work extends beyond the Sunday morning Mass. Everything we do in life reflects our faith and shows to the world our true beliefs.

We should not attempt to "turn off" our religion as we walk out the church doors after Mass. What do our fruits say of each of us?

Do we help our fellow man when we see a need? Do we keep a positive outlook in the face of momentary adversity? Do we look for the face of Jesus in our neighbor and greet that person with a loving heart?

Being a Christian and being a steward isn't always about money. It's about our attitudes, our actions and how we respond to God's many blessings.

By becoming a part of the wonderful Queen of Peace Church family, we have accepted responsibility for our parish and our fcllow parishioncrs.

By partaking of the sacraments, we have accepted the responsibility of discipleship.

The people of Queen of Peace Church have the ability to offer to God the most wonderful and glorious fruits – the fruits tended and sent to us by His very hand.

We have the ability to watch our parish continue to grow in His glory and be abundantly blessed by His grace. But we must do our part. We must live according to His teachings, share a portion of the gifts bestowed upon us and give thanks every day of our lives for all that He has given to us.

And, above all, we must never forget to forever sing His praises!

Have a great week ahead everyone.

Fr. Rich Yanos