

# Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church Newsletter

February 20, 2022

My Dear Parishioners,

For our second readings, St. Paul continues to defend the Christian Doctrine of the resurrection of the flesh.

His point is that God himself fashioned bodies for Adam and Eve and then breathed the breath of life into them—breathed a soul into them. We then receive from Adam and Eve our natural bodies and life in this world. Thus, to be fully human, we must be both body and soul—not just a soul, but both body and soul. We also sadly receive something from Adam and Eve that is not as nice, and that is Original Sin.

Which is why we then receive something even greater from Our Blessed Savior, and that something is a share in the life of Grace, a sharing in the very life of God. Grace is not something that one can naturally get. Grace, strictly speaking, is a supernatural gift from God. The Grace given by God is, moreover, for our total selves, body and soul. Yes, we share in the life of Grace right now, body and soul, for Our Blessed Savior came to redeem the entire person, both the spiritual and the physical.

So, just as a Crucified and Resurrected Savior received a glorified body at His own Resurrection, so we will to at the General Judgment. Yes, we will receive a glorified body to go with our glorified souls. This reception of a glorified body will be the final phase of the redemption of the world. For the work of the redemption of the world was to make us more like Our Blessed Savior, and as He now possesses a glorified body, so we will also have a glorified body, and then we will be even more like Him.

What a “glorified body” is, is up to speculation, just like we can speculate on what Heaven itself is like. What we can say for certain is that the souls of the faithfully departed are guaranteed a glorified body at the General Judgment. We can also say that the glorified body will be a body made for Heaven: incorruptible, imperishable, made to be with Our Blessed Savior forever.

This promise of a glorified body is a further reminder of just how much Our Blessed Savior loves us and wants us to be like Him and with Him. The promise of the glorified body is moreover a reminder that all of our sufferings and sacrifices for the Faith are worth it. For, as Our Blessed Savior and our Blessed Mother both reign body and soul in Heaven, so we will reign body and soul in Heaven with them. Imagine that as you go to sleep this evening.

Now for some updates. The work on the roof on Fr. McBride Hall continues and, weather permitting, will be done soon. I personally thank everyone for their cooperation while the work continues.

This past week, the Archdiocese issued new mask guidelines for parish school and CCD programs. The new guidance is effective as of February 28 and makes masks optional for staff, educators, catechists, and students. The new guidance continues to recommend mask use for those who are not vaccinated and those with pre-existing conditions. As a parish, we will be adopting the new guidance from the Archdiocese. As a parish, we will also respect each other’s personal decision whether or not to wear a mask—it is a personal decision and it will be respected. As a reminder, this new guidance is the guidance of the Archdiocese and approved by the Archbishop. If anyone has any comments or concerns about the new guidance, I encourage them to contact the Archdiocese and the Archbishop directly.

February is a month dedicated to the Holy Family. I have included in this week’s newsletter a consecration to the Holy Family from the Knights of Columbus, and I encourage all families to consider making the consecration. Like all prayer, it can only help!

Lastly, on behalf of our Deacons and Staff, I wish everyone a very happy and healthy President’s Day weekend, and for your consideration, I have included the prayer that our nation’s very first archbishop prayed at the inauguration of President Washington.

Let us continue to show genuine love for each other, as love is the greatest preparation for sharing in the glories of Heaven.

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us!

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, pray for us!

Fr. Michael J. Pawelko, Pastor



# CONSECRATION TO THE Holy Family

*By the Knights of Columbus*

During their earthly lives, the Holy Family experienced great joy and endured great suffering. They were faithful and obedient to God in all things, and their loving collaboration of family life was a foundation stone under Christ's mission of salvation. We can be sure that their collaboration continues in heaven. Jesus, Mary, and Joseph pray for us that we may live after their example. We turn to the Holy Family of Nazareth because they know family life and, with Jesus in their midst, they are particularly powerful intercessors.

By saying a prayer of consecration to the Holy Family, we express a special devotion to Christ in relation to His mother, Mary, and His adoptive father, Joseph. We commit to turn to them regularly and trust in their assistance.

In preparation for a Consecration to the Holy Family, your family should not only decide to dedicate itself to the Holy Family's intercession but also acknowledge that the family is sacred. The decision to consecrate your family needs to be intentional and a process through which you completely surrender to God through the Holy Family. You are accepting the truth that salvation history was changed forever by a family, and that through your domestic church, you are called to live their example.

Some suggested steps to help to prepare the family to make the consecration:

1. Discuss the importance of this consecration as a family and why you are doing it.
2. Each member of your family is strongly encouraged to go to the sacrament of reconciliation.
3. As a family, intentionally choose something to fast from. The fast can be for at least a week. As our physical bodies are drawn to things of the world, it is strongly encouraged that you fast from something that you would normally do or consume. Fasting helps to discipline our minds and hearts to refrain from secular activities and be more focused on God.
4. Prepare for the commitment you are making. Consecration to the Holy Family is not a single event. You have chosen a way of life for your family. You and your family are consciously choosing to be a beacon of light of God's love through his Church.

## The Act of Consecration

O Lord Jesus,  
you lived in the home of Mary and Joseph in Nazareth.  
There you grew in age, wisdom and grace  
as you prepared to fulfill your mission  
as our Redeemer.  
*We entrust our family to you.*

O Blessed Mary,  
you are the Mother of our Savior.  
At Nazareth you cared for Jesus  
and nurtured him in the peace and joy of your home.  
*We entrust our family to you.*

O Saint Joseph,  
you provided a secure and loving home for Jesus and Mary,  
and gave us a model of fatherhood  
while showing us the dignity of work.  
*We entrust our family to you.*

Holy Family,  
we consecrate ourselves and our family to you.  
May we be completely united  
in a love that is lasting, faithful  
and open to the gift of new life.  
Help us to grow in virtue,  
to forgive one another from our hearts,  
and to live in peace all our days.  
Keep us strong in faith, persevering in prayer,  
diligent in our work, and generous toward those in need.  
May our home, O Holy Family,  
truly become a domestic church  
where we reflect your example in our daily life. Amen.  
*Jesus, Mary and Joseph, pray for us!*



*The following prayer was composed by Baltimore Archbishop John Carroll in 1791 for the inauguration of President George Washington.*

We pray, O almighty and eternal God, who through Jesus Christ has revealed thy glory to all nations, to preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church, being spread through the whole world, may continue with unchanging faith in the confession of your name.

We pray Thee, who alone are good and holy, to endow with heavenly knowledge, sincere zeal and sanctity of life, our chief bishop, the pope, the vicar of Our Lord Jesus Christ, in the government of his Church; our own bishop, all other bishops, prelates and pastors of the Church; and especially those who are appointed to exercise among us the functions of the holy ministry, and conduct your people into the ways of salvation.

We pray O God of might, wisdom and justice, through whom authority is rightly administered, laws are enacted, and judgment decreed, assist with your Holy Spirit of counsel and fortitude the president of these United States, that his administration may be conducted in righteousness and be eminently useful to your people over whom he presides; by encouraging due respect for virtue and religion; by a faithful execution of the laws in justice and mercy; and by restraining vice and immorality.

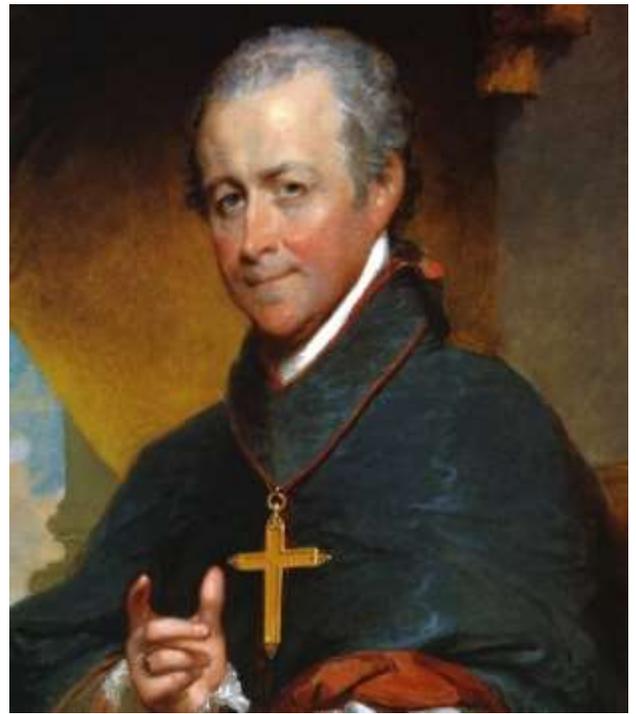
Let the light of your divine wisdom direct the deliberations of Congress, and shine forth in all the proceedings and laws framed for our rule and government, so that they may tend to the preservation of peace, the promotion of national happiness, the increase of industry, sobriety and useful knowledge; and may perpetuate to us the blessing of equal liberty.

We pray for his excellency, the governor of this state, for the members of the assembly, for all judges, magistrates, and other officers who are appointed to guard our political welfare, that they may be enabled, by your powerful protection, to discharge the duties of their respective stations with honesty and ability.

We recommend likewise, to your unbounded mercy, all our brethren and fellow citizens throughout the United States, that they may be blessed in the knowledge and sanctified in the observance of your most holy law; that they may be preserved in union, and in that peace which the world cannot give; and after enjoying the blessings of this life, be admitted to those which are eternal.

Finally, we pray to you, O Lord of mercy, to remember the souls of your servants departed, who are gone before us with the sign of faith and repose in the sleep of peace; the souls of our parents, relatives and friends; of those who, when living, were members of this congregation, and particularly of such as are lately deceased; of all benefactors who, by their donations or legacies to this Church, witnessed their zeal for the decency of divine worship and proved their claim to our grateful and charitable remembrance. To these, O Lord, and to all that rest in Christ, grant, we beseech you, a place of refreshment, light and everlasting peace, through the same Jesus Christ, Our Lord and Savior.

*Amen.*



Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish PRESENTS

FEBRUARY

28

AT 6:30 PM



MARCH

7

AT 6:30 PM

MARCH

14

AT 6:30 PM



MARCH

21

AT 6:30 PM



*Monday Movie Night*  
*The Chosen Episodes*  
*Season 2*

FREE ADMISSION

Father McBride Hall (Gymnasium)  
100 Broad Street • Hilltown, PA