

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

FOCUS: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Life is filled with occasions, great and small, which we desire to share with others; a walk on a nice day, a family wedding, playing a game together or sharing a special anniversary. At these times we may extend an invitation to family or friends to be with us for awhile. We invite others into our lives because we have a strong need to build and strengthen relationships and grow in love and intimacy with each other. It is our very experience of human intimacy which provides a reference point for our relationship with God. Without a human context for love, we will be hard-pressed to find intimacy with God. Today's Scripture readings aid us in our understanding of God's unending invitation for us to be one with him.

Today's reading from the Book of Proverbs describes God's invitation to intimacy which is continually echoed throughout the Bible: come, eat and drink of the goodness of the Lord. Wisdom personifies the extravagant love which God freely offers to all people. She builds a house which rivals Solomon's great Temple. To that house, Wisdom invites those who are simple, those who lack understanding, to feast. She beckons them to come eat, and drink of God's love and advance in the way of understanding. Wisdom contrasts the banquet of God with the banquet of foolishness. Whereas intimacy with God brings life and understanding, foolishness brings nothing of lasting value. We can readily see the connection of the Old Testament promise of intimacy with God with its fulfillment in today's Gospel. Jesus is the divine food and drink which is given to us to share.

Paul advises the Ephesians to pursue the things of God and avoid the behavior of foolish people. While belief in the teachings of Jesus is essential, more than that is demanded of his disciples; watch how you live is Paul's admonition. He teaches that faith and action go hand in hand. One does not suffice without the other. To achieve understanding and wisdom, Paul advises: be filled with the Spirit, sing and pray to the Lord in your hearts, and give thanks to God. In contrast, Paul names ignorance, foolishness, drunkenness, and debauchery as behaviors to avoid.

He contrasts life from God with foolishness from human nature, and invites the Ephesians to choose the way of wisdom. Today's Gospel deepens our understanding of the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes which we heard three weeks ago. Jesus revealed himself to the disciples as the Bread of Life. This image conveyed the deeper message that Jesus was sent by God as the means to eternal life, and also prefigured the Eucharist as the continuation of the presence of Jesus in the world. Like today's message from the Book of Wisdom, Jesus held before the people the way to achieve an intimate relationship with God. Jesus taught that his body and blood would be the food and drink which would bring eternal life. The religious leaders quarreled about such a strange idea and even some of the disciples left Jesus because they found this too difficult to comprehend. It is only through faith that one can believe.

The gospel message today is also intended for us. "The Lord addresses an invitation to us, urging us to receive him in the sacrament of the Eucharist"

MILITARY COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

President-Lisa Glen 446-4874
VP-Lisa Gossart 446-8345
VP- Patty Verzola 446-7926
Secretary-Michele Perez 446-8108
Treasurer-Laura Lahood 446-2871

MCCW Outreach

Prayer Circle	Eileen Carver, 446-7165
Elder Outreach	Vacant
Mercy Meals	Marta Torres, 446-5843
Shelter Meals	Jeanne Etheridge, 446-0503
Liturgy & Spiritual Life	Elisa Bell, 446-8753
Service Project Coordinator	Vanessa Florence
Publicity	Cheryl Endres 446-5563
Childcare Coordinator	Helen Sobchak, 446-8036
Cadet Representative	Jennifer Barrow, 515-5918
Hospitality	Mary Julich, 446-1071 &
Representatives at-large,	Susan Lathrop, 446-4593 Alice O'Hara, 446-5797

Please Join the West Point Chapter of the Military Council of Catholic Women (MCCW) for our Welcome Program on Wednesday, August 20th at 7 p.m. in the Rectory. All women (active duty, retiree, spouse, cadet) are invited to join in fellowship, prayer and fun! Reconciliation and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament begin at 6:25 in the Chapel. Please contact Lisa Glen, 446-4874 with any questions.

SCRIPTURE FOR WEEK OF Aug 16, 2003

Mon – Judges 2:11-19, Matthew 19: 16-22
Saint Jane Frances
Tue – Judges 6: 11-14a, Matthew 19: 23-30
Wed – Judges 9: 6-15, Matthew 20: 1-16
Saint Bernard
Thurs – Judges 11: 29-39a, Matthew 22: 1-14
Saint Pius, pope
Fri – Ruth 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22, Matthew 22: 34-40
Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Sat – Ruth 2: 1-3, 8-11; 4: 13-17, Matthew 23: 1-12
Blessed Virgin Mary

RECONCILIATION, ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT AND BENEDICTION:
Wednesday 1820 –1930 at
MHT Chapel

ANNOUNCED MASSES

Sat	16	Aug	1715	Parishioners of MHT
Sun	17	Aug	0900	Parishioners of MHT
Sun	17	Aug	1100	Mike O’Niel
Mon	18	Aug	1205	Calandra & Rose Family
Tue	19	Aug	1205	
Wed	20	Aug	1205	Mrs. Dudley Griffith
Thurs	21	Aug	1205	Tim Halden (Birthday)
Fri	22	Aug	1205	Norma McCarthy

Attendance and Offering Last Weekend:

Attendance 402 Offering \$1,377.18

**The Next Designated Offering : August 23/24 will be for
“Sacred Heart”**

HOST FAMILY FOR Aug 23-24

1715 Volunteer

0900 Volunteer

1100 Volunteer

LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS Aug 23-24

1715 Volunteer

0900 Volunteer

1100 Volunteer

USHERS FOR Aug 23-24

1715 Volunteer

0900 Volunteer

1100 Volunteer

ALTAR SERVERS Aug 23-24

1715 Volunteer

0900 Volunteer

1100 Volunteer

PROCLAIMERS FOR Aug 23-24

1715 Ana-Maria Hartwig / Alice O’Hara

0900 Tom Buning / Patrick Finnegan

1100 Eileen Kowalski / John Rugarber

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS:

GOD’S TYM (Total Youth Ministries)

POC Tanya Tolentino @ 424-3609

Midnight Run will be Aug 29. We still need:

70 men's undershirts and 60 men's briefs. We will assort clothes for the Midnight Run on August 17 at 6:30 pm

in the Sacred Heart Church's basement. Lay Assistant Commissioning Mass is Sunday, Aug 17 at 2:30 pm. Core God's TYM meeting on August 24 at 6:30 pm.

I have a question. Whom do I call?

Pastoral Coordinator...Kate Hayden 938-8760

Chaplain's Assistant... SPC Alexander 938-3721

Director Rel-Ed... Kay Heppes... 938-8761
Faith Formation, Rel. Education of Children & Adults, RCIA.

Wedding Coordinator...Lorraine Finn...932-2784
Wedding information, scheduling, paperwork,
Pre-Cana/Engaged Encounter information.

Director of Music... Meredith Baker...938-3544
Adult, Children's and Cadet Choir, Wedding Music, Liturgical Music.

Pastor.... Fr. Joseph Deponai...938-3721
Reconciliation, Baptism, Anointing of the Sick, Pastoral and Sacramental Concerns.

Cadet Issues....Fr. Edson Wood....938-2784

Visit our Web Site @<http://www.usma.edu/Chaplain/mht/>

MCCW Welcome to West Point

The Military Council of Catholic Women (MCCW) extends a warm welcome to all Catholic Women at West Point—both newcomers and women who have been here a while.

MCCW's signature activities are our monthly First Friday Celebrations and our monthly evening programs. Evening programs (held every third Wednesday of the month) cover a variety of topics and suggestions are always welcome. Some wonderful programs last year included a baby shower for Baby Jesus, an international rosary, and a talk about raising Catholic children.

Other activities MCCW conducts throughout the year include Pot Luck Luncheons, retreats, and fundraisers for MCCW's national charity. We also offer a variety of outreach ministries that regularly need member support.

Our **Welcome Program** is scheduled **for Wednesday, August 20th, 7:00 pm** at Most Holy Trinity Rectory. Join us for food, fellowship and fun. Meet new women and catch up with old friends, learn about our programs for the year, and be a part of your parish community!

For current and upcoming activities, check the MCCW bulletin board in the back of the chapel and the weekly bulletin. Specific questions can be addressed by MCCW's President, Lisa Glen, at 446-4874 or andydisaglen@hotmail.com.

Dates to remember

16th & 17th of Aug—Religious Education registration & re-registration, Parish registration, after the Masses

*16 Aug Masses start normal schedule
Sat 1715, Sun 0900 & 1100*

23 & 24 August—SIGN UP: Liturgical Ministries, MCCW, Religious Education registration, re-registration & Parish registration, after the Masses.

24 August—Baptismal Class, MHT Rectory 1230

*25 August—Ministry Training
1900 MHT Church/Rectory*

26 Aug—RCIA Inquiry Night, Rm 5326 Washington Hall, POC: Kay Heppes, x8761

7th September—Opening Day for Religious Education.

7th September — Parish Picnic

Liturgical Ministers

If you can serve in our parish as a Minister of Eucharist, a Proclaimer, a Music Minister, an Usher or a Host Family Member, please attend one of our Liturgical workshops. There is going to be one held on Monday Aug 25th @ 1900 and one on Tuesday Sep 9, @1900. Both will be held here at MHT. These are intended primarily for new Liturgical Ministers, but all those in our ministries are encouraged to attend as a refresher.

Description of our Ministries:

Minister of Eucharist – Shares in the ministry of sharing the Body and Blood of Christ at Mass, at a Communion Service, or bringing Communion to the sick.

Proclaimer – Shares in the ministry of bringing God’s word to his people by proclaiming the Scripture at Mass.

Music Minister – Shares in the ministry of leading prayer at Mass by cantoring, singing with the choir, or playing an instrument.

Usher – Shares in the ministry of hospitality by welcoming people to our liturgy, assisting them to find a seat, and to help with any other logistical issues. Ensuring that everyone has a songbook and a parish bulletin; counting the collection after Mass.

Host Family – Shares in the ministry by greeting parishioners as they arrive, leading the congregation in the Prayers of the Faithful, presenting the gifts to the priest at the offertory , and joining in the procession.

Servers – Shares in the ministry of acolyte by carrying candles and the Processional Cross, and holding the Sacramentary.

Musings from the Pastor's Corner

WE NEED HELP! So, listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit and say yes to whatever way God calls you to enrich our MHT Parish Family. See the descriptions elsewhere in the bulletin.

Envision: **SITTING IN MOST HOLY TRINITY IN MID-JULY 04 AND THINKING: "I SHOULD HAVE BROUGHT MY SWEATHER!"**

For the Engineer types: The 65% drawings are now being commented on by various agencies at USMA. I had the invaluable help of Major **Mark Orwat** and LTC **Ron Welch** in this effort.

Come and sit with Jesus! Beginning **13 August 03 @ 1820-1930. Every Wednesday.** Exposition, Confessions, and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at MHT! Spend 10 minutes! Come with the family- rest with Jesus! **Cadets: Warm down with Jesus after a run!**

HEADS UP! Saturday Mass time for the Saturday

Evening Mass on 13 & 20 September will change to 2000- given the football games will be televised and start at 1500!

Beginning **Saturday, 6 September 03** we will have a **Saturday morning Mass** at Most Holy Trinity. The **Mass will be celebrated at 0900 on Saturday.** Come join us- particularly for the First Saturday Mass! ***Our Lady has promised that those who do the First Saturday devotion will get to Heaven!*** HMMM!!!! Sounds like a no-brainer!!!!

FOR TEENS God's TYM will begin soon. We begin a dynamic effort with the Sacred Heart teens. Come on out and Join us! ***Tim Povich & Jessica Lovejoy*** will again be with us. And, we will probably have someone from CYFM who really knows the USMA deal!

We have begun the Academic Year!
Can you believe it???

And, **GO ARMY!**

With Prayer,
Fr. Jerry