

## **For Use June 5-6, Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (B)**

### **Stewardship by the Book**

The bishops' stewardship pastoral asks, "And what do Christians bring to the Eucharistic celebration and join there with Jesus' offering?" The answer: "Their lives as Christian disciples; their personal vocations and the stewardship they have exercised regarding them; their individual contributions to the great work of restoring all things in Christ."

### **Vocation View**

Receiving Eucharist is a real sign of unity in our Church. God nourishes us with the "Bread from Heaven" if we have ordained priests to celebrate the Liturgy. Pray for vocations.

### **Stewardship Reflections**

*"Then he took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them and they all drank from it." - MARK 14:23*

Jesus, the perfect steward, gave thanks, just before He gave Himself up for us, completely for our salvation. He offers us the same chance to drink from His cup. In the bread and wine, we meet Christ personally. If we follow Him, drinking from His cup means our own self-sacrifice, using all of our gifts for the benefit of others and to do His work on earth.

### **Family Perspective**

One gets the impression there was always a lot of sharing, discussion and learning during the many meals Jesus and the disciples ate together. How does this compare to the meals in your home? Today's gospel challenges us to make our meals more than physical functions and more a time for sharing.

### **Saint of the Week- Blessed Jolenta of Poland- Feast Day June 12**

The daughter of King Bela IV of Hungary and granddaughter of the emperor of Constantinople, this medieval princess was raised by her elder sister, St. Kunigunde, queen of Poland. Their family tree included other saints: Hedwig, Elizabeth of Hungary and Margaret of Hungary. Jolenta married a Polish duke whose charitable works earned him the popular name "Boleslaus the Pious." After his death in 1279 and the marriage of two daughters, Jolenta, Kunigunde, also now widowed, and Jolenta's youngest daughter entered a Poor Clares convent. Jolenta later became abbess of a convent she had founded with her husband. Also known as Helen of Poland and Yolanda of Poland, Jolenta was beatified in 1827.

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### **Prayers for Priests**

## **For Use June 12-13, 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)**

### **Stewardship by the Book**

Adam and Eve were banished from the Garden because of their disobedience. But Jesus says in today's Gospel that when we are obedient to God's will - when we use our gifts to serve one another - we become part of His family. "Whoever does the will of God is brother and sister and mother to me."

### **Vocation View**

There definitely is evil in this world. We are surrounded by constant reminders that all is not well in our cities, our schools, our government, our environment. Each of us must use the best means to bring about love in the world. Are you part of the problem or part of the solution? Choose love!

### **Stewardship Reflections**

*"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive recompense, according to what he did in the body, whether good or evil." - 2 CORINTHIANS 5:10*

We are all accountable for all of the gifts God has given us – our time, our talent and our treasure; everything we have and everything we are. Each of us is accountable not only for our own life but for the lives of others as well. One day God will ask each of us what did we do with the gifts we were given. How will you respond?

### **Family Perspective**

Parenting is a lot like the story of the farmer in the gospel parable today. All growth is the Lord's work. We have no control over the process. In fact, the farmer doesn't even understand it, for the seed grows even when he sleeps. As parents, we can influence our children but nothing we do can guarantee results.

### **Promise to protect; pledge to heal**

To report allegations of sexual abuse of minors or vulnerable adults within the Diocese of Gaylord by priests, deacons or other employees or volunteers, regardless of when it occurred, individuals should:

Contact local law enforcement and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (855-444-3911). The Michigan Attorney General's Office has also set up a special phone line for people to share information that may be of help in their ongoing investigation of sexual misconduct by Catholic clergy. That number is 844-324-3374.

You may also contact the Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator, Larry LaCross, at 989-705-9010.

In the State of Michigan many professionals, including clergy, teachers, doctors, counselors and named others are mandated reporters. This means such individuals are REQUIRED to make an oral or online report IMMEDIATELY to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services if they suspect a child is being neglected or abused in any way. Individuals may call the state report line at the number above, which is answered 24 hours a day, or submit a report online at [https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-73971\\_7119---00.html](https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-73971_7119---00.html).

The Diocese of Gaylord encourages ANYONE who has reason to suspect a child is being abused or neglected in any way to report the matter to local authorities and the Michigan Attorney General Hotline at 844-324-3374.

### **Saint of the Week- Saint Juliana of Falconieri-Feast Day June 19**

Juliana was the only child of a wealthy couple in Florence, Italy, who had built the church of the Annunciation there. She refused to marry and was enrolled as a tertiary with the Servite order; her uncle, St. Alexis Falconieri, was one of the seven founders of the Servites. For nearly 20 years, Juliana lived a devout and useful life at home. In 1304 she formed a community of tertiary sisters who devoted themselves to prayer and good works in Florence. She is considered the foundress of the Servite community of nuns, and was canonized in 1737.

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### **For Use June 19-20, 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)**

#### **Stewardship by the Book**

Like the sower in today's Gospel, I scatter as seed my gifts of time, talent, and resources; and I trust that, by God's grace and in God's time, these small gifts of myself may grow and flourish and help to bring about the Kingdom of God.

#### **Vocation View**

A vocation is like a mustard seed which, when planted in the heart, is just like a childhood dream. Yet once we begin to believe that God is calling us, we begin to blossom into the dream of a life time. People will want to live in the shade of our loving response.

#### **Stewardship Reflections**

*"The he asked them, 'Why are you terrified? Do you not yet have faith?'" – MARK 4:40*

Do you really trust God? Is God your first choice or last resort? Is your faith something you just do on Sunday or do you live the Gospel message every day of the week? Many of us know about God. How many of us have a personal relationship with Him? Start now, open your heart to receive our Lord. Talk and listen to Him throughout the day, in all circumstances.

#### **Family Perspective**

Just as the apostles in today's gospel were amazed at the power of Jesus so our children are amazed at our lack of fear of dark rooms or monsters in closets or under beds. As the apostles depended on Jesus, children depend on us to restore quiet to their lives. Getting out of bed at night to quiet a child's fears is the stuff of holiness.

### **Nativity of John the Baptist-June 24**

In the Gospels, John, a kinsman of Jesus through their mothers, preached repentance and baptized to prepare for the Messiah's coming. This feast marks his exceptional birth to the aged priest Zechariah and the equally aged and barren Elizabeth. The angel Gabriel announces his birth in a vision to Zechariah, who hesitates in believing and is struck mute until eight days after John's birth. Then, Zechariah, in a beautiful canticle that ends the first chapter of Luke's Gospel, proclaims that John "will be called prophet of the Most High." John's eventual beheading is commemorated with an Aug. 29 feast. A patron saint of Canada and Jordan, John is also the patron of Florence and the Knights Hospitaller of St. John.

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### **For Use June 26-27, 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)**

#### **Stewardship by the Book**

St. Paul reminds us in the second reading that Christ died "so that those who live might live no longer for themselves." What we give to and do for others, we give to and do for Jesus!

#### **Vocation View**

Wealth does not buy happiness; but neither does poverty. Depending upon the Lord can give us true security and happiness. We are looking for people to proclaim that even the wind and sea obey this man who brings calmness to life and direction to living.

#### **Stewardship Reflections**

*"...as a matter of equality your abundance at the present time should supply their want, so that their abundance may supply your want, that there may be equality." 2 CORINTHIANS 8:14*

One of the tenants of living a grateful and generous lifestyle is giving without expecting anything in return. It is important that we not only grow, nurture and share our gifts; but that we also teach our children and encourage others to do the same. This is the communal aspect of our Catholic faith. We are the "Body of Christ". We are called to be dependent on each other and not live in isolation.

#### **Family Perspective**

The healing of the woman and the child in today's gospel is a reminder we are all wounded. We retreat to those we love looking for acceptance, listening, understanding and support. Families must be healing communities where Jesus is present in our care for one another.

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### **The First Martyrs of Rome-Feast Day June 30**

After a raging fire destroyed two-thirds of Rome in 64, Emperor Nero blamed Rome's Christians to divert suspicion from himself. Those acknowledging their Christianity were arrested and executed. Some were covered in wax and set afire as torches; some were sewn into animal skins and cast into the arena with wild animals; others were crucified. Sts. Peter and Paul died in the same persecution. The feast of these earliest martyrs of the Roman church is celebrated a day after the joint feast of Peter and Paul. The Roman historian Tacitus said the protomartyrs were to be pitied "for it was felt that they were being sacrificed to one man's brutality."

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