



CHRIST THE KING

BENTON, PENNSYLVANIA

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MOTHER'S DAY

MAY 14, 2023



Rather, Confirmation is all about what God is doing for his beloved daughters and sons. What is God doing? Strengthening the divine life which he gave at Baptism so that we can grow in holiness.

CONFIRMATION AS A SACRAMENT OF FORTITUDE

What does this growth look like? St. Thomas Aquinas (+1274) relates the 7 sacraments to the 7 virtues (4 cardinal virtues and 3 theological virtues). But what are these 7 virtues, and what are cardinal and theological virtues?

The Cardinal Virtues are natural and acquired virtues. This means that we have to work for these virtues. It requires energy and effort. One does not necessarily have to be a Christian to have these virtues, but the graces given in baptism enable one to flourish more easily in them. The cardinal virtues are prudence, temperance, fortitude, and justice.

The theological virtues let us act upon God. Just as little children cannot hug their parents unless their parents pick them up and hug them, we need God to do the same for us to act upon him. These are infused virtues given by God, and one has to be a Christian to have these theological virtues. They are faith, hope, and charity.

Specifically fortitude is the virtue by which we do the right thing in the midst of hardship - doing the thing that we do not feel like doing. Fortitude does not mean not having fear, because having no fear would make the task easy. Having no fear is brashness, not fortitude. Fortitude is doing the right thing *while* experiencing fear.

Why does Thomas Aquinas associate the Cardinal Virtue of Fortitude with Confirmation? The strengthening of the divine life given at baptism enables us to be courageous in the faith amidst hardship. When we face challenges in life and our faith is tested, we need God to give us courage to persevere in the faith. Yes, an atheist can have fortitude in natural matters, but the Christian seeks fortitude in spiritual/supernatural matters as well. And so, God has given us this great sacrament so that we receive the strengthening and growth needed to be brave and persevere in the faith.

All in all, let us congratulate Brianna and Chloe for receiving this great sacrament of growth and fortitude!

CONFIRMATION AS THE SACRAMENT OF GROWTH

What do we need in our bodily life? If we think about it, we need to be born, we need to grow, we need nourishment, and we need healing when injured. Without these things, we would die. The truth is that we need the same in our spiritual life... We need to be born (Baptism), we need to grow (Confirmation), we need nourishment (Eucharist), and we need healing from injuries (Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick). Just as we need growth to strengthen our natural life, we need Confirmation to strengthen our supernatural life.

Therefore, Confirmation is the sacrament of growth. *It is not Catholic Bar Mitzvah.* Confirmation is not a "coming of age" celebration. The Sacrament of Confirmation is not a rite of passage, nor a graduation from religion class, nor a ratification of a personal faith choice. But unfortunately, many Catholics misunderstand Confirmation and treat it like a rite of passage, a graduation, a 'coming of age', and a personal faith choice. All of these ideas of Confirmation are wrong.

WORLD YOUTH DAY

We have the opportunity to sponsor two of our parishioners here at Christ the King who will be attending World Youth Day 2023 in Lisbon, Portugal. Eric Weibel and Father Andrew are attending this year and will personally be absorbing the cost of \$2,998 per person.

It is for young adults ages 18-39 who will have the opportunity to experience this exciting adventure to convene with the Holy Father and young people from around the world. The pilgrimage will take place July 30th - August 7th and will also include a visit to Fatima where our Blessed Mother famously appeared to the three shepherd children. The costs include lodging, flights and other travel accommodations.

If you are interested in donating to help with their expenses, please make your check payable to Catholic Campus Ministry which can be tax deductible. You can drop it in the collection or give to Father Andrew or Lee Ann. Please mark on the envelope "World Youth Day", Thank you in advance for your generosity!

IN YOUR PRAYERS, PLEASE REMEMBER:

- INTENTIONS OF THE HOLY FATHER,
- ALL PRIESTS INCLUDING:
 - FR. MOWERY
 - FR. ST. HILAIRE AND
 - FR. SOLA
- LISA BAEHRE
- MICHAEL BARDI
- MAUREEN BECK
- LORENA BENNET
- BUTCH BOGART
- NICHOLE & GAVIN BIRKETT
- CHRISTINA CAPRIOLA
- RUSSELL CASTROGIOVANNI
- COBERT FAMILY
- HONOR DELL
- RYAN DELL
- VIVIAN WHITENIGHT HYNICK
- BOB KALIE
- MARGARET KALIE
- AUSTIN KELSEY
- JOSEPH LABONTE
- MARY ANN LEVAN
- BERNIE NICHOLS
- NANCY OMAN
- RICHARD SCAVONE
- JACKIE SCHERER
- SALLY TUCKER
- MAX WHITENIGHT
- JOSEPHINE WILSON
- NANCY WISBAR
- SONNY WOMELSDORF
- MARY ANN ZEVENY
- ALL THE PARISHIONERS OF CTK.



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, May 13

Marilyn LaBonte by Joe LaBonte

Sunday, May 14

Kevin Sabo (Birthday Blessings) by Justa Sabo

Monday, May 15

Daniel & Joan Kozak by Mark Kozak

Wednesday, May 17

Deborah Haden by Sharon Tishler

Thursday, May 18

Deborah Haden by Marie & Russ Castrogiovanni

Saturday, May 20

Don Zimmerman by Don & Mary Wilce

Sunday, May 21

Anna Zumchak by Judy & Sonny Womelsdorf

Mass intentions are available in memory of, or in honor of a loved one. The donation for having a Mass said for a personal request is \$10.00. You can drop your request in the collection or contact the parish office.

LITURGICAL ROLES

Lector Schedule

May 14 - Barb Treier
May 21 - Paul Haden

Extraordinary Minister

May 14 - Mark Sullivan
May 21 - Paul J. Haden

Collection Stewards

May 14 - Patricia & Mark Sullivan
May 21 - Anne Eustice & Sharon Tishler

LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Holy Spirit is God's gift to those who follow him.

All three readings today mention the reception and action of the Holy Spirit. Confirmation in the Spirit completes Christian initiation in Samaria. Jesus, the model of Christian behavior, was brought to risen life in the Spirit. He bestows the Spirit of Truth on those who keep his commandments. As we approach the Eucharist, let us thank God for his gracious gift.

In the reading from the Acts of the Apostles, Philip goes to Samaria, proclaiming Jesus and working signs. Peter and John go there to lay hands on the newly baptized. In the second reading, Peter urges proper Christian conduct in imitation of Christ. In Jesus' farewell discourse, he promises to give the Spirit and to return soon. The disciples must keep his commandments.

STEWARDSHIP
MAY 7, 2023

Offerings	\$1961.50
Ascension	\$10.00
Catholic Home Missions	\$5.00
Rainy Day	\$150.00
St. Nick	\$135.00
Votives	\$46.00
Total	\$2307.50

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

SAVE THE DATE for Vacation Bible School this year: July 17 to July 21. VBS will be held at the same time, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at St. Columba Church. Hope to see you all there! Watch the bulletin for registration and volunteering information.



Her children rise up and
call her blessed

Proverbs 31:28

UNBORN CANDLE DONATIONS

\$3.00/ week,
\$5.00/ 2 weeks or
\$10.00/ month.
Month of May - Meg Geffken for Kohberger Family

BENTON FOOD BANK

For the month of June we will be collecting canned soup due to the Food Bank by June 18th. The Food Bank at the N4C's is the 3rd Tuesday of every month.

BECOME A SPONSOR OF OUR NEW BULLETIN

If you have a business and want to advertise, or if you want to put a personal message for a loved one or in memory of someone, we have space on the last page of our new bulletin. Please call the office at 570-925-6969 or contact Adam Snyder at ASnyder@Diocesan.com or 814-771-8628

CYE PROGRAM

As we continue to rejoice in the risen Lord and celebrate the reception of initiation sacraments with our youth, we reach out to you, our church family for support of our religious education, (CYE) program.

Now is the time for adult parishioners both young and old to consider participating in our CYE program. Now is the time to consider sharing your faith journey with our children. Now is the time to follow that urge to participate in our program and begin the required diocesan clearance process. It's time, fellow parishioners to share the gift of our Catholic faith with the youth of today. Please contact Ms Betty or Lee Ann Boviwka to obtain clearance forms. We welcome you and encourage you to join our journey of sharing our faith with Christ the King youth. Thank you!

PARISH COUNCIL/FINANCE COMMITTEE

There will be a meeting on Monday, May 15th at 6:00 p.m. in the Social Hall.

CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS

Thank you for your generosity to the appeal which strengthens the Church at Home. We collected \$466.00.

**2023 DIOCESAN ANNUAL CAMPAIGN
AS OF MAY 1, 2023**

Parish Goal for 2023: \$8,509.74
Total Paid: \$10,880.00
Over/(under)goal in cash: \$2,370.26

Average per donor: \$473.04
Number of Donors: 23
Registered Households: 120
Percentage of Participation: 19.17%

To date we have only had 23 donors. If you are willing and able, please make your pledge to the Diocesan Appeal.

Congratulations to
**Brianna Sue Clare Kishbaugh and
Chloe Noelle Schumacher**
who were confirmed on May 7th by
Bishop Gainer.

CYE News - Please join us on Sunday May 21 as we celebrate our students who received Confirmation: Brianna Kishbaugh and Chloe Schumacher. Cake and fellowship will follow after the 9:00 am Mass.

In addition all our students, their families, and fellow parishioners are welcome to join us for our field day to celebrate a successful CYE year. Games and refreshments will be available for all.

Many thanks to Shanna Haden and Josie Weibel who presented all CYE catechists with planted marigolds in celebration of Mothers Day and in appreciation of their dedicated service.

2023 – EVENTS IN THE SPRING

ASCENSION THURSDAY, MAY 18 at CTK
(Holy Day of Obligation)
Wednesday, May 17- Mass at 7pm
Thursday, May 18 - Mass at 9am
No Mass on Friday May 19

ORDINATION TO THE TRANSITIONAL DIACONATE
Saturday, May 20 - 10:00 a.m.
at St. Patrick Cathedral, Harrisburg

PENTECOST SUNDAY, MAY 28 at CTK
Saturday - 4:00 p.m. Mass
Sunday - 9 a.m. Masses

DAY OF RECOLLECTION,
SATURDAY, JUNE 24th, 9:00 a.m. at CTK
The Third Order Carmelite Community is planning a Day of Reflection to be held at Christ the King led by Father Andrew St. Hilaire. If you are interested, please contact Meg Geffken or call at 570-204-9031

**THE HARRISBURG DIOCESAN COUNCIL OF
CATHOLIC WOMEN (HDCCW)**

invites all women of the Diocese to join us for the Eleventh Annual Weekend Retreat being held on the beautiful campus of Mount St. Mary's University, Emmitsburg, Maryland. The Retreat begins on Friday evening, June 9 until noon on Sunday, June 11, 2023. Our Retreat Master is Father Michael Rothan, Chaplin, Apostolic Ministry, Hanover, PA. The registration deadline is May 31, 2023. Registration forms and more details are available at <https://hdccw.webs.com/retreat>

QUO VADIS DAYS

Calling all young Catholic men - are you wondering what God's plan is for your life? Do you need guidance in your discernment? Join us for Quo Vadis Days for a time of recreation, fellowship, prayer and guidance as you explore God's call for your life. Mass, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, recreation and sports, discernment talks, and great food are all included in this weeklong camp. Quo Vadis Days is for men ages 15-25 and will be June 25 - 29 at Mount Saint Mary's University and Seminary. Cost is \$100 per person. Register by June 16 to attend. Details and registration can be found at <https://www.hbgdiocese.org/event/quo-vadis-days/>. Questions? Please contact the Office of Vocations at (717) 657-4804, ext. 282 or email vocations@hbgdiocese.org.

God Bless
OUR MOTHERS

A mother defends herself with
a heart filled with love before
doing so with words.

- Pope Francis