



**Most Holy Trinity Parish Festival
Fowler, MI
JULY 28 – 31, 2016**

THURSDAY, JULY 28

5:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Classic Car Show—downtown Fowler

FRIDAY, JULY 29

9:30 am - 5:30 pm

Fowler Downtown Sidewalk Sales

6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Social Tent Happy Hour (1/2 off drinks)

7:00 pm - 11:30 pm

Social Tent (drinks, pulled pork and pizza available)

7:00 pm – 11:00 pm

Vegas Tent (Blackjack, Let it Ride, Money Wheel)

SATURDAY, JULY 30

8:00 am

Volleyball Tournament

9:30 am – 3:00 pm

Fowler Downtown Sidewalk Sales

4:00 pm

Mass

6:00 pm

Mass

7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Touch a Truck

Dusk

Family Movie Night at Fink Field - "The Incredibles" - Concessions Available (in case of rain, movie will be canceled)



SUNDAY, JULY 31

8:00 am

3 on 3 Basketball

10:00 am

Mass

10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Country Store (Activity Center)

11:00 am – 7:00 pm

Inflatables

11:00 am

Burgers, Pizza & more available

11:00 am – 6:30 pm

Food Court open in the Activity Center (BBQ chicken, pulled pork, gravy burgers & pizza)

11:30 am

"Super Heroes" Parade

12:00 noon- 5:00 pm

Children's Games

12:00 noon – 5:00 pm

Arts and Crafts Wheel (must be 18 to play)

1:00 pm

Bean Bag Toss & Saw Dust Pit

1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Bingo in Msgr. Koenigsknecht Hall (air conditioned)

5:30 pm

Entertainment in the Activity Center

6:30 pm

Raffle Drawings



Welcome!

I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone to our annual Parish Festival.

Our theme this year is Super Heroes.

Every culture has always held up certain individuals, whether real or mythical to remind us that there are certain core values we need: Courage, Fortitude, Truth, Love, Sacrifice and so on. For Christians we hold up the Saints as our ultimate heroes, because their strength and virtues come from Christ Jesus, the Man/God who climbed the mount of Calvary and died for our sins and rose for our Salvation.

He reveals to us a power and heroism that the world cannot provide us.

I hope your time with us will be blessed and joyful.

Thanks to all the staff and volunteers who helped to make all this possible. God bless.

Fr. Dennis, Pastor of Most Holy Trinity

From the Pastor's Desk

"Transformation not affirmation"

When we love and serve God, we discover our true dignity

It is interesting to note that our culture is obsessed with the power of the positive, self-affirmation and the pursuit of ones "dreams." We are told constantly that we can achieve our dreams, although deep down, we know that is not always the case, all the more an indicator that our secular culture has lost touch with reality. Despite the fact that we have created this culture of self-help, we seem to be more violent, restless and unhappy. Not long ago, I read this article by Taylor Marshall and thought it would be a good reflection for us all. God bless, Fr. Dennis

In defense of "I am not worthy" in the Roman Mass

The Huffington Post recently published an article titled "Dear Pope Francis, End the Religious Ritual that Devalues Human Life" by Christine Horner.

Ms. Horner writes:

"Every single day before communion, millions of Christians

verbally declare one of the most destructive phrases in human history." Stop the press. The tribunal of the Huffington Post's Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith has made a judgment. According to them, Catholics are daily reciting: "one of the most destructive phrases in human history." How awful. Catholics are ruining their self-esteem *daily* by saying these words in public: **"Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed."** This statement, a recitation of Matthew 8:8, she claims, is one of the most destructive phrases in human history...and it has a long history. Every Roman Catholic Pope, bishop, priest, and pious laymen has been reciting this (biblical) phrase *daily* for almost 2000 years. Yet according to Ms. Horner this acclamation of "unworthiness" is one of the most destructive things a Christian can say. She is incorrect, but I can see where she is coming from. Our American culture is a cult of self-esteem. In the United States, we are taught that depression, theft, rape, murder, racism, war, unemployment, etc. are essentially caused by a lack of self-esteem.

From the Pastor Continued . . .

Dignus, Dignity, and the *Imago Dei*

Since our culture has lost its roots in the virtue tradition of Christendom, we no longer understand human dignity in terms of being conformed to the *imago Dei* (image of God). Our worth is no longer related to a divine being that loved to create us and loves to redeem us. True human dignity relies on theism. When we say in Mass “Lord, I am not worthy, the Latin is “Domine, non sum *dignus*.” You don’t need to know Latin to see that *dignus* (Latin: “worthy”) is related to our English term “dignity.” This is where Ms. Horner at the Huffington Post misses the mark. She claims that our saying, “Lord I am not worthy” is a form “negative reinforcement.” For her it confirms the alleged Catholic strategy of drowning people in guilt and unworthiness – which to her translates as fostering low self-esteem.

Self-Esteem or God-Esteem

The Huffington Post lacks the theological foundation to understand that promoting self-esteem without God-esteem is the path to destruction and sorrow. The “You go girl!” culture of self-affirmation and self-esteem trumpeted by secularist outlets like the Huff-Po for the last 30 years attempts to produce “esteem” from a collective. If enough people say, “You are so beautiful” then this will translate to a girl truly believing she is beautiful. If enough people just say, “You are so intelligent,” it will translate into intelligent people.

The problem for them is that this approach to esteem relies on a consistent collective that reinforces the message. This is why “bullies” are such a problem in the modern self-esteem cult. They are destroying the collective affirmation process. And then there is also the inconsistent messaging. Every one is told they are equally special and worthy, but the media outlets quietly suggest that some are more special and worthy. Taylor Swift, Robert Downey Jr, Jennifer Lawrence, Johnny Depp, Ryan Gosling, and Emma Stone seem to be more worthy than the rest of us. So where do we find esteem or worthiness?

Worthiness, Suffering, and Martyrdom

When we look at Christianity at the turn of the 4th century, we find Christians standing up to the supreme arbitrator and law giver (the Roman Emperor) and the entire political/social collective (the Roman Empire) for the sake of a *dignus* that was not granted by collective, the media, the culture, or the secular state. They discovered a divine *dignus*. For example, the martyr Saint Agnes of Rome cannot be persuaded to abandon Christ, her virginity, her modesty, or her virtue. Why is she so strong? Because the collective is coming together to affirm her? No, she is so strong because she finds herself unworthy of anything outside of her life *in Christo*. Her esteem is thousands of times higher than the richest matrons of Rome – even higher than that of the senator or emperor himself. If Christ rose from the dead, and Christ is truly “under her roof,” well then she has it all.

The Huffington Post and the women’s mags at the supermarket checkout line are trying to lift “self-esteem” to empower people to love themselves and value themselves.

They are telling us, “Don’t say ‘I’m unworthy,’ but rather say ‘I am worthy of everything.’ Deep down inside say to yourself, ‘I have a perfect body. I’m rich. I’m popular. I’m basically Leonardo DiCaprio/Taylor Swift,’ and then you will be so!” But let’s be honest. That doesn’t work. And even if you

are the sexiest or richest person of the year, does that translate to worthiness and happiness? Apparently not. Liturgical Worthiness Our liturgical affirmation *Domine non sum dignus* (Lord I am not worthy in Latin) is not isolated. It is placed in a context. Let’s look at its location within the Roman Rite:

Eucharistic Prayer
Our Father
The kiss of peace
Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)
“Lord I’m not worthy...”

Reception of Communion

The acclamation, “Behold the Lamb of God” (John 1:29) by Saint John the Baptist is theologically proximate to “I am not worthy,” since John the Baptist also says, “even he who comes after me, the thong of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie” (John 1:27). The Christian who says, “I am not worthy” has just recited the Our Father, declaring that God is our Father. Not something we are inherently worthy of, but something He grants as a gratuitous gift. Next, the believer hears “The peace of the Lord be with you.” The liturgical context is essential familial, peaceful, and redemptive. We do say, “I am not worthy,” but the “but” is important. We say, “*but* only say the word and my soul shall be healed.” This statement is an affirmation of hope! And what is the next phrase that the priest proclaims to the Christian? He proclaims, “The Body of Christ,” and the believer receives the Eucharist. That is the word that makes clean. That is the word that makes worthy.

Conclusion on “Being Worthy”

Ms. Horner does a disservice by isolating one line of liturgical text from the whole of the Eucharistic liturgy. Most non-Catholics have no idea about its placement proximate to the Our Father, the peace, or the climax of Catholic liturgy in the reception of the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Christ. Most non-Catholic readers do not understand that Christ enters “under the roof” of our mouths and that we become one in Him and He in us. Yet this is where we find our worthiness. When we esteem God, we find our dignity fully. God designed it that way.

Sadly, the cultural self-esteem cult of finding an ever larger and louder voice of affirmation will not transform a man or woman into something beautiful or truly worthy. Only God can do that for us. Without this Eucharistic miracle “under our roofs,” we will continue to be plagued by cultural decline, despair, and violence. With your kindness and love, share the Gospel with others. Invite them to Mass with you this Sunday. Let others see the hope that we have in the Eucharist.

Godspeed, Taylor Marshall

Sponsor of the Week

Our thanks to the many businesses that make it possible for the bulletin to be cost-free to our parish.

Rademacher Insurance Agency

Announcements



**Educational Trust Fund Campaign
Legacy of Faith, Future of Hope**

I just wanted to update everyone as to where we are at this point in our Fund Raising Campaign for the Educational Trust Fund. As of July 25th there have been 120 total donors that pledged a total of \$129,396 with \$76,355 paid. Our pledge amount is now at 43% of our 300,000 goal. Thanks to everyone who has contributed so far, and a reminder that it's not too late to give to the Campaign. Thanks also to all the members of the ETF team who worked so hard to put this campaign together.

God bless, Fr. Dennis

Thinking about the Priesthood ?

On **Sunday, August 14th from 3:00 till 6:00 pm.** there will be a gathering at Bethany House in DeWitt, Michigan with our bishop, Earl Boyea and many priests and seminarians from our Diocese.

There will be a time during the gathering when some of the seminarians will share their vocation story and what it's like to be in the seminary. Our bishop will be there as well to answer questions.

Afterwards there will be evening prayer and then a BBQ. If you are interested in going, please contact Fr. Dennis and we will arrange for transportation. There is no cost.

**Principal of Most Holy Trinity School
Anne Hufnagel—AnneH@mhtparish.com**

MHT School – Connecting Faith to Life

Registration: Registration for Most Holy Trinity School will be ongoing throughout the summer months. The following URL and QR code will still be active or you can email me at principal@mhtparish.com to get more information, to schedule a visit, or to register. <http://goo.gl/forms/Hxq5uzMXKS>



Heart of **Jesus**
Holy Hour
"Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est"
Where there is love, there is God
6:30 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.
The Thursday before the first Friday of each month.
CONFESSION
ADORATION
PRAYER TEAMS

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: August 4 from 6:30 - 8:00 pm and Friday morning after the 8:15 am Mass until Benediction at noon.

Confessions: Thursday, August 4 before First Friday: after 8:15 morning Mass and 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. or every Saturday: 3:30 - 4:00 p.m. or anytime by appointment.

News & Events From Our Parish & Other Areas

50/50 Support the Faith Raffle

Thank you to all who took part in the Knights of Columbus Support the Faith 50/50 raffle. This week's winners of **\$100** each are **Darrin Feldpausch, Barb Thelen, and...Barb Thelen again!** Tickets are still available for the 13 remaining drawings and can be purchased by contacting Kurt Koenigsknecht or Kurt Thelen.

Having difficulty navigating the return of fertility postpartum?

Dealing with infertility? Are you on birth control for "medical reasons"? Experiencing PMS?

Struggling with painful periods that cause you to take time off from life?

Heartbroken from frequent miscarriage?

**Enduring the many side effects of PCOS/PCOD?
Contemplating using IVF because nothing else has worked?**

If you answered yes to any of these questions, the Creighton Model can provide the answers, and solutions, you are looking for! It is a method of natural family planning (NFP) that is proven up to 99% effective for couples using it to avoid a pregnancy. It has 3 times the success rate of invitro-fertilization (IVF) at helping couples with infertility to achieve a pregnancy. All this at a fraction of the cost! The method is in line with Church teachings and provides real solutions for couples without placing them in morally compromising situations.

With the Creighton Model we seek to get to the root cause of what the body is telling us and heal the underlying health problem! You do not have to suffer through another menstrual cycle without being on your way to getting answers, experiencing hope, and healing.

Using birth control to "correct" a problem may help alleviate, or lessen, symptoms but at best it is a band aid solution. It may regulate long cycles but it does not cause those cycles to be more fertile or to heal what is causing the abnormally long cycles!

Get the help you need today! Contact Rita Johnson, FCP your local practitioner at (517) 775-7229 to get information about how to learn this revolutionary way of charting and get on track to finding solutions!!

August 9th at 6:30 PM at St Joe's Pewamo

Learn about the scientific basis for the system and how to track a woman's reproductive cycles to achieve or avoid a pregnancy and/or for reproductive health maintenance. The Creighton Model is also effective and helpful for those couples who are experiencing infertility. All are welcome: catechists/teachers, parents, priests, religious, parish staff members, couples, and singles who may want to share this information with families and women in their parishes. Private follow-ups may be scheduled following the presentation for those interested in learning the system. Session is \$50 to attend, materials are \$45 if taken, and follow-up appointments are \$50 each. (If you would like to attend but the cost is prohibitive please let Rita know.)

Questions or to register e-mail or call Rita at littlekerry-sacres@gmail.com or (517)775-7229.

Readings for the Week of July 31, 2016

Monday Jeremiah 28:1-17; Psalms 119:29, 43, 79, 80, 95, 102; Matthew 14:13-21
Tuesday Jeremiah 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22; Psalms 102:16-18, 19-21, 29, and 22-23; Matthew 14:22-36 or 15:1-2, 10-14
Wednesday Jeremiah 31:1-7; Jeremiah 31:10, 11-12ab, 13; Matthew 15:21-28
Thursday Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalms 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19; Matthew 16:13-23
Friday Nahum 2:1, 3, 3:1-3, 6-7; Deuteronomy 32:35cd-36ab, 39abcd, 41; Matthew 16:24-28
Saturday Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14; Psalms 97:1-2, 5-6, 9; 2 Peter 1:16-19; Luke 9:28b-36

Please pray for our friends and relatives who are sick or recovering especially: Frieda Gallagher, Carl Stump, Regina Martin, Sean Dush, Evan Pung, Charlene Thelen, Davison Curtin, Jeffrey Lee Thelen, Luke Martin, Sara Sanchez, Melissa Schulte, Kenny Briganti, Sharon (Thelen) Droste, Theresa Fox, Marie Hengesbach, Edward Wohlscheid, Linda Rogala, Sarah Weber, Jean Schafer, Don Simon, Roman Arens, Julie Wieber Schafer, Irene (Luttig) Weber, Maryann Esch, Bill Barns, Bob Marshall, Dennis Smith, Sandy Herta, Fr. Bill Koenigsknecht, Dick Rehmann, Pam (Thelen) Stump, Janet Simmon, Scott Kus, Steve Thelen, Tracy Schmitt, Msgr. Sylvester Fedewa, Bryce Bongard, Gregg Platte, Charles Douglass, Fr. Dennis Howard, Frank Hufnagel, Frances Thelen, Arlene McCausey and a special intention.

Please contact the parish office to inform us when we can add or remove a person's name from the list. Thank you.

Let us also keep in our prayers all those from the Parish Community who are in the Armed Services.

MHT Scrip – Summer Schedule

Scrip that is kept in stock will be available at the parish office from 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. **Scrip orders will continue to be placed each Monday throughout the summer.**

Congratulations!

The lucky winner of the 2nd drawing from the early festival ticket returns is **Glen Bierschbach**. He will receive a \$25.00 Scrip certificate.

Congratulations Glen!



The Rosary is prayed before the 8:15 a.m. weekday Mass. The intention for this week is to pray for our government leaders, that they will protect the religious freedoms of all people.

Most Holy Trinity

July 31, 2016

Pastor - Fr. Dennis Howard

Parish Office Hours 8am-12pm & 1pm-3pm

To Contact Us:

Parish Office: 593-2162

Fax: 593-2171

E-Mail: office@mhtparish.com

Website: mhtparish.com

Most Holy Trinity School: 593-2616



Masses For The Week

Monday - August 1

7:00 p.m. + Donald J. Kramer & Living & Deceased Members of the Family

Tuesday - August 2

8:15 a.m. + Barbara Parsons, Including Richard, Marian, & Jeff

Wednesday – August 3

6:00 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration for Vocations

7:00 p.m. + Alvin Goerge & Living & Deceased Members of the Family

Thursday – August 4

8:15 a.m. + Joseph & Pauline Martin & Living & Deceased Members of the Family

6:30 p.m. Praise, Adoration & Confession

Friday – August 5 - First Friday

8:15 a.m. + Katherine & Joseph Koenigsknecht

Saturday - August 6 - First Saturday

8:15 a.m. + Mass Has Been Cancelled

4:30 p.m. + Roger Skaggs & Living & Deceased Members of the Family

Sunday - August 7

8:30 a.m. People of the Parish

10:30 a.m. Living & Deceased Members of the Fowler Knights of Columbus

Ushers for Saturday & Sunday, August 6 & 7

4:30 p.m. - Tony Schafer, Jerome R. Thelen, Lonnie Schueller, Volunteer

8:30 a.m. - Tim Koenigsknecht, Paul Pung, Ryan Pung, Kurt Koenigsknecht

10:30 a.m. - Joe Theis, Terry Theis, Tyler Theis, Jarud Koenigsknecht

Mass Servers for Saturday & Sunday, August 6 & 7

4:30 p.m. - Sam, Anna & Jack Vanneste, Brandon Platte

8:30 a.m. - Kara & Olivia Esch, Logan Klein, Tony Hufnagel

10:30 a.m. - Christi & Mary Spitzley, Mariele Feldpausch, Chad Klein

Mass Servers During This Week

Mon., 7:00 p.m. - Gavin Klein, Keegan Klein

Tues., 8:15 a.m. - Candis & Jordan Myers

Wed., 7:00 p.m. - Colin & Olivia Feldpausch

Thur., 8:15 a.m. - Liam & Grace O'Hare

Fri., 8:15 a.m. - Roman Schafer, Peter Simon

Sat., 8:15 a.m. - Mass Cancelled

Please note that the Saturday, August 6, 8:15am Mass has been cancelled. Sorry about any inconvenience.

**Our Parish Stewardship
God's Treasure at Most Holy Trinity**

July 23 & 24 Collection..... \$ 10,119.50

Parish Collections

Capitol Improvement.....\$120.00

Newspapers and Periodicals.....\$ 35.00

Spread the Faith.....\$ 10.00

Assumption of Mary.....\$ 10.00

Peter's Pence Collection.....\$ 10.00

MHT School.....\$550.00