A Note from Fr. José Arroyo

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

As part of the parish phase of the Eucharistic Revival we continue to ponder on different liturgical items as part of our ongoing formation. This week's item is the "altar cloth." The altar cloth is the white cloth that is placed on top of the altar, which is the table on which the sacrifice of the Mass is celebrated.

The General Instructions of the Roman Missal (GIRM #304) refers to the altar cloth in the following manner: "Out of reverence for the celebration of the memorial of the Lord and for the banquet in which the Body and Blood of the Lord are offered, there should be, on an altar where this is celebrated, at least one cloth, white in color, whose shape, size, and decoration are in keeping with the altar's structure. When, in the Dioceses of the United States of America, other cloths are used in addition to the altar cloth, and then those cloths may be of other colors possessing Christian honorific or festive significance according to longstanding local usage, provided that the uppermost cloth covering the mensa (i.e., the altar cloth itself) is always white in color."

By its beauty and form, the altar cloth should add dignity to the altar. Obviously, just as we would not come to the holy sacrifice of the Mass with clothes that are dirty, stained, or ripped, neither should the altar cloth be dirty, stained, or ripped. If the altar cloth loses its original decor, then we dispose of it (as we would with other sacred items) by burning it. By doing this, it would not be used in any unworthy or sacrilegious manner. Since white is the liturgical color that is usually connected to the Eucharist (other than gold), it is most fitting that the altar cloth be white as well (at least the top where the sacred vessels are placed). In an outdoor Mass, as in the case of a celebration where there is no possibility to celebrate the sacrifice of the Mass at a blessed or consecrated altar, an altar cloth can be placed on any table - like surface in order to celebrate the Mass with the due dignity. The altar cloth also has a practical purpose which is to absorb any of the Precious Blood or other sacramental elements.

We have an altar cloth for practical reasons. It dignifies the altar due to the awesome mystery of the Heavenly banquet that is anticipated sacramentally under the form of bread and wine. May we come to appreciate goodness, truth, and beauty within our liturgical environment so that we can genuinely celebrate with greater awe and reverence as a parish family.

Collections for July 2	2022
Collections for July 2, 2023	
Adult Offering Envelopes	\$ 2,582.00
Loose	\$ 664.25
Candles	\$ 24.00
Repair Fund	\$ 280.00
CCD Rel. Ed.	\$ 50.00
Total in pew	<u>\$ 3,600.25</u>
Online Collections	
Reg. Envelopes	\$ 1,555.00
Repair Fund	\$ 280.00
Second Collection	\$ 101.00
Other	\$ 15.00
Total Online:	<u>\$ 1,951.00</u>

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Intentions

July 8th	Weekday	(Saturday)
9:00 a.m. †	Albert Andrea	as
5:00 p.m. †	Tom & Gerry Childers	

St. Vincent DePaul Corner

July 3, 2023:

Families **32** People **87** New **8** Gas cards **1** This week was busy and we shared a lot of food! Eight new clients came in and several with larger families. There are pink envelopes in the Narthex for any monetary donations if you want to help. Thank you!

Our greatest needs are:	
cereal	noodles
canned fruit	spaghetti

At Dollar Tree we can always use these items at \$1.25 each:

Shelf milk Laundry detergent Shampoo Toothpaste

If you would like to help with St Vincent DePaul, please contact the office and leave a message for Barb Bockelman or Sara St. Clair. Thank you so very much for your ongoing support! Please keep in mind that St.Vincent DePaul Food Pantry is open EVERY Monday from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. If Monday falls directly on a Holiday, we will not be open. Evening hours are the third Monday of the month from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

<u>The Knights of Columbus/Red Cross</u> will be hosting a summer blood drive on July 16th from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Deacon Joe Center.

Normally, we have taken a break from blood drives during the summer. However, the Red Cross reminded us that the need for blood is constant. Actually, blood donations and drives are infrequent during the summer months and the need for blood actually rises during the summer.

If it has been 8 weeks since your last donation, you are eligible to again donate. Those that donated at our drive in May are eligible to donate again. The Red Cross depends on regular donors to fill their needs. If you can't make this drive, our next one will be September 10th. Please mark your calendars. The last 3 Red Cross blood drives have been fully staffed with 5 nurses. The wait times have short. We even took a number of walk-ins. Please consider signing up.

Blood donors can sign up online at redcross.org or with the Red Cross donor app. Get the free Blood Donor App by texting BLOODAPP to 90999. This will make signing up and filling out your rapid pass very simple. With this app, you will always have your donor ID with you and can follow your blood donation journey.

If anyone needs help setting up this app, please call John Herrmann at 260 - 229 -5499. Information can also be found on a poster in the Narthex.

Thank You in advance for your generous donation.

Air Conditioning Unit

We just want to send out a friendly reminder of our air conditioning unit that needs repaired. We would be very appreciative of any donations that you can contribute to the church. Thank you so very much.

World Youth Day Prayers

We have just entered the month of July, the month of WYD traveling begins. This is a wonderful time to start praying for all the people in our parish that will be traveling to Lisbon, Portugal along with our own Fr. José Arroyo. There are 19 pilgrims going from our parish. This is a big number given the size of our parish. God bless our youth!



If you have ever participated in our RCIA program in the past or if you have ever considered participating in the future, you are invited to a COOKOUT on Friday, July 21st at the pavilion. We will start by praising Jesus at the Holy Hour of Power and then we will share food and fellowship. This is great opportunity to reconnect with people who have been through **RCIA** as well as getting any questions answered that you may have about the program! Holy Hour of Power starts at 6 PM. Our cookout will go from 7-9PM. Sign UP in the Narthex

DON'T MISS IT





HIGH SCHOOL ZOO TRIP!

All high school aged youth are invited to join us for an afternoon at the Fort Wayne Children's Zoo on Sunday, July 23rd. We will meet at the zoo at 3 PM and stay until it closes at 6 PM. Please sign up in the Narthex if you plan to attend so we know who to expect! You MUST fill out a PAPER permission slip as well.



Don't forget to SAVE THE DATE for our parish picnic which will take place on Sunday, September 10th from 4PM-8PM! The picnic will once again take place at Paige's Crossing! More details to come!



A love we can't keep to ourselves

From The Mystery of the Eucharist in the Life of the Church *by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops*

Sent Forth

56. Pope Benedict XVI reminded us that the "love that we celebrate in the sacrament is not something we can keep to ourselves. By its very nature it demands to be shared with all."⁸⁰ We are not the only ones in need of the love that Christ has shown us. We are called to help the rest of the

world experience it. "What the world needs is God's love; it needs to encounter Christ and to believe in him. The Eucharist is thus the source and summit not only of the Church's life, but also of her mission."81 Jesus is sent by the Father for the salvation of the world. At the very end of the celebration of the Eucharist, we who have received the Body and Blood of Christ and have been incorporated more profoundly into his Mystical



He exhorts us all to become missionary disciples: "Every Christian is a missionary to the extent that he or she has encountered the love of God in Christ Jesus: we no longer say that we are 'disciples' and 'missionaries,' but rather that we are always 'missionary disciples.'"⁸³ What is essential is not that one have advanced training, but rather that one discover through Christ the love that God has for us and

> that one desire to lead others to that same joyful discovery: "[A]nyone who has truly experienced God's saving love does not need much time or lengthy training to go out and proclaim that love."⁸⁴ All that is needed is for one who has known that love—the love that is displayed most preeminently in the Eucharist—to tell other people about it.

> All of us are called to offer others an explicit witness to the saving love of the Lord,

Body are likewise sent out to proclaim the Good News for the salvation of the world: "Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life."

57. Pope Francis has insisted that evangelization spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ— is a task that belongs to every member of the Church, not just a few specialists:

All the baptized, whatever their position in the Church or their level of instruction in the faith, are agents of evangelization, and it would be insufficient to envisage a plan of evangelization to be carried out by professionals while the rest of the faithful would simply be passive recipients. The new evangelization calls for personal involvement on the part of each of the baptized.⁸²

who despite our imperfections offers us his closeness, his word and his strength, and gives meaning to our lives. In your heart you know that it is not the same to live without him; what you have come to realize, what has helped you to live and given you hope, is what you also need to communicate to others.⁸⁵

Footnotes

- ⁸⁰ Pope Benedict XVI, Sacramentum Caritatis, no. 84.
- ⁸¹ Pope Benedict XVI, Sacramentum Caritatis, no. 84
- 82 Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium, no. 120.
- 83 Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium, no. 120.
- ⁸⁴ Pope Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium*, no. 120.
- ⁸⁵ Pope Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium*, no. 121

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