

At this time of the year we may grow weary from the heat of summer, eager for any respite from our discomfort. Like Elijah despairing in the desert in the first reading, we become thirsty and hungry. We need food and drink to sustain us. As we gather around the table of the Lord, we find sustenance from the One who reveals Himself in today's Gospel as the Bread of Life!



Readings for this Week (Aug. 13-18)

MONDAY: Ez. 1:2-5, 24-28c; Mt. 17:22-27
TUESDAY: Ez. 2:8—3:4; Mt. 18:1-5, 10, 12-14
(or) Wis. 3:1-9 or 1 Jn. 3:14-18; John 15:12-16
WEDNESDAY: Rev. 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab;
1 Corinthians 15:20-27; Luke 1:39-56
THURSDAY: Ezekiel 12:1-12; Mt. 18:21—19:1
FRIDAY: Ez. 16:1-15, 60, 63 or Ez.16:59-63; Mt. 19:3-12
SATURDAY: Ez. 18:1-10, 13b, 30-32; Mt. 19:13-15

Scripture for next Sunday (20th Sunday/Ordinary Time)

Proverbs 9:1-6

Come, eat of my food and drink of the wine I have mixed.

Ephesians 5:15-20

Understand what is the will of the Lord.

John 6:51-58

My flesh is true food and my blood is true drink.

Next Sunday's readings paint the picture of banquets, from the sumptuous table set by Wisdom to the Eucharistic meal Jesus introduces. Just as Wisdom's feast offers more than simple food and drink, Jesus' Body and Blood offer more: eternal life and Christ himself.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers at our altar this weekend are placed in honor of **Chris Neal**, in celebration of his 1 year anniversary with us (August 1), given by Sue White.

**ASSUMPTION of the Blessed Virgin Mary
A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**

This **Wednesday, August 15th**

Holy Day Masses at 12:15 p.m. & 7 p.m.

Nursery available at the 7 p.m. Mass

(There will NOT be an 8:30a Mass this Wednesday.)

A Message from Father Chris...

"There are those who live that deserve death, but there are also those who die that deserve life. Can you give it to them? Then be not so quick to deal out death in judgment."
- J.R.R. Tolkien.

For everyone who heard me mention Tolkien in a homily and how he would often insert his faith into his writing, I thought I'd offer another example. Especially since it is so relevant to what I want to write here. The above quote comes from *The Fellowship of the Ring*, and was spoken by the wizard Gandalf. It gives a concise summary of the Church's view on capital punishment.

Many people have read that Pope Francis changed the Church's teaching on capital punishment, and there has been a great deal of discussion and questions about it, so I thought I'd address it. The first thing I would like to say is the same advice I offer every time the pope makes a statement, or publishes a new document. Do not listen to other people commenting on what the pope said. Go read what he said for yourself.

I'm going to try and break this down without running on too long, or making this too complicated. I understand the pope has changed what will be printed in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, but I do not believe he has actually changed the teaching of the Church. I will hold my final judgment until the catechism is published, but that is how I see it now.

I said Tolkien's quote is a great summary of the Church's teaching, because the Church has never taught that capital punishment is an inherently immoral act. To say that means there are some cases where it is morally justifiable. However, we hear the Church opposing capital punishment today, because in our modern society, it is unnecessary. We have the means to protect society from harmful individuals without taking a life. This has been the position of the Church even before the pope made his recent statement.

My view on what the pope said is not that he changed the teaching of the Church, but that he brought this teaching to a greater understanding by saying capital punishment is now inadmissible. By saying this, he has not said that the prior understanding that capital punishment can be justified in some circumstances is wrong, he has said that the circumstances that would justify this action no longer exist in our world. This is why we continue to oppose capital punishment as we always have, because it is unnecessary for the protection of our society, and it takes away the dignity of the human person.

SHYM OPEN HOUSE!

If you are in grades 9-12, join us TONIGHT (August 12) from **6-8 p.m.** for our BYC Open House. Please make sure that one parent accompanies their youth. We will meet in the Great Room. This is a great opportunity for you to meet the SHYM team, pick up a schedule for the year, and ask any questions that you may have. Hope to see you there!

Senior High Youth Ministry (*Grades 9-12*)

Upcoming Schedule:

- **Aug. 12—Parent/Youth Meeting (GR/BYC 6-8pm)**
 - Meeting in the Great Room
 - At least one parent must accompany their teen!
- **Sun., Aug. 19—Fun Night!**
 - The Escape Room
- **Sun., Aug. 26—NO SHYM**
 - Regional Catechist Day
- **Sun., Sept. 2—NO SHYM (Labor Day Weekend)**
- **Sun., Sept. 9—Youth Group (BYC 6:00-8:00 p.m.)**
 - “Why am I here?”

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament every Tuesday

Please join us this **Tues., Aug. 14, 9:15am-4:30pm**. Join us for prayer during the day and for **Benediction at 4:30pm**.

Prayer Group meeting this week: Wed., August 15, 2:45pm-3:45pm in the St. Vincent de Paul Center. All are invited to attend. No preparation, no cost. Join us for an hour of prayer!

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults—RCIA

Catechumens, Candidates, and Inquirers will meet briefly this **Wednesday, August 15** in the **Great Room at 6:30 p.m. prior to the Holy Day Mass.**

RCIA Notes: In celebrating this month of Our Lady’s final journey to God in her glorious Assumption, let us ask her motherly intercession to draw souls to the Sacred Heart of her Son. The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a journey too - of conversion to God and what he intends for us. RCIA is the process by which persons who were never baptized, or were baptized in another Christian tradition, become members of the Church, a people on a pilgrimage to our Heavenly Father. For more information about our RCIA, please contact Sydney Farnum at sydneyfarnum@sannes-bristol.org or 276-669-8200 ext. 32.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

St. Anne’s Friendship Club will meet this **Thurs., Aug. 16**, at **11:30 a.m.** at the **Olive Garden** (exit 7). Please call Gina Rossetti at 423-878-7827 by this Tuesday, August 14 to reserve your spot for lunch. New members are always welcome to join us!

Christian Formation/Religious Education

Ministry Fair — coming soon!

August 18/19 & 25/26

Please plan to stop by the Ministry Fair tables next weekend and volunteer to help!! We need you! Please consider donating a little of your time to help our parish in any of the areas listed below. We need lots of volunteers and scheduling is flexible to allow you to help part-time or occasionally – whatever works for you. We are very appreciative of any time you can help. You do not need to be a theologian or scripture scholar to help in these areas. Please prayerfully consider it and we hope to see you signing up next weekend.

Help needed with the Adults:

- *Catechists or facilitators for Adult Religious Education Programs*
- *Homebound and Hospital/Nursing Home Eucharistic Ministers of Holy Communion*
- *Respect Life Committee*
- *Newly formed Bereavement Committee*
- *Evangelization Committee*

Help needed with RCIA:

- *Team members & Catechists*
- *Sponsors*

Help needed with the children:

- *Children’s Liturgy of the Word Leaders*
- *Sunday School of Religion Catechists and Aides*
- *Sacramental Preparation for Baptism or First Reconciliation or First Communion*

Help needed with the teens:

- *Senior High Youth Ministry*
- *Preparation for Confirmation*

Hospital and Homebound

Eucharistic Ministers of Holy Communion

SAVE THE DATE: Next Sunday evening, August 19 at 6 p.m. in the Great Room. We will meet next Sunday evening for our annual training and meeting with Fr. Chris. Anyone who would like to join us in this ministry to the sick and elderly is invited to attend the meeting. Any questions? Please contact Sydney at sydneyfarnum@stannes-bristol.org or 276-669-8200 ext 32.

Regional Catechist Day hosted by St. Anne’s

Sunday, August 26

All Parish Catechists and St. Anne School Religion Teachers are encouraged to attend our Catechist Day on **August 26, in the Great Room, 2pm-5pm**. Catechists from LPA 15 & 16 will be joining us as we welcome Pixie Smith from RCL/Benziger. Watch the bulletin and your mailbox for more information. **SAVE THE DATE!!**

Mass Intentions for this Week

Saturday, August 11 (*Vigil: 19th Sunday/Ordinary Time*)

5:30 p.m. †Milly Venardi

Sunday, August 12 (*19th Sunday in Ordinary Time*)

8:30 a.m. †Marge Burress

10:30 a.m. †Chloe Stewart

2:00 p.m. Parishioners (*Spanish Mass*)

Tuesday, August 14

8:30 a.m. †Margaret McDevitt

Wednesday, August 15 (*Holy Day: Assumption of BVM*)

12:15 p.m. †Regina C. Finan

7:00 p.m. †Steven Everitt

Thursday, August 16

6:00 p.m. †Barry Brady

Friday, August 17

7:30 a.m. †Joseph F. Casoneri

Saturday, August 18 (*Vigil: 20th Sunday/Ordinary Time*)

5:30 p.m. †Rita & †Charles Mansfield

Sunday, August 19 (*20th Sunday in Ordinary Time*)

8:30 a.m. †Neal Jewell

10:30 a.m. †Mabel Gokey

2:00 p.m. Parishioners (*Spanish Mass*)



E-giving Report (July 16-31)

Regular/Operating	\$5,575.00
Assumption Holy Day	\$ 25.00
Campaign 2013/Debt Reduction	\$ 25.00
School 2nd Collection	\$ 265.00

Collection Report (August 4/5)

Regular/Operating	\$13,268.75
School 2nd Collection	\$ 5,006.00
Assumption Holy Day	\$ 100.00
Campaign 2013/Debt Reduction	\$ 235.00
BFIA	\$ 75.00

There will be a collection taken up this Wednesday at the Holy Day Masses (12:15 & 7p—August 15).

Annual Diocesan Appeal: We recently received our first check from the 2018 Annual Appeal in the amount of \$15,464.75. Many thanks to all who have contributed to this year's diocesan appeal. If you made a pledge, we encourage you to be faithful in making your donation(s) to the appeal.

Day of Prayer for College Students and Young Adults

Today (August 12) we ask you to keep college students and young adults in your prayers as they prepare for college, vocational training, the Military or pursue other endeavors. May God bless them in this formative time of their lives with success, good health, moral strength and integrity.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

We ask your prayers for **Harold Ruhl**, the uncle of **Father Chris Hess**, who died last weekend in Pennsylvania; and also for **Stephen Hess**, **Fr. Chris'** cousin who died last weekend in Colorado.

This Week in Adult Faith Formation:

Monday, August 13:

- **Monday Adult Faith Formation—Popes and the Papacy**—“*Popes, Byzantines, and Barbarians*” and “*The Popes in the Age of Charlemagne*” **1:00pm-2:30pm at the St. Vincent de Paul Center.** Join this study group at any time.

Tuesday, August 14:

- **Book Club** is on Summer Break until September
- **Tuesday Evening Scripture Study** is on a short summer break.

Wednesday, August 15:

- **Little Rock Scripture Study** will meet in the Saint Vincent de Paul Center immediately after the **12:15 Holy Day Mass. *The Gospel According to Mark***
- **RCIA** will meet briefly before the Holy Day Mass (**6:30pm-6:50pm**).

For more information about any of the above Adult Faith Formation programs, email sydneyfarnum@stannes-bristol.org or call 276-669-8200 ext. 32.

Are you PLANNING TO BE MARRIED in the Church?

The Marriage Preparation Process takes several months — we recommend that you please contact the office to set up an appointment with Father Chris a minimum of eight months in advance so that you can begin the required preparation process.



The Bristol Faith in Action food pantry is in need of the following: soups, pork & beans, cleaning supplies, paper towels, toothpaste, deodorant, laundry soap, dish soap, canned chicken/meat/tuna, cereal, peanut butter, canned vegetables/fruit. The next time you are at the grocery, pick up a few extra items to help those in need in our local community. Bring with you to Mass and put in the “**BLUE BOX**” by the wheelchair lift. **THANKS!!**

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

30's Ministry resumes Saturday, August 25

Save the Date!! If you are between the ages of 30 and 39, single or married, children or no children, 30's Ministry is for you! This is a chance to meet with others your same age and take advantage of opportunities planned just for YOU. As we welcome our new priest, Fr. Chris Hess, join us for an evening gathering in the Great Room after the 5:30pm Mass on August 25 (or approx. 6:45pm). Pizza will be provided and the nursery for your children can be provided if needed. **Please stop by the table in the commons and sign-up to attend or email sydneyfarnum@stannes-bristol.org. Hope to see you there!!**

CCW Meeting: The Council of Catholic Women will meet this **Mon., Aug. 13** at the Columbian Center, **6:30pm**. We will plan events for the coming 2018-2019 year. If interested in joining CCW, please contact Eileen Gibney at 423-652-7425 or egibneysas@yahoo.com.

Knights of Columbus News!

Knight of the month: Ken Johnson

Family of the month: Mike & Sydney Farnum

Thanks for your service!

ASSUMPTION HOLY DAY—Wed., Aug. 15 (1215 & 7p)

PASTORAL COUNCIL: Nominations for PPC are this weekend at the table in the commons—if you forgot and wish to nominate someone, contact the parish office NLT 4p Monday, Aug. 13. Those nominated will be contacted and if they agree to run for Council will need to submit the Q&A form and photo by August 26. Elections will be held at all Masses Sept. 8/9. For more info, go to our parish website www.stannes-bristol.org (*at top of page, click on Ministries, then Councils, then Pastoral Council*).

Special Guest at St. Anne's—Tue., Aug. 21, 7 pm
Professor Robert P. George from Princeton University will be here to speak on ***“Natural Law, God, and Human Dignity”***. Mark your calendar and plan to attend!

7 Steps to Becoming Financially Free

A Catholic Guide to Managing Your Money

Start your journey to true financial freedom on **Monday, Sept. 10, 6:00-7:30pm** in the St. Vincent de Paul Center. *7 Steps to Becoming Financially Free* offers a solid Catholic perspective on how to make the most of God's generous gifts. In addition to understanding the necessary nuts and bolts of financial management, budgeting, and investing, discover how your Catholic faith can be the base of a sound financial future. Watch the bulletin for more information and put this date on your calendar now!