The Inland See

Fulfilled in Your Hearing: The Importance of Proclamation At Mass



he liturgy can be described as two movements: the movement of God toward us and our movement toward God. In the Liturgy of the Word, we experience both types of movement. We have begun our movement toward God by gathering as one assembly in gesture, word, and song. We prepare our hearts and minds for worship as we celebrate the Penitential Rite. We give praise to God in the Gloria. Now we sit and hear God speak to us through Scriptures.

The Liturgy of the Word should not be a time filled with private prayers, but rather a time of reflection and meditation on what is being proclaimed to the assembly. Here the movement shifts: Our prayer is not filled with our words to God, but God's Word to us. As a Church, we gather to listen to what God offers in Scripture.

Some have asked why there aren't bibles in the pews or why we do not read directly from the bible as certain Protestant denominations are accustomed to doing. For the Catholic engaged in liturgy, it's important to keep two things in mind: We are not individuals worshiping God apart from one another but rather a community of believers that has come together as church.

For Catholics, although individual reading of the bible is commended and encouraged, at liturgy, it is insufficient since an individual reading of the bible is just that — individual reading. For many Protestant traditions that place emphasis on Scripture, it is the written word that predominates in worship. For Catholics, it is the words that are spoken and sung within a community that takes precedence. It is this community — the Church — that receives what is spoken. It is this community, then, that is moved by the spoken word to profess its faith and offer prayers in petition. It is this community nourished by the Word of God that takes bread and wine and offers them to God, who in turn offers to us the gift of the Son's Body and Blood in the Eucharist.

I like to think of the proclamation of Scripture as a sacramental exchange — a gift exchange. The proclamation of Scripture involves the acts of giving and receiving. God, through the ministry of the lector in proclaiming Scripture, gives the Holy Word of God to the People of God in the assembly. At the same time, the assembly receives that Word with open hearts and minds in the act of listening.

As Catholics, we believe that we encounter the Presence of Christ in the Holy Scripture that is proclaimed in the assembly. Think about the other time we engage in the act of giving and receiving at Mass? In the act of offering and receiving Holy Communion do we find another sacramental exchange — giving and receiving the presence of Christ in the Most Holy Eucharist.

Let us then listen attentively to the proclamation of the Holy Word of God, for within the proclamation of Scripture, God draws close to us, offering the gift of His presence within that very proclamation.

— Josh Perry is director of the Office of Worship for the Diocese of Burlington.



Upcoming Events



06|24 - 08|04 MONDAY - FRIDAY

Totus Tuus

Totus Tuus is one week long, with the grade school (grades 1-8) session during the day

from 9am to 3pm, and a session for high school students each evening. The week is led by our enthusiastic team of Totus Tuus missionaries! To download a registration form, visit: vermontcatholic.org/totustuus.

June 25–30 St. Peter, Vergennes

St. Monica, Barre

July 9–14 Sacred Heart-St. Francis deSales, Bennington

Christ the King, Rutland

July 16–21 Mater Dei, Newport

St. John Vianney, South Burlington

July 23–28 St. John the Baptist, Enosburg Falls

Blessed Sacrament, Stowe

July 30—Aug. 4 Corpus Christi, St. Johnsbury

Ascension, Georgia



06|28 & 07|05 WEDNESDAYS

Summer Lecture Series on Stained Glass: A Foretaste of Heaven

Saint Michael, Brattleboro • 5 pm

A program on the saints pictured in the stained glass windows will be presented in the church by a number of visiting priests, artisans and teachers starting on June 28. The program begins at 5 pm with evening prayer followed by the presentation. The first program will be given by Father Greg Markey, chaplain at Thomas Aquinas College, and will focus on the window featuring Saint Joseph. The second program will be given by Dr. Jennifer Healy, Ph.D in Visual and Language Arts, and will focus on the window featuring Saint Patrick.



06|29 THURSDAY

Catechism Study

St. Michael, Brattleboro • 9 am

This catechism study led by Fr. Henry Furman every Thursday at 9 am via Zoom or at the rectory office. Email the rectory at stmichael@vermontcatholic.org to provide your email address if you'd like to receive the Zoom link.



07|01 SATURDAY

First Saturday Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Our Lady of Fatima requested this devotion for

Reparation to the her Immaculate Heart. This includes attending five consecutive first Saturday masses, going to confession within eight days, receiving Holy Communion, and meditating on the mysteries of the Rosary for fifteen minutes.



07102, 08106 SUNDAYS

Eucharistic Healing Service

St. John the Evangelist • 3 pm
Benediction and Exposition of the Blessed

Sacrament on the first Sunday of every month with Fr. Harlow.



07|09, 08|13 SUNDAYS

Monthly COSP KofC Fund Raising Breakfast

Christ Our Savior, Manchester • 9 am - 12 pm Supporting Parish and Community outreach programs.



07|09 SUNDAY

Annual Diocesan Family Day Mass and Picnic

St. Anne's Shrine, Isle La Motte • 12:15 pm

Msgr. John McDermott will be the celebrant. The shrine will be providing a free-will-donation barbecue after the Mass. Visitors are welcome to bring their own picnic as well as lawn chairs and lawn games.



07|09, 16, 23, 30 SUNDAYS

Teachings on Spiritual Discernment

St. John the Evangelist, St. Johnsbury • 1 pm For four Sundays in July during which Fr.

Harlow and Deacon Tom Lovett will offer sessions dealing with spiritual discernment. The sessions will include teaching and time for discussion. Plan to come and bring a friend!



07|13, 14, 15, 16 THURSDAY — SUNDAY

Padre Pio Relic Events

Padre Pio Relics will be touring the diocese, visiting four locations July 13 – 16. See parish

websites for specific times regarding special Masses and veneration of the relics.

07|13 — St. Mary Star Of The Sea, Newport Veneration 9 am – 6:30 pm, Mass 6:30 pm

07 | 14 - St. Monica, Barre

Veneration 7 am – 7 pm, Mass 7 am 07|15 — Christ the King, Burlington

Veneration 10:30 am – 6:00 pm , Mass 10 am 07 | 16 — St. John the Baptist, Bennington

Veneration 10:30 am - 6 pm, Mass 10 am



07|30 SUNDAY

St. Mary's Church Brunch

St. Mary, Franklin • 8 am - 12:30 pm Adults \$12, children 7-16 yrs. \$8, under 7 are

free. All you can eat! Take-outs are available.



"Jesus' Divinity is veiled in us once we receive his precious body. Once received, the choice is ours... do we bring Him to others by how we live our life? Or do we keep Him all to ourselves, entombed inside us?"

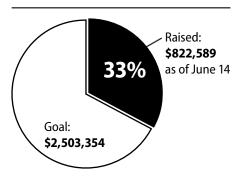
> — Julie Trevor St. Ambrose, Bristol

Read the full Eucharistic Testimonial and others at: vermontcatholic.org/eucharistic-testimonials

Submit your Eucharistic Testimonial to: revival@vermontcatholic.org



Progress: 33% to goal



Ways to give

Give Online

vermontcatholic.org/giveonline or scan the QR code below.



Donate By Mail

Bishop's Annual Appeal Diocese of Burlington 55 Joy Drive South Burlington, VT 05403

Stock Gifts/Planned Gifts

802-658-6110 ext.1226 ekane@vermontcatholic.org