

CHRIST CHURCH NEWMAN CENTER

OPENING HEARTS, CHANGING LIVES

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June 18th, 2023

11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday Masses



9:15am & 8:00pm

Confessions

Sunday, 7:30pm

This Week's Happenings

Sunday (6/25):

Mass: 9:15am & 8pm

While we were
YET SINNERS,
Christ died for us.
— Romans 5:8 —

The Eucharist and Catholic Social Teaching – Some (Introductory) Perspectives

The Catholic Church in the US is in the midst of a national “Eucharistic Revival”, to explore and celebrate the meanings of the Eucharist, including its social justice dimensions.

I offer the following perspectives in the spirit of exploration.

Note: the terms “poor/poverty” can refer to any kind of marginalization/oppression

It was an adult faith-formation program, and I was an attendee. The evening's focus was on the Catholic social teaching principle of “the preferential option for the poor”.

The evening's speaker was Julia Dinsmore.

She began by sharing several personal experiences with poverty, then shared a poem entitled, “My Name is not ‘Those People’”

Her poem had lines like “My Name is not . . . ‘Inadequate’ . . . ‘Ignorant or Uneducated’ . . . ‘

Lazy, Dependent, Welfare Mother’” – stereotypes I expected.

But there were other lines that surprised, even challenged, me – such as:

I am a loving woman, a mother in pain, giving birth to the future, where my [children]
have the same chance to thrive as anyone

I am a capable human being and a citizen

My love is powerful and my urge to keep my children alive will never stop

She concluded, “Take another look, and don't go away . . . for I am not the problem, but the solution.”

As I listened – and visited with her, afterwards and numerous times since – I realize how deeply my images of people experiencing poverty focus solely on the suffering and oppression involved, yielding perspectives of people with such experiences as “helpless and hopeless”.

Her poetry, and her life, proclaim her dignity, her gifts, and her capacity to play significant, even leadership, roles in creating greater social justice. Like the Catechism of the Catholic Church, which tells us that when we are looking at others, including people experiencing poverty, we are looking at Christ.

“Let us pray for those experiencing poverty; may we reach out to and support them.”

When I encounter this framework – e.g. in liturgical celebrations, in political or theological analyses of social justice issues, in efforts to mobilize people to act – I wonder:

Who are “we/us”? Who are “they/them”?

Does such “framing” make invisible, and disempower, those of us with such experiences?

What would happen if, instead, we said/prayed, “For those among us who are experiencing poverty”?

I think of a quote by Lilla Watson, an Indigenous Australian activist:

If you have come here to help me, you are wasting your time;

but if you have come because your liberation is bound up with mine, then let us work together.

I believe she offers vital perspectives with which we can enter our celebrations of the Eucharist, and by which we can respond to the Eucharist's call about how we act and live.

Kevin LaNave, Peace and Social Justice Coordinator

Full text of Julia Dinsmore's poem:

[doorwayproject.wordpress.com/2011/05/19/my-name-is-not-those-people- 4/](http://doorwayproject.wordpress.com/2011/05/19/my-name-is-not-those-people-4/)

For a short bio, and YouTube video of her work with youth: www.youtube.com/watch?v=StimQvMmuA4

Parish Office

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Prayer for Rain

Lord, we thank you for the many blessings you have bestowed on each of us through your creation. We come to you now in need. We ask that you bless your land with abundant rain to quench its thirst. To help us grow food for your people, to nourish the crops, to help farmers have an abundant harvest, to quench the thirst of animals and to keep the rivers and lakes full.

We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Parish Prayers

†Anne Fields	Kelly Hoppe's mother-in-law	†Bette Bartos
Nancy Huber	Helen Trisko	†Rich Theisen
Penny Zook	Carol Agnes	†Mike Schmiesing, brother of Sharon
Waletzko's grandson Isaac	†Betty Strobel	†Carol Reiter
Kathy Williams	Cathy Wieme's mother, †	†Ed Schnettler
Kevin & Melissa Kruger's brother Mark	Carol Skoien	†Jim Pehler
Linda Urbik	†Katie Waletzko	†Denise Keller
Courtney Vorell's father	†Don Prom	†Jennifer Symalla
Paul Snyder	†Renee Miller	†Elaine Quella
Grace Bellicot	†Will Ellenbecker	†Bob Huber
Doug Nieters	†Stanley McElhone	†Dawn Newton
†Mil Voelker	†Bill Schroeder	†Robert Surma
Tom Keaveny	†Vern Cronin	†Geneva Cameron
Isla Johns	†Donald Lardy	†William Luketich
Aaron Volker	†Sallie Bellicot	†Michael Garrity
†Gene Hoelscher	†Deborah Rodriguez	Dave Williams
Millie Moran, sister of Jay Schroeder	†Valerie Meinz	Gary Killmer

Kumbayah: The Juneteenth Story -- at the Paramount (Sat, June 24th 6-8 pm)

This production dramatizes the story of Juneteenth through compelling music and storytelling. It is family-appropriate for those 10-years-old and up. It serves "as a platform for constructive community dialogue, and as a way to build connections with each other and to the past". The cast includes community members. A meaningful, facilitated audience discussion takes place after the performance

The event is free, but tickets need to be reserved.

For more info, and to reserve tickets, see: www.unitedwayhelps.org/events/kumbayah-juneteenth

Young Adult Social — Milk and Honey Ciders

Young adults and their families are invited on June 28th at 6pm to spend the evening in fellowship together at Milk & Honey Ciders in St. Joseph! We'll gather at a few tables to get to know one another over a local beverage, conversation, and even games of cribbage or cards!



Address: 11738 County Road 51 St Joesph, MN, 56374

Open House Farewell for Fr. Joe Herzing

Please join us on Sunday, June 25th from 1-4pm at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School for a going away open house in honor of Fr. Joe to thank him for his years of service to our parish cluster and school. The door to the school by the parking lot is handicap accessible.

Help needed that day: we need two volunteers to help from 1-2:30 and two volunteers to help from 2:30-4. We also are in need of five pans of bars. If you are able to help please contact Jo Hennen at 320-250-0456 or sign up in the baptismal lobby.

Daily Readings are found at usccb.org



Visit our livestream! Search YouTube: Christ Church Newman Center

Parish Staff

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(35) The personal and moral transformation that is sustained by the Eucharist reaches out to every sphere of human life. The love of Christ can permeate all of our relationships: with our families, our friends, and our neighbors. It can also reshape the life of our society [and the world] as a whole.

Our relationship with Christ is not restricted to the private sphere; it is not for ourselves alone. . . . We all need to be consistent in bringing the love of Christ not only to our personal lives, but also to every dimension of our public lives. . . .

(40) Just as we are impelled by the Eucharist to hear the cry of [all among us who suffer] and respond in love, we are also called to hear the cry of the earth and, likewise, respond with loving care.

The Mystery of the Eucharist in the Life of the Church (US Conference of Catholic Bishops)