



My Dear Parishioners,

Praised be Jesus Christ! For the first time since February 11, we find bishops, priests and deacons wearing Green today as we are now back into Ordinary Time. Given all that we have seen unfold over these 4 months and all that continues to unfold in our world, it would be correct to note that there's nothing ordinary about our times! As one priest friend likes to tell me, "Chris, you can't make this stuff up!". So many Extraordinary --- strange things!

Take for instance news out of Lincoln, Nebraska this week entitled "**Bizarre**". A 74 year old woman declared dead by her hospice team, taken to the funeral home was found breathing! Amazing, yes! Bizarre? I'm not sure that that's the right word.

How might the news report the event that I witnessed in Lincoln, Nebraska the week prior. Five ordinary young men --sons and brothers -- from a variety of different cultures ordained Priests of Jesus Christ. Now able in Jesus' name to turn bread into flesh, absolve sins, cast our Satan! Amazing, yes! Bizarre? No.

And yet, when you take the Gospel at face value, when you look at what we believe and yes...we do believe that dead bodies will arise, that priests can turn bread into flesh, absolve sin and cast out Satan, that the lay faithful are Christ's Body....when you look at all of this, the world's response is "**Bizarre**". And we might even find that response arising from our own selves!

In Calendar year 2023, our parish identified 3 priorities to assist our community's growth in discipleship: 1) Build confidence in the teachings of the Catholic Faith through Education. 2) Build Parish Engagement through Community. 3) Foster Spiritual Growth through Joyful Witness. We've taken steps in all three this past year. But the 1st priority, "Build Confidence in the Teachings of the Catholic Faith". That's not just education, it's allowing the heart to be enkindled by what we believe.

To the world, the teachings of the Church may seem "**bizarre**". But that's ignorance at best, blasphemy at worst. And many fall prone to both. We must not fall for either. Rather, accepting the Truth in mind and heart, we allow it to make us brave, to work miracles and we need that Work today.

Peace,

Fr. Rogers



SAVE THE DATE

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST FEAST DAY

BENEDICTION, BONFIRE, & BUILDING COMMUNITY

MONDAY, JUNE 24
7:00 PM

A FATHER'S DAY BLESSING

Blessed is the father who lets the Lord be his guiding hand, whose faith brings his family courage, whose wisdom comes from God, and whose children still stand and honor him.

GROW IN FAITH

The Core Beliefs of our Catholic Faith – The Real Presence

With the National Eucharistic Congress just six weeks away, our Pastoral Council will share several short videos on the Real Presence - the divinely revealed truth that the Blessed Sacrament is the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus Christ. These videos were shared parish wide earlier in the year to help increase both knowledge and understanding of the core beliefs of our Catholic faith. With the recent National Eucharistic Pilgrimage here in the Archdiocese and the upcoming Congress, now is a perfect opportunity to share them again as we continue this exciting time of Eucharistic Revival. Beginning next week, a new video on the Real Presence will be shared via Flocknote and a link to the video will be shared here in the Bulletin. Be on the lookout for them and please take time to view these videos to learn not just what we believe but WHY we believe. May God be Praised!