

Knights of Columbus

Stop by the Knights of Columbus' booth at Fair on the Square during July Fridays on the 11th, 18th, and/or 25th to say 'hi' and grab a cold drink, popcorn, or cotton candy.

~ *Sunday Bible Reflections* ~

Jesus is portrayed in the Gospel as a new and greater Moses. Moses, the meekest man on earth, was God's friend, and only he knew God "face to face." Moses gave Israel the yoke of the Law, through which God first revealed Himself and how we are to live.

Jesus, too, is meek and humble, but He is more than God's friend -- He is the Son who alone knows the Father. He is more also than a law-giver, presenting Himself today as the yoke of a new Law, and as the revealed Wisdom of God.

As Wisdom, Jesus was present before creation as the firstborn of God, the Father and Lord of heaven and earth, and He gives knowledge of the holy things of the kingdom of God.

In the gracious will of the Father, Jesus reveals these things only to the "childlike" -- those who humble themselves before Him as little children. These alone can recognize and receive Jesus as the just Savior and meek King promised to daughter Zion, Israel, in the First Reading. We are also called to childlike faith in the Father's goodness, as sons and daughters of the new kingdom, the Church.

We are to live by the Spirit we received in baptism putting to death our old ways of thinking and acting, as Paul exhorts in today's Epistle. Our "yoke" is to be His new law of love by which we enter into the "rest" of His kingdom.

We joyously await the day when we will praise His name forever in the kingdom that lasts for all ages. This is the Sabbath rest promised by Jesus first anticipated by Moses but which still awaits the people of God.

Dr. Scott Hahn

A Thought on Second Reading from Romans

If we watch too many TV commercials, we easily forget that there is more to us than what we eat, what we wear, or what we drive. Paul reminds us that we are not "debtors to the flesh." We concentrate on the Spirit of God, who gives us the gift of everlasting life. We are called to "put to death" deeds of selfishness and greed.

Faith Formation

Early registration for the 2014-15 Religious Education Programs. Stop in the office during the summer. Cost: \$15.

Catechist Formation: Formation may now be done at home online! mycatholicfaithdelivered.com/Albany.

Catechists are needed at both Parishes for the upcoming year so please consider helping with our programs. Helpers are always welcome.

Interested in Becoming a Catholic? or, as a Catholic, you did not receive all your sacraments. Call the office to find out about RCIA classes.

Parenting Pointers by Susan Vogt

What does it mean to be a "free" in a family? Certainly it does not mean being free to avoid chores, make decisions solely on one's own, or do whatever we please. As parents and children we have responsibilities to each other. We don't choose our children or parents. However, we are free to choose to love unconditionally.

Vacation Bible Schools

Two summer vacation bible schools in our area:

Trek Back in Time- Delhi First Presbyterian
July 20-24, 6 to 8:15 pm, call 746.2155

Weird Animals- Delhi Alliance Church
August 4-8, 6 to 8:30 pm, call 746.3714

Retreats

Dominican Retreat Conference Center 518.393.4169

August 15-17: Drawing Closer to God--Creating Prayer Mandalas
What is a mandala? It is another form of prayer. Brother Mickey invites us to discover a new way to pray that is actually pretty ancient: COLORING! Anyone willing to try can draw and meditate at the same time, as St. Hildegard of Bingen did in the Middle Ages. With her as our guide and inspiration, we will use basic materials and simple shapes to discover inner peace and the presence of God. NO prior art talent required. Mickey O'Neil McGrath, OSFS Cost: **\$195** (65 & over - \$180)