



# PASTOR'S CORNER

## A Mysterious Disease: Key of Understanding

Weeks ago, at the local Men's Morning of Reflection held at Queenship of Mary in Northampton, Fr. David Anthony of the diocese reflected on the state of things in our culture as regards our Catholic Faith. He borrowed from the insightful thinking of Archbishop Chaput's [Philadelphia], *Strangers in a Strange Land*, as well as other great saintly minds, but he began his thoughts with something like this.

When a vaccine is used to prevent widespread infection, its' basic mechanism is that a partly destroyed/weakened form of the infecting virus is introduced into a body. The body's immune system, if it is operating normally, responds to the invading weakened virus by producing anti-bodies to kill and remove the virus from the system. In doing so, the vaccine teaches the body to recognize the virus. So, if an actual fully potent virus is introduced to the body, the immune system does not delay in responding with the appropriate anti-bodies, and thereby helps to resist severe infection, and shorten the time of recovery for the individual.

Now, what if this kind of conditioning of the body's immune system could be used to turn away even "good viruses" from a person, that is, something that would be beneficial for the individual? For example, suppose I want to begin to start exercising again after a long time away from exercise, and I set out on my first day back to run a half-marathon of 13.1 miles. I might be blessed enough to finish the run that day, but the consequent exhaustion and suffering may forever turn me off from exercise.

Fr. Anthony went on to suggest that, if we're practicing a weakened version of the Catholic Faith, if that's all we've ever absorbed or observed in practice, then when

## Mass Intentions

33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
November 16, 2019

### Saturday– Nov 16<sup>th</sup> –

Sat Vigil: 4:00PM – James Cerulli (A)  
by Daughter, Rosemary Barna  
7:00PM – Helen Sidor  
by Louis and Jeanne Szemenyei

### Sunday – Nov 17<sup>th</sup> –

8:30AM – Phyllis S. Roman  
by Eugene and Diane Piervallo  
10:30AM – Rosa Cunningham  
by Mary Beth and Dave Arner

### Monday – Nov 18<sup>th</sup> – The Dedication of the Basilicas of Saints Peter and Paul

8:00AM – Father Richard W. Campo (A)  
by Kim McCloskey

### Tuesday – Nov 19<sup>th</sup> – St Mechtilde

8:00AM – Regina Burker (A)  
by Husband, Frank

### *Miraculous Medal Novena after Mass*

### Wednesday – Nov 20<sup>th</sup> – St Edward the Martyr

6:00PM – David J. Sweeney  
by Sister, Patricia Sweeney

### Thursday – Nov 21<sup>st</sup> –

### The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00AM – Margaret Kuchera  
by Susan and Jack Fry

### Friday – Nov 22<sup>nd</sup> – St Cecelia

8:00AM – Anna and Stanley Stascinsky  
by Estate

### Saturday– Nov 23<sup>rd</sup> – St Clement I

8:00AM – All St. John Fisher Parishioners

### Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Sat Vigil: 4:00PM – Donna McNally  
by Edie Stahlnecker  
7:00PM – William Molchany, Sr.  
by Family

### Sunday – Nov 24<sup>th</sup> –

8:30AM – Steve and Mary Roman  
by Maryann and Bob Cavallucci  
10:30AM – Richard J. Longenhagen, Sr. (WA)  
by Walter and Betty Yaros



Pray the Rosary Sundays  
8:15AM and 10:15AM

the real faith is witnessed to or taught to us by someone, we more easily resist the full faith. For the fullness of our Catholic Faith requires not saccharine or merely sentimental responses to Jesus, but also serious thinking about sin, death, and eternal life – it requires the development, by God’s grace, of an informed conscience, moral virtues and active discipleship empowered by the Sacraments.

In A Mysterious Disease young Tommy is asking the deeper questions that beg for a serious delving into the Catholic Faith, but the grown-ups around him only know the sweetened bumper-sticker answers they use to console themselves, rather than the connection of their lives with the actual dying and rising of Jesus. The vaccine booster will teach Tommy he doesn’t need the deeper questions answered, but that he just needs to feel good about it. Thus, Tommy becomes immune to the substance and real treasures of the Catholic Faith. And, therefore, Tommy becomes vulnerable to think that he already knows the treasures and that they are not any better or more valuable than any other weakened/destroyed version of the faith that tickles his ears and adjusts to his own whims.

So, we ask ourselves – are we “infected with the wonderful disease” of the fullness of the Catholic Faith? Or, are we just happy enough with plastic answers to life’s deepest questions?

Fr. Eric.

## OFFERTORY COLLECTION



Plate Collection

\$3,537.00

The **Second** Collection this weekend, **November 16<sup>th</sup>** and **17<sup>th</sup>**, is the **Poverty Relief Collection**.

*Thank You*

Thank you to the parishioners of St. John Fisher Church for their contribution to the Catty Food Bank.



## NEXT WEEK’S SCHEDULE

	Servers	Lectors	E.Ministers
<b>4:00PM</b>	J.Drummer D.Gorr	J.Strohl	M.Druckenmiller
<b>7:00PM</b>	A.Muschko L.McGinley	J.Englert	J.Ottinger
<b>8:30AM</b>	D.Popovic M.Popovic	B.Molchany	C.Hetzel
<b>10:30AM</b>	M.Ritter A.Banoza	P.McCloskey	J.Marhefka



## RECTORY CLOSED

The Rectory Office will be closed for business on **Wednesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>**.



## ANNUAL GIVING TREE

Watch the bulletin for upcoming dates for our Annual Giving Tree. All items donated go towards helping Catholic Charities help new babies and their moms in our area.

**Kathy Newhall and Gloria Gontkosky**



Flowers were placed on the altar last weekend in honor of **all living and deceased veterans by Paul Albert**.

*Thank You*

Thank you very much for the generous contribution to the World Mission Sunday by the parishioners of St. John Fisher Church.  
~ Msgr. John P. Murphy



## 2020 CALENDARS

The new 2020 Church Calendars are available at the entrances to Church. Please be sure to take one home.

Special thanks to **Kevin, Megan, Danny and Connor O'Donnell** of the O'Donnell Funeral Homes, and to **John and Andrew Brubaker** of the Brubaker Funeral Homes. Each year they donate our Church Calendars.

# UPCOMING Events

## Notre Dame Church

1861 Catasauqua Road, Bethlehem

The Holy Images of Our Lady of Guadalupe and Jesus, King of All Nations, will be displayed for devotions and blessings on **Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>**, after 8:45am Mass until 4:00pm, and **Saturday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>**, after 8:00am Mass until 3:00pm. Both days will be ending with Adoration and Benediction.

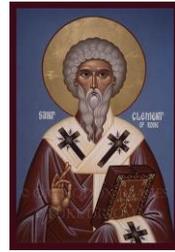
## Good Shepherd Catholic School

The Junior Drama Club presents "Winnie the Pooh Kids" on **Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>**, and **Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>**, at 2:00pm in the school gym. Tickets are \$5.00 at the door or by calling 610-262-9171.

## Notre Dame High School

3417 Church Road, Easton

NDTC will be presenting "It's A Wonderful Life", on **Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>**, and **Saturday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>**, both at 7:00pm. Tickets are \$8.00 for adults, \$6.00 for students, and under six years of age is free. Any questions, please call 610-868-1431.



## St. Clement I

The fourth pope, Clement I, is remembered chiefly for his letter of correction and support addressed to the Corinthians. To a Church rocked by envy and scandal, Clement wrote with fatherly authority, urging the Corinthians to deeper conversion. Clement is believed to have suffered martyrdom around the year 100.

~ Magnificat, November, 2019

## St. Rose Philippine Duchesne

Born in Grenoble, France, Rose Philippine Duchesne entered the Society of the Sacred Heart in 1804. After hearing a sermon by a missionary priest, she pleaded to go to the native peoples of the New World. In 1817, Rose left France for Saint Charles, Missouri, "the remotest village in the United States." She was forty-nine. She spent the next twenty years establishing schools for girls. Rose died in 1852.



~ Magnificat, November, 2019