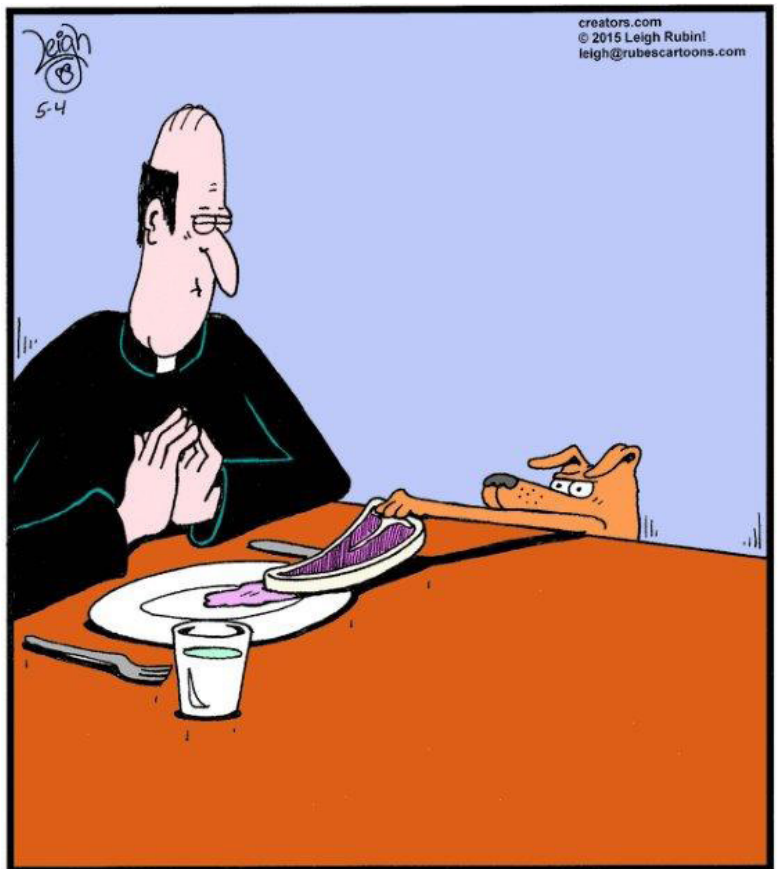
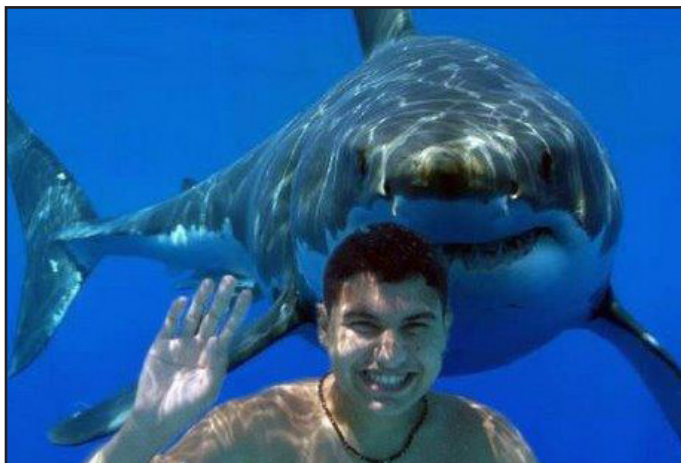


NEWS AROUND THE PARISH

- Senior Breakfast for all graduating High School and College students is set for May 31st, 2015, after the 10:00 a.m. Mass. Call the school office at 840-9932, ext. 2 to RSVP.
- Thank You so much for the wonderful donations made this Lenten season to Operation Rice Bowl. It was one of our best collections. \$946.58 will go to those in need around the world.
- Lunch at St. Mary Soup Kitchen is Saturday, May 9th, serving food from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Please come up and enjoy a meal. This is open to all the parish members and community. We are currently looking for more people to help out on the teams. If interested, call the school office at 840-9932.
- Vacation Bible School is set for June 8th, 9th and 10th, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, grades K to 6th. Teen helpers and adults needed. Call the school office at 840-9932, ext. 2 and leave a message. Registration forms and a sign-up sheet are on a table in the narthex.
- First Communion Mass will be held May 17th, 2015, at the 10:00 a.m. Mass. Please keep Audrey Jones and Andrew Tomko in your prayers.



Whether it was "church and state" or "church and steak," it didn't really matter. As far as Butch was concerned, there still needed to be a separation.



A NEAT WEDDING TOAST

Here's to the husband
and here's to the wife.
May they be lovers
the rest of their life. May you both live as long as you want,
and never want as long as you live.

WORDS OF WISDOM

“The most important of the Lord’s work you and I will ever do will be within the walls of our own homes.”
– Harold B. Lee

“The most important thing a father can do for his children is to love their mother.”
– Theodore M. Hesburgh

“Lots of people want to ride with you in the limo, but what you want is someone who will take the bus with you
when the limo breaks down.”
– Oprah Winfrey

“It is the friends you can call up at 4:00 a.m. that matter.”
– Marlene Dietrich

“A successful marriage requires falling in love many times, always with the same person.”
– Mignon McLaughlin

“What counts in making a happy marriage is not so much how compatible you are, but how you deal with
incompatibility.”
– George Levinger

“Marriage is not just spiritual communion; it is also remembering to take out the trash.”
– Joyce Brothers

“We can not do great things; only small things with great love.”
– Mother Teresa

“Marriage is one long conversation”
– Robert Louis Stevenson

“My wife says I never listen to her. At least I think that’s what she said.”
– Author Unknown

“I love being married. It’s so great to find that one special person you want to annoy for the rest of your life.”
– Rita Rudner

“Before marriage, a man will lie awake all night thinking about something you said; after marriage, he’ll fall
asleep before you finish saying it.”
– Helen Rowland

“Love does not consist of gazing at one another but in looking outward in the same direction”
– Antoine de Saint-Exupery

If you want to get your husband to do a chore around the house, just tell him he’s too old to do it.

SERMON FOR SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

There is no place for prejudice in God's Kingdom. God tears down the walls that prejudice builds. Peter was a man who harbored great prejudice against non-Jews, people they called Gentiles. In this story from the Book of Acts, we see how God obliterated prejudice from Peter's heart.

God gave Peter a vision. So important was the vision that God gave it to Peter three times. Peter was very hungry. He had a vision of a big sheet coming from heaven containing all types of animals. God gives him the command, "Kill and eat." Peter protests. He refused to eat anything that is common or unclean. God replies, "What God has cleansed you must not call unclean!"

At this same time, a very religious pagan Gentile called Cornelius also has a vision. God tells Cornelius that He has noticed his generous almsgiving to the poor. God orders Cornelius to send two of his servants and a devout soldier to send for Peter, who will "tell you what you must do."

While Peter is having his vision, the friends of Cornelius arrive. God tells Peter to go "doubting nothing, for I have sent them." Peter and fellow Christians arrive at Cornelius' house filled with family members and even more close friends. We might call them the BFF's (Best Friends Forever) of Cornelius. Cornelius mistakenly thinks Peter is a god so he bows down to worship Peter. Peter tells him he ain't no god. Peter realized talking with a Gentile breaks the Jewish custom. But remembering his vision, Peter now realizes he cannot call any person common or unclean. God accepts all people. God has no prejudice to anyone.

So Peter starts talking with the Cornelius clan about Jesus. As Peter was teaching them, the Holy Spirit makes a surprise visit. The Holy Spirit comes into Cornelius, his family and all his BFF's. They all start praising God in tongues which is a special language known only to God. Peter and his friends were astounded that these pagan Gentiles have the same Holy Spirit as they did. Peter then ordered the Cornelius clan to be baptized with water in the name of the Lord Jesus. This is the first recorded Gentile convert to Christ. (Though not recorded in the Bible, Peter preached two sermons to the Cornelius household before leaving. Peter preached the first sermon in the morning entitled "Jesus Walks on the Water." Peter then preached an evening sermon entitled "Searching for Jesus.")

God shows no prejudice to anyone. Neither can you. God's love cannot dwell in a heart that is filled with hate. On this Mother's Day, I thank my mother for teaching me this value. When I was five years old, I blurted out the "N" word. I didn't even know what it meant, but I repeated what some hateful man told me. I vividly remember my mom yelling at me, ordering me never to say that again because it hurt people. That was in 1956, twenty-eight years later, I was assigned to Mother of Christ Black Catholic Communion Church. I preached there for 21 years. As an adult, I got to see the beauty of the people a stranger told me to hate as a child. Mama taught me well. God loves us all. Blessings...Fr. Mike