

SEPTEMBER 2020



**Fr. Paul MacNeil**

### A Letter from Away

Dear Parishioners,

Greetings from Nova Scotia. By the time you read this missive in Precious Word, I will have finished my sixth week on sabbatical spending quality time with my ailing mother, Loretta. I look forward to seeing you all again in person in the near future.

The visit home began with fourteen days of isolation in a pandemic prison where I was to stay quarantined within the confines of a rented AirBnB property just outside of town. During that time I received five phone calls from health officials making sure that I was playing by the rules. Finally deemed safe after a fortnight, I was given the 'all clear' and allowed to reunite with my mother and family in our family home in Stellarton. With her upper body elevated in her hospital bed and eyes gazing out of the living room window, Loretta Mary Veronica Devine MacNeil was patiently waiting for her last born child to step through the front doorway. "Mom, I'm home" and rushed over and delivered a hug and kiss proper to a returning son after a seven month absence, and then another facsimile from the people of Precious Blood of Christ Parish (Covid 19 be cursed!). Being with my mother has been a genuine blessing and I am so grateful to the bishop, Msgr. Cellini, Fr. Filip, Fr. Pat, the PBOC Staff and all of you parishioners for being able to be here.

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All is in God's hands. God is the source of life, God sustains our lives, and God is our destination at the end of our lives as Children of God. Each of us is called to believe, to trust and to surrender to the love of God our Heavenly Father. We celebrated mom's 94<sup>th</sup> birthday on September 11<sup>th</sup> with a small family Mass by her bedside followed by birthday cake, sandwiches, and a sparkling glass of Prosecco. A huge thank you to the staff and all of you for sending mom the beautiful bouquet of fresh flowers for that occasion! I've been able to do a lot of reading since I'm here and one book that has been helpful for me is Fr. Richard Rohr's, ***The Universal Christ***. In the chapter called, ***Things at their Depth***, he reflects upon the powerful relationship between Jesus and Thomas. He says, "Jesus invited Thomas and all doubters

**PRECIOUS WORD****Fr. Paul continued**

into a tangible kind of religion, a religion that makes touching human pain and suffering the way into both compassion and understanding. For most of us, the mere touching of another's wound probably feels like an act of outward kindness; we don't realize that its full intended effect is to change us as much as it might change them (there is no indication that Jesus changed, only Thomas)."

Reading those words were comforting. The patient becomes the healer and the healer becomes the patient. During this difficult time of viral pandemic and racial tension in our society let us have the courage to reach out to touch the wounds of others so that we ourselves can be healed.

Love and prayers in our Good Shepherd,

*Fr. Paul*

**Prayer & Worship****Hands-free  
Holy Water Dispensers**

We have recently placed two hands-free Holy Water dispensers in our Narthex for when you enter and leave the sanctuary. We hope this "touch-free" blessing of Holy Water will be a comforting addition in our current Church & Mass realities. They are located above the empty wall-mounted fonts .



**PRECIOUS WORD****Respect Life****Walking with Moms in Need: A Year of Service**

Pope Francis in almost every message to Priests and Bishops urges them to “accompany” members of their flock. The U. S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) initiated a program this year “*Walking with Moms in Need: A Year of Service.*” This Year of Service extends from March 25, 2020 to March 25, 2021 and coincides with the 25th anniversary of [\*Evangelium Vitae\*](#) (The Gospel of Life), a landmark encyclical by Pope John Paul II. The focus is the need for improved pastoral responses to women facing unexpected or challenging pregnancies.

“The challenges can be immense for women in difficult or unplanned pregnancies. 75% of women who choose abortion are low income,” said Archbishop Naumann, USCCB Pro-Life Chairman. “Pregnant and parenting moms in need are in our parishes and our neighborhoods. Women facing challenging pregnancies should see the Church as a place where they can find help, especially with its myriad of social services and organizations dedicated to meeting the needs of people in crisis,” he continued. “The USCCB points out that pregnant and parenting moms in need are in our parishes and our neighborhoods. As Pope Francis reminds us, our parishes need to be ‘islands of mercy in the midst of a sea of indifference’. Everyone in the parish community should know where to refer a pregnant woman in need.”

Precious Blood of Christ Catholic Church supports Birthright of Georgetown at 1905 Front Street in Georgetown (843-546-0833 or 800-550-4900). Birthright helps women at a time of change and uncertainty as they face unplanned pregnancy. The most important assistance to clients is the friendship and support offered by volunteers, who follow the clients’ progress through pregnancy and after the birth of the child. Birthright of Georgetown helps new babies get a better start on life by providing diapers, layettes and baby clothes for at least 12 months on a scheduled basis. Very important tasks are returning the young moms to diploma, GED, college or certificate programs to take them from dependency to independence, and providing assistance for education fees when possible. If the new mom can show she is enrolled in an educational program, the aid can be extended to 2 years.

Birthright of Georgetown was founded in 2002 by members of our parish with the support of our parish organizations including the Outreach Ministry. At any time there are approximately 300 women (girls) being helped by Birthright as women enter and leave the program. This year as of July 31, 130 new clients entered the program, and 9 abortion-minded women made decisions to carry their babies to term (saves). Women interested in becoming a Birthright volunteer may call Terri Triana, Director, at (843) 997-7856; or Mary Lou England, Co-director, at (843) 237-7442; or Jennifer Reinertsen, Co-director, at (843) 314-3106.

Christy Brown of the Diocese of Charleston Family Life Office after learning of what our parish is doing replied, “Thank you for sharing what you all are doing in Pawleys Island. That is exactly what we are looking for in the ‘Walking with Moms in Need’ program. Thank you for all you do.”

**PRECIOUS WORD****Women's Club****Life During Covid-19**

A lot has happened since the Covid-19 shut down. Life as we formerly knew it was gone and "change" has been the new normal.

Carol Steinis, our former President, did a fine job closing out her term. She had to cancel the Fashion Show and devise a plan for the distribution of the prize baskets. Those attendees who were generous enough to donate their ticket cost to our grant's program were all given a chance to win one of the fabulous prize baskets. We distributed over 30 baskets to some lucky winners. Carol held her Board Meetings via Zoom during the months of April and May.

In the 1<sup>st</sup> week of June, the new Executive Board was installed by Father Paul, thanks to Carol Steinis for orchestrating a lovely event.

Debbie Clatterbuck – President  
 Sabina Kowalski – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
 Nancy McMahon – 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
 Kathy Morris – Treasurer  
 Carol Jasiewski – Secretary

The new team had their 1<sup>st</sup> Board Meeting of the 2020/2021 via WebEx and in Debbie's house and we were off on a new adventure.



The Chapel was opened for our Board Meetings and our September General Meeting was held in the main church.

Our biggest issue was our Grant's Fund when we had to cancel our 2020 Arts and Crafts Fair and our Fashion Auction in January and how we were going to generate funds. Our innovative and creative women's club members have worked very hard to create new ways of generating funds for our Grants. We had our successful 1<sup>st</sup> Mum Sale. We are looking into selling Amaryllis for the Christmas season.

We are anticipating our WC 2020 Christmas luncheon in December at Kimbel's. It will be so nice to see our ladies again and ring in the holiday season. Don't forget ladies to get your check in for the luncheon, due to the DHEC Guidelines, we can only have 88 attendees this year.

We have a lot of decisions to make regarding our 2021 Fashion Show and other events but knowing our ladies, we will have more Covid 19 friendly events to help supplement our Grant's Fund.

Please remember to be safe and remain healthy. We look forward to seeing y'all at our October and November General Meetings and we will continue to "stream" our meetings too. Thanks to Bob Reinke for making our "streaming" available to our Women's Club members.

A big thank you goes out to Ellen Sullivan, Patty Guazzo, Pat Sears, Linda Cherry and Rocky Gray for their assistance in keeping our Women's Club logistics and events running smoothly. God bless y'all!



**New Executive Board:** Kathy, Debbie, Sabina and Nancy (Carol not pictured)

# Precious Hands

## Precious Hands

featuring precious people volunteering for our parish

### BOB REINKE

#### WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE MINISTRY FOR WHICH YOU VOLUNTEER?

To broadcast PBOC's worship services via the internet to viewers throughout the country and sometimes around the world. For most Sunday Masses we average 600 views from 20 states plus our Canadian friends. In addition, we broadcast funerals, weddings, baptisms and meetings upon request. This ministry has become extremely popular during the past six months due to COVID-19 which brought attendance, travel and distancing restrictions.

#### WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT BEING PART OF THIS MINISTRY?

Our team – David Fattaleh, Patrick Tate and I know that this ministry provides a connection to our parish for those folks who cannot attend Mass onsite. As we are streaming the locations and comments of viewers appear, which reinforces how important the broadcast is to those watching. Although most views are from parishioners, when logins occur from various states, the Virgin Islands, Philippines, Japan, Europe and across Canada it reinforces our impact and reach. Father Paul's homilies receive high marks from all and the quality of the broadcast video and audio are much appreciated. My brother and sisters from northern Michigan are regulars.



#### TELL US ABOUT WHAT YOU DO FOR THIS MINISTRY?

I schedule coverage for Sunday Mass, weekly Mass (Wednesdays – Good Fridays), funerals and special events. I operate the streaming camera and monitor the connected computer and internet connection software and provide viewership statistics to PBOC staff.

#### HOW CAN OTHERS BECOME MEMBERS?

Contact Ellen Sullivan at the parish office.

If you have basic computer skills and can work a "joy" stick you can do this. Come join us!

**What a blessing it is to have this ministry— to bring streamed Masses to those who are unable to attend services in person due to health, quarantine and safety precautions in these uncertain times.**

**PRECIOUS WORD****Stewardship****What does it mean that PBOC is a Stewardship Parish?**

The concept of stewardship is more than just supporting your parish through monetary gifts; stewardship covers all of life. It includes personal piety; social responsibility; public engagement; and care of creation. As a steward we are caretakers of God's creation, we try to honor His will and realize that we do not own anything, but everything we have comes from God.

Our parish is blessed with over 30 ministries that come under the umbrella of Stewardship, although we know them by many other names like Outreach, Adult education, etc. Our catholic education for children, adult bible study and prayer groups, along with simply participating in the liturgy, help us build our personal relationship with God. Social ministries that comfort the sick, reach out to the lonely, and deliver food to needy families are equally important. Our public engagement ministry includes respect life, prison ministry, providing meals for the poor at Father Pat's Kitchen, and Habitat for Humanity for our neighbors. We care for our creation through ministries such as decorating our worship space and keeping our grounds and buildings clean and safe for worship.

Yes, we are a stewardship parish. Generous giving comes from the heart and we must continue to increase our support and build up our parish. It is giving of ourselves; our time, talent and treasure, for all of God's creation, that makes us good and faithful stewards.

Please contact any of the ministry heads listed in the weekly bulletin if you would like more information or to join a particular ministry and plan to attend our Ministry Fair to be held later in the year when we get back to "normal."

For more information on the Stewardship ministry or to become a member of the Stewardship committee, please contact Rosemary or John Plesha at [pbocstewardship@gmail.com](mailto:pbocstewardship@gmail.com).

**STEWARDSHIP PRAYER**

*Generous and loving God,  
you call us to be disciples of your Son Jesus  
and good stewards of your many gifts.  
Open our minds and hearts  
to a greater awareness and deeper appreciation  
of your countless blessings.  
Transform us through the power of your Spirit  
to nurture a stewardship way of life  
marked by faith-filled prayer,  
service to our neighbor, and generous sharing.  
Teach us to be faithful servants of your gifts.  
With Mary's help, may we return ten-fold  
the gifts entrusted to us.  
We pray this through Christ, our Lord.  
Amen.*

- Bishop Robert Morneau

**PRECIOUS WORD****Knights of Columbus****Columbus H.O.P.E. Foundation**

We're all familiar with that old cliché that says, "Charity begins at home". Well, that saying is certainly true with the Knights of Columbus. In fact, most of the monies that our council here at PBOC raises is used right here in Pawleys Island. One of those many local charities that we support is a program called "Coats for Kids". For many years now, our council has worked closely with St. Christopher's Children in an ongoing effort to donate new coats each year to school-aged children who might otherwise have to go without or show up at the school bus stop clad in a hand-me-down coat. Each year, through an initiative spearheaded by our Supreme council, we are able to purchase coats in large quantities and at substantial discounts.

Our council could not accomplish any of the things we do without the loyal support of our parish community. Every time you patronize one of our fundraising events ... every time you buy a hot-dog at the ballpark or sit down to a delicious fish dinner or pancake supper...every time you sign up for the 200 Club, you help us to help our neighbors in need. This is just one example of where your contributions go to help those in need in our community.

The sign in front of our church reminds everyone that we are a stewardship parish and indeed we are. Many thanks to those who give of their time, their talent, and their treasure in helping council 11028 accomplish all the things that we do right here in our own community. Hillary Clinton once stated that "It takes a village to raise a child". We need to continue to be that village. May God continue to bless us all for all the good that we do.



**Emile Martineau and Robbie Crompton of the Knights of Columbus Council 11028 recently handed off a donation of Coats For Kids to representatives from St. Christopher's Children.**

**PRECIOUS WORD****Evangelization****An Attitude of Gratitude**

At Mepkin Abbey the monks make a sacred bow at the start of their prayer time, effectively getting their head below their heart. “The greatest distance is from the head to the heart.” (S. Augustine † 430) In these contentious times we are living through it is paramount to prioritize our hearts and God’s will in all circumstances. Our country is divided. We are amidst an election with issues such as race, politics, gender, and right to life being ferociously debated. Sadly, these debates have infiltrated our Christian community as well. God is about **UNITY** not division. “He must increase; I must decrease.” (John 3:30)

Holy Father keep them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one just as we are... Consecrate them in the truth. Your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, so I sent them into the world. And I consecrate myself for them, so that they also may be consecrated in truth. I pray not only for them, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, so that they may all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you, that they also may be in us, that the world may believe that you sent me. (John 17:3-21)

We need to speak the truth with love. Live the truth with the understanding that love unites us all to Christ! “Preach the Gospel often, if necessary, use words.” (S. Francis of Assisi † 1226). We must consider how to rouse one another to love and good works. (Heb 10:24) Then he said to all, “If anyone wishes to come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me for whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it. What profit is there for one to gain the whole world yet lose or forfeit himself?” (Lk 9:23-25) Jesus loved us to the point of death, His was a self-gift. Love is wanting the good of another for other. Prayer is linking our will to God’s. “It wasn’t toughness that got Jesus through the flight to Egypt, or His scourging at the pillar, or His crowning with thorns. It wasn’t due to toughness that Jesus embraced His cross. It wasn’t an exhibition of toughness when Jesus—covered in wounds and thorns and dirt—picked up His blood-drenched cross for the third time. It wasn’t toughness at all. It was love.” (John Clark, Catholic Blogger).

All men have sinned and are deprived of the glory of God. All men are now undeservedly justified by the gift of God, through the redemption wrought in Christ Jesus. Through his blood, God made him the means of expiation for all who believe. He did so to manifest his own justice. (Romans 3:23-25a)

We are his handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for the good works that God has prepared in advance, that we should live in them. (Ephesians 2:10) The happiest people are those who serve others, charity is the highest form of love.

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, proclaiming the mystery of God, I did not come with sublimity of words or of wisdom. For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. I came to you in weakness and fear and much trembling, and my message and my proclamation were not with persuasive words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of spirit and power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. (Corinthians 2:1-5)

“What am I? Just clay, dust. Yet, through your love, I am God-like. I am a God-bearer. O Jesus, Lord and Master, I fall at your feet and adore you with all the love and the power of my soul. I am yours to do with as you please. Teach me to see your will in all events. Teach me as you have taught the bee to gather honey from flowers. Teach me to gather your pleasure in all things that befall me.” (Servant of God Catherine de Hueck Doherty † 1985)

I, the Lord, have called you for the victory of justice, I have grasped you by the hand; I formed you, and set you as a covenant of the people, a light for the nations, to open the eyes of the blind, to bring out prisoners from confinement, and from the dungeon, those who live in darkness. (Isaiah 42:6-7) “The Church’s real contribution to liberation, which she can never postpone and which is most urgent today, is to proclaim truth in the world, to affirm that God is, that God knows us, and that God is as Jesus Christ has revealed him, and that, in Jesus Christ, he has given us the path of life.... Let us ask the Lord to visit the dungeons of this world; all the prisons which are hushed up by a propaganda which knows no truth, by a strategy of disinformation, keeping us in the dark and constituting our dungeon. Let us ask him to enter into the spiritual prisons of this age, into the darkness of our lack of truth, revealing himself as the Victor who tears down the gates and says to us, “I, your God, have become your Son. Come out! I have not created you to be in prison

**PRECIOUS WORD****Evangelization continued**

for ever. I did not make you for the dungeon." He calls us to let heaven shine into this world.... so that the light of heaven may shine forth in this world and the doors may be opened. Let us take his hand! Amen." (Pope Benedict XVI Pope from 2005 to 2013)

"The truth. Always the truth. Speak it and write it with respect and care. Speak it to others as you would have it spoken to you. And do it always in such a way as not to offend the sacred meaning of divine or human law, of innocence, of justice, or of peace." (S. Pope John XXIII (1881-1963)

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy. O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love; for it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. (S. Francis of Assisi † 1226)

Dear Jesus help me to spread Your fragrance wherever I go. Flood my soul with Your spirit and life. Penetrate and possess my whole being so utterly, that my life may only be a radiance of Yours. Shine through me and be so in me that every soul I come in contact with may feel Your presence in my soul. Let them look up and see no longer me, but only Jesus! Stay with me and then I shall begin to shine as You shine, so to shine as to be a light to others. The Light, O Jesus, will be all from You; none of it will be mine. It will be you, shining on others through me. Let me praise You the way You love best, by shining on those around me. Let me preach You without preaching, not by words but by my example, by the catching force of the sympathetic influence of what I do, the evident fullness of the love my heart bears to You. Amen. (S. John Henry Newman † 1890)

A poem written by (Saint) Mother Teresa † 1997 and engraved on the wall of her home for children in Calcutta: People are often unreasonable, illogical, and self-centered; Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives; Be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies; Succeed anyway.

If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you; Be honest and frank anyway.

What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight; Build anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, they may be jealous; Be happy anyway.

The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow; Do good anyway.

You see, in the final analysis, it is between you and God; It was never between you and them anyway.

"We can do no great things – only small things with great love.

Her business card:

The fruit of silence is prayer

the fruit of prayer is faith

the fruit of faith is love

the fruit of love is charity

the fruit of charity is peace.

"Let nothing disturb you, nothing frighten you. All things are passing; God never changes. Patient endurance attains to all things. Whoever possesses God is wanting in nothing. God alone suffices." (S. Teresa of Avila † 1582)

"Insignificant man, escape from your everyday business for a short while, hide for a moment from your restless thoughts. Break off from your cares and troubles and be less concerned about your tasks and labors. Make a little time for God and rest a while in him." (S. Anselm 11th century) Pray every day (spend time silently with God) so to make our hearts more like His, we will become peacemakers and Divinely love others as a result. We can be the change, the peace, and the hope that this world so desperately needs!

Lord Jesus Christ, true light of the world, you guide all mankind to salvation. Give us the courage, strength, and grace to build a world of justice and peace, ready for the coming of that kingdom. You live and reign for ever and ever. Amen. (LOH Morning prayer 9-1-2020)

## Cursillo

### **Christ Needs His Cursillistas**

Now, more than ever, CHRIST is counting on YOU. Yes...you. And that just happens to be a mantra of the Cursillo Movement. What is Cursillo you ask? If you have ever asked a Cursillista that question, you likely got a response like "Oh, you have to experience it to understand it."

It is definitely true for most people that, as a Catholic Christian, once you experience a Cursillo weekend, the door will be opened for you to walk closer with Christ on your personal journey through this life. It will truly be one of the most spiritually refreshing and rewarding weekends in your lifetime.

But...the stakes have changed. In a world where Satan appears to have gone beserk, Christ needs His faithful warriors to step up and battle for Him and with Him. One of the best ways to prepare for battle is to attend a Cursillo weekend, which is a short refresher course on Christianity and what is expected of us as Christians. It's a reminder weekend, an enlightening weekend, a FUN weekend! You will leave emboldened to spread His word and appreciate His blessings in your life.

The weekend is also about friendships made with like-minded men or women from across the state of South Carolina, men or women who are exceptional role models in their faith. They are the Cursillo team members, and they have given up their weekend to lead Christian brothers or sisters closer to Christ. Then there are the friendships made with men or women who, like you, come to the weekend for various personal reasons but who, hopefully like you, leave with an expanded friendship base that will last a lifetime.

So, will you accept God's call as Catholic Christians to be His hands, His feet, His mouth and to spread His love and words throughout the land? Don't be afraid. He has already given you the talents He needs you to use and, once you experience your weekend, you will have many strong friends who are walking the same path and can help you walk yours.

Contact the Cursillo leader in your parish, Sharon Roberts at [shroberts164@gmail.com](mailto:shroberts164@gmail.com) or any Cursillista in the parish now and tell him/her you would like to go to the next Cursillo Weekend. We can't wait to have you with us!



**PRECIOUS WORD****Music Ministry**

Jesus was tested in the desert. This was a time of exhaustive testing. This year at times has felt like a spiritual desert for many of us. It has felt like and continues to feel like we are being tested at this time with all of the restrictions being imposed on us.

The Choirs were busy at work learning new music; improving and expanding skills; and preparing for Holy Week. We had lined up concerts by performers from both here and abroad. Plans were also in the works for more instrumental involvement, as well as growing our liturgical music.

Then came the virus and all was brought to a halt.

Despite these restrictions we still wanted to make worship beautiful. We had to find creative ways to do this. We continue to strive to improvise, adapt and overcome.

With the youth being out of school and with the anxiety felt by everyone, it was decided to keep the Youth Choir rehearsals going throughout the summer. We were able to do this since the Youth Choir is a smaller group and we were able to follow guidelines.

As a result, the Youth Choir was able to provide music to further beautify our worship. In addition, two of our youth played the cello during the 10:30AM High Mass, even though due to a rise in the virus the Youth Choir's participation in the Mass had to cease, the cellos could remain at Mass.

The Royal School of Church Music in the U.K. (of which we are members), invited our Youth Choir to sing, "How Great Thou Art," for their Hymn For The Day as part of their outreach during this difficult time. They have shared it in the U.K. and you can hear and see them sing in parts and play their cellos on YouTube via this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ipUsCe4EOE>

Alternatively, you can also go on YouTube and type in: RSCM, Hymn for the Day, How Great Thou Art. To be sure you're watching the correct video, it should say below when the video starts, "Singing led by the Youth Choir of Precious Blood of Christ Catholic Church."

**We would be most grateful if you would support our Youth Choir by watching, liking and commenting about the video on YouTube!**

We now have Worship Guides and now we can fully participate by singing as faith community at the Mass. Please be assured, we would love to have all the choirs resume their rehearsals and to sing at the Mass, however, we are still figuring out the best way to safely do this.



**Cellists Manuela Marcantoni and Sophia Murphy**

In His service,

André

Director of Music and Liturgy

**PRECIOUS WORD****Outreach****Faith, Mercy and Justice Ministry**

WELCOME to our NEW MINISTRY which is replacing the Legislative Issues Ministry under Outreach

**NO VOTE = NO CHOICE = NO VOICE**

**VOTING is a BASIC RIGHT in this country which is the cornerstone of our democracy and a SERIOUS RESPONSIBILITY. As Citizens, this is how we shape a more perfect union.**

ALL VOTING STARTS LOCALLY. But our voting turnouts have been dismal. We are lucky if 15% to 25% of those registered to vote actually come out to vote in local and state elections and 50% at the national levels. There are many people eligible to vote who don't even register. They are from all walks of life with all kinds of excuses.

Voting and using reliable resources to obtain information on candidates are not as difficult as you might think. We are often swayed by sound bites and slogans rather than full carefully expressed ideas ABOUT ISSUES & POLICIES—NOT PERSONALITIES. Look for balanced reporting. There are always two sides to every issue; Your job is to hear both sides first and look at the pros and the cons. If it sounds too good/perfect to be true or too bad/awful to be true, it probably is NOT true.

- **CATHOLIC RESOURCES:** Catholic Miscellany, [www.EWTN.com](http://www.EWTN.com) (Eternal Word Television Network: Both TV and web page) , [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org) (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops) web page. All will all give you varying degrees of information regarding various issues and where our leaders stand on them and how they relate to our Catholic beliefs.
- **SCVOTES.ORG is the state voter website**
- Use [SCVotes.org](http://SCVotes.org) to get your sample ballot 30 days before the election. You can verify your voting status and know WHERE you will be voting and also what the rules are for absentee ballots. Due to the pandemic, precincts may be combined or moved. You can also call the Voter Registration & Election office in the county you reside in if you have questions—Georgetown 843-545-3339 and Horry 843-915-5440. If you can vote absentee, you can request an absentee ballot NOW. Be wary of any unsolicited mail saying a candidate or a political party will get you an absentee ballot. Absentee ballots must come from the Voter Registration & Election office & only be mailed back to that office or placed in an official ballot box – not from or to a candidate's office. If voting absentee, you can also go to the registrar's office within 30 days before the election and vote there. Remember to bring your identification.
- **FORUMS** are held by many groups and are easily accessed via reliable television channels. Hear candidates speak.
- **CANDIDATE WEB SITES** Check them out for their policies, views and values. Compare candidate responses.
- **DO NOT BASE YOUR VOTE ON ONE ISSUE.** Our values are many and we must pick and choose those values that are important to us. Think through and weigh carefully all the issues. Know our history.
- **RELIABLE SITES**—whether it be internet, TV, radio, etc. Beware of doctored material and sound bites.

**PRECIOUS WORD****Outreach continued**

- **HOW WILL THE CANDIDATE ACCOMPLISH THEIR GOALS?** Does the “how” conflict with our values, endanger our democracy or destroy our constitutional values? Every action has consequences. If they do not give the “how” they will accomplish a policy, ask why?
- **OPINION IS NOT FACT.** Editorials are only opinions. Even documentaries are biased. Statistics do not lie, but liars do know how to use statistics. Beware of one group or idea being painted as all good or all bad. Our congress and president work to balance the needs of people as individuals and groups, businesses and government. That is a tall order, a challenge and not easy.
- **BEWARE OF LABELS:** Very few people fit into one label; people wear many hats and are made up of various backgrounds. Labels are the sound bites to divert attention from real issues.
- **NAMES OF ORGANIZATIONS CAN BE DECEIVING.** Who are the people behind the name?
- **VERIFY INFORMATION: FACT CHECK** using various resources: Use the 3 Catholic web pages listed at the beginning of this list; factcheck.org; snopes.com; Ballotpedia.com; Vote411.com; Local newspapers and Local libraries have access to helpful materials and information; Wikipedia has synopses of most candidates’ political positions and some dates of debates/forums.

**There are NO EASY ANSWERS.** We live in a complicated world. Take the time to read the complete policies of any candidate’s web site to get a better understanding of a candidate’s views and explanations. If you don’t know the meaning of something, look it up.

Above all pray for our country and our world to come together as one to solve our mutual problems. We are all God’s people.

The last day to register to vote is 10/2/2020 if you are not already a registered voter. PLEASE VOTE ON NOVEMBER 3, 2020.



**VOTE = CHOICE = VOICE**

### Meals on Wheels

The Meals on Wheels Ministry works in conjunction with Georgetown County. Meals on Wheels serves homebound residents of Litchfield, Pawleys Island and Murrells Inlet communities.

Volunteers are scheduled to deliver meals to the homes of the needy. Most Volunteers deliver one time a month for approximately 3 hours, either on a Monday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday. Tuesday deliveries are made only when a holiday fall on a Monday. Monday volunteers deliver 2 meals, therefore a total of 5 meals are delivered each week. Food is readied in the kitchen at the Waccamaw Regional Recreation Center on Duncan Avenue in Pawleys Island. Volunteers pick up 2 coolers, one for hot food and another for cold items. The deliveries are routed for efficient and timely deliveries.

This ministry only requires a 3-hour, one-time-a-month commitment. If interested, please contact Maureen or Mike Stuart at 704-458-6760 or [maureenstuart@bellsouth.net](mailto:maureenstuart@bellsouth.net).

(Due to the Covid 19 virus, volunteer deliveries have been temporarily suspended. All meals are being delivered by county employees)

**PRECIOUS WORD****Outreach continued****Father Pat's Kitchen**

**Still serving meals -  
in a socially-distanced-safe environment**



If becoming “unemployed” from a Volunteer Job were a real thing, we would report that we have over 100 “unemployed volunteers” at Father Pat’s Kitchen. All of the volunteers are anxious to get back to the routine of setting up, preparing the food, serving our guests and even cleaning up after, but we all understand the need to protect the safety and health of all.

We are still able to continue this Outreach Ministry, through the cooperation of two area restaurants (Pawleys Island Bakery and Deborah G’s Catering) as well as the generous donations that have come in from parishioners and in memory of loved ones, to Father Pat’s Kitchen.

Although we are not there in person, over the past 2 months we have still been providing food on Wednesday and Thursday here at Precious Blood, as a **PBOC Drive-Through Pick-Up Service**. For a few weeks we provided lunches on Wednesday and Dinners on Sunday. Evaluating the needs of those who came for pick-up, we then changed to lunches on Wednesday and Thursday. Steadily, we have distributed 100 or so lunches each of those days, each week.

Not only are we continuing with the food, but the friendly interaction between the guests, the restaurant employees and parish staff as the cars roll up, is a bright spot in everyone’s day. Some days we have boxes of fruits or vegetables to also hand out. On Mother’s Day, every lady who came through received a carnation and sprig of baby’s breath from Deborah G., herself. Some of the gentlemen guests also took carnations, in memory of one of their loved ones.

We are happy that we will continue this drive-through service as long as needed, until we can recall our “unemployed volunteers” back to service. They have been patient, caring and understanding as have all of our neighbors/guests.

Good news for the future also includes the fact that ground-breaking for a new kitchen and renovations to Founders Hall, will begin in early October! The total renovations will take approximately 3 months, so the kitchen will be closed until that is all completed. It has been perfect timing, with the present situation, so that we do not have to close again after we open. The Bicentennial Campaign provided the funding for this important change and we are happy to have that moving forward. God has been good to us, again, in this strange time in our lives.

Linda Cherry 🌸

FPLK Volunteer Scheduler

**PRECIOUS WORD****Religious Education**

Out of an abundance of caution due to COVID, Religious Education at PBOC for *grades K-6* will be offered as a Home Study parent-led program through December, 2020. PBOC will provide all of the materials and support parents need through our partnership with Pflaum Gospel Weeklies. Pflaum.com has enhanced their lessons and support to help parents confidently prepare their children in the faith.

Confirmation preparation for *grades 8 and 9* will begin in-person in the Chapel at the end of September. An online home-study program is available for Confirmation preparation to those families who would feel more comfortable with a remote option. The sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated at PBOC for 9<sup>th</sup> grade students on Friday, December 11 at 7:00 p.m.

A special “Back to School” Mass will be celebrated at PBOC on Sunday, September 20 at 4:00 p.m. Religious education materials may be picked up at that time. Materials will be mailed to those unable to attend. While our world has changed, our mission has not: facilitating an encounter with Jesus Christ, whose grace is present everywhere!



Are you curious about the Roman Catholic Faith? Are you the non-Catholic spouse of a Catholic and have always “thought about” becoming Catholic or perhaps you’ve observed the practice of the Catholic faith in friends or coworkers and wanted to know more? All adults interested in learning more about the Roman Catholic Church are invited to attend an informational session at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 24 in the Chapel at Precious Blood of Christ Catholic Church.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, RCIA, is a series of small-group classes on the beliefs and practices of the Roman Catholic Church, and through prayer and discernment, culminates with the full reception of the individual into the Catholic Church at Easter. RCIA is conducted under the guidance and direction of the Diocese of South Carolina, our pastor Fr. Paul MacNeil and lay facilitators. We will also offer a home-study program for those who prefer a remote option.

If you are interested in learning more about RCIA, please contact the Parish Office at 843-237-3428 ext 8.

**Youth Ministry**

Youth Ministry for grades 6-12 will resume in September. Parent volunteers will provide social, service and catechetical activities. Watch the PBOC website, Instagram and Facebook Youth Page for upcoming programs and events!

## PRECIOUS WORD

Precious Blood of Christ Catholic Parish  
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Pawleys Island, SC 29585  
address service requested

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Precious WORD  
Information and Inspiration for  
the parishioners of  
Precious Blood of Christ  
Catholic Parish

Published semi-annually

Editor  
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pboc@aol.com

Save  
the  
Date



### Upcoming Special Masses

**All Saints Day** - November 1 - Sunday Mass schedule

**All Souls Day** - November 2  
Masses: 8:30 AM, 12:00 PM at Columbarium,  
6:00 PM with candle ceremony for this year's deceased

**Mass for Deceased Spouses** - November 12, 8:30 AM

**Mass for Deceased Children** - November 17, 8:30 AM

**Knights of Columbus Memorial Mass** - November 19, 6:00 PM

**Immaculate Conception** - Holyday of Obligation - December 8  
Masses: 6:00 PM vigil (Dec. 7), 8:30 AM, 6:00 PM

**Confirmation** - December 11, 4:00 PM