

THOUGHTS FROM YOUR PASTOR: Bishop Brennan Enjoyed Our Parish!

In my mail the other day came a card sent by our new bishop, Bishop Brennan. He had just visited our parish a few days prior for our cluster Confirmation Mass. Inside the card was a handwritten message which read as follows: “Thank you for your warm hospitality. I thoroughly enjoyed being in Ada. The Confirmation was wonderful & I really enjoyed dinner before & spending time with the families after. Thank you for all of that. Enjoy the summer. Fraternaly, Bishop Brennan”.

Those who had the chance to meet Bishop Brennan during his visit to our parish discovered him to be a very energetic, down-to-earth person eager to share his enthusiasm for our faith in the Lord, especially with our young people. My observations of him during our visit echo some of the favorable encounters I have had with him in various diocesan gatherings in recent weeks. For example, in the middle of dinner with me and our cluster catechetical staff at Viva Maria’s before Confirmation, Bishop Brennan looked over to another table and noticed a well-dressed family also having dinner. He asked me if it was a Confirmation family. I turned around to have a look, and sure enough, one of our teens (who shall remain nameless, lest we embarrass him!) was stuffing his face full of pasta with his parents and grandparents in tow. When I told Bishop Brennan that, yes, it was one of our Confirmandi (and that it looked like he just got a haircut, too!), Bishop immediately got up and went over to their table to introduce himself to the family and to chat with the teen! Later on, back at the parish, about a half hour before the Mass, Bishop Brennan made a point to sit down with all the Confirmandi as a group in our social hall to get to know their schools and their interests, and gave them some great encouragement to stay holy as they continue to grow up and to push back against evil. His enthusiasm for evangelizing to our next generation continued later during the Mass itself when he gave our teens a very energetic homily about being bold witnesses as disciples of Jesus, to help those in their generation who do not yet know the Lord.

Bishop Brennan began his service to us in our diocese back in March with an emphasis on the phrase, “The Joy of the Gospel and the Splendor of Truth”. This phrase comes, of course, from two key letters in recent years: St. John Paul II’s 1993 letter “Splendor of Truth” about the liberating teachings of Jesus based on truth, and Pope Francis’ letter “The Joy of the Gospel” about putting the loving truth of Jesus into positive action as disciples. Already I can tell that Bishop Brennan has a passion, as I do too, for inviting everyone into a life-giving encounter with the Lord Jesus based in both truth and joy, in both authenticity and love. That is, after all, the mission of the Catholic Church that Jesus founded. I anticipate many good things from our new Bishop in the years ahead; let’s pray for him in his challenging role of sacrificial service for all of us as fellow disciples!

Fr. Ferguson is available to help you with any questions or concerns you may have; please contact him at hamilton.college@outlook.com or at 419-634-2626.

DID YOU KNOW? A Note From Your Parish Finance Council

[As indicated earlier, we will periodically be placing “blurbs” in the bulletin to make everyone aware of our practical, parish stewardship needs:]

The last fiscal year at Our Lady of Lourdes, we spent \$9,774 on church supplies. This includes the music missalettes, the wine and hosts needed for Mass, net cost of votive candles, occasional altar cloths, etc. We recently also needed to spend over \$2,000 on new mikes due to the FCC changing frequencies. These costs are necessary and difficult to lower. However, we are still running short in covering our parish expenses. Please consider an increase in your Weekly Offertory, which provides the vast majority of our needed parish income. Thanks for your generosity and support of our parish family!



THOUGHTS FOR OUR PARISH CHILDREN by “Jackie”, the Pastor’s Cat

Hi boys and girls! My name is “Jackie”, and as you know, I am Father Ferguson’s cat. Today is a very special day! That’s right! It’s called “Pentecost!” It’s when we celebrate the Holy Spirit coming upon the 12 Apostles 50 days after Easter. Up to that point, the Apostles were afraid to talk about Jesus to others. But now the Holy Spirit gave them courage to share the love of Jesus with everyone else! The Holy Spirit is all around us to help us stay strong as Christians. The Holy Spirit comes to us at Mass, too! One time I sneaked in to Mass from my house and saw the moment when the Holy Spirit came: it’s when Father suddenly places his hands over the bread and wine on the altar.

The Holy Spirit starts making them into the Body and Blood of Jesus! A miracle! Next time at Mass, look for that moment, and tell your mom or dad when it happens! Have a “purr”-fect week!

Easter Vigil 2019



First Communion 2019



Confirmation 2019



First Communion and Confirmation photos for those who celebrated the sacraments are ready for pick up in the parish hall. Thank you to Bob Yuhasz.

Video of the Grades 3 & 4 play is also available for pick up. Lisa Ferguson made a copy for each of the students.

Photos and DVDs are labelled with child's name.