

## The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ



News You Can Use...from Fr. Steve

### The Spiritual Journey

To be a human being is to be on a journey. But if you know only that you are on a human journey, without discovering that your human journey has a counterpart spiritual journey, then you will never find the true purpose of your existence and destiny. The human journey must open up, outward and within to transcendences, ultimate meaning and purpose and to relationship with Christ. The spiritual journey has many things in common with the human journeys.

**1. Point of departure.** There are many experiences in our lives that have the capacity to launch us on our spiritual journey when we are awake and aware. Some of these experiences are:

- AWE: Awe is a quality of the soul that never completely dies no matter how old or busy, or distracted we become. The human heart is always reaching for something or someone beyond our grasp. We moderns are the first race of humans on the face of the earth for whom the stars have lost their mystery. Actually, with so much light pollution in our world we no longer see them, their brilliance against the dark background of the firmament. So the spiritual pilgrim must find away to rekindle the embers of awe, if not in the outer world, then in the inner world of our own hearts.
- DESIRE: Augustine said it best: *Our hearts are restless, O Lord, and will not rest until they rest in Thee. There is in us an unquenchable desire for the holy, for ultimate meaning, for truth. The spiritual pilgrim finds a way to honor and pursue the deepest and authentic desires of the human heart.*
- LOVE: is ecstasy. The Greek word ecstasy - means to move beyond a dead place. Loves pulls us beyond the dead place of our own self-enclosed, self-absorbed egos, into the infinite mystery of the beloved other.

**2. Way Stations or Rest Stations:** All journeys require way stations where a person can rest and be refreshed from the challenges and tasks of the road. The spiritual journey requires places where the soul is refreshed and renewed, where re-direction and re-commitment can happen. So it is important for the spiritual pilgrim to look closely and critically at the places and persons and activities that he/she is using for refreshment and renewal.

Groups – To protect themselves from brigands, dangers, and many other countless wayside hazards, early travelers and explorers would always travel in groups. The spiritual pilgrims will find the inward spiritual journey much more difficult if embarked upon alone. Fellow spiritual travelers, with whom you can share your faith, your excitement and joy, will be for you a home away from home.

**3. Destination:** Having a clear and compelling destination is the difference between a true journey and aimless wandering. As the saying goes, if you don't care where you are going, then any path will do. The true spiritual pilgrim, by focusing often on his spiritual destination of heaven, will have the wisdom and grace to know the transitory reality of time and every created thing. Our hunger for the infinite cannot be satisfied by what is finite and passing.

### This Week at St. AJ

#### Saturday, June 5

9:00AM Mass *Holy Souls in Purgatory*  
NO 4:00PM Confessions for Summer – By Request or Appointment  
NO 5:30PM Vigil Mass for Summer – Resumes Saturday, Sept. 4

#### The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, June 6

10:00AM Mass *Edward Vresilovic*  
**No Catholic Forum in June – Resumes in July in Newman Center**  
11:30AM Mass *Intentions of Parishioners and Benefactors of St. AJ*  
5:00PM Mass *The Quigley-Knecht Families*  
NO 10:00PM Mass for Summer – Resumes Sunday, September 5

#### Monday, June 7

NO 7:30 AM Mass for Summer – Resumes Tuesday, September 7  
12:05PM: Mass *In Thanksgiving for Special Blessing to Marilyn*

#### Wednesday, June 9

12:30PM to 2:00PM Church is open today. Please ring Rectory bell.

#### Thursday, June 10

7:00PM Mass *Drexel University Baccalaureate 2010*

#### Saturday, June 12

9:00AM Mass *Pro-Life Liturgy and Vigil*



### Hospitality Farewell Today

Everyone is welcome to come to hospitality today, Sunday, June 6, after the 10:00 am and 11:30 am Masses for an opportunity to say "Thank You and Good Luck" to Fr. Steve and Fr. Vince. Please come over to the Rectory porch after Mass to say "Goodbye and Thanks" to them for all they have meant to St. AJ. Thanks also to Palma and her Committee.

### Church Ministry Institute

- Are you interested in learning more about your faith?
- Are you a member of a parish committee, organization, or involved in a ministry?
- Are you a new convert to the faith?

The Church Ministry Institute could be for you. New classes are forming now for September. All classes are 7:00-9:30 PM. The Church Ministry institute is a three year certificate program offered by the Archdiocese. There are no papers to write or tests to take. You will meet and work with committed faculty members and enjoy excellent texts. For a brochure call 215-587-0551 or visit the website (use Google) Church Ministry Institute.

The meeting days at course sites that are in close proximity to St. AJ are:

St. Barnabas - West Philadelphia, Wednesday  
St. Matthias, Bala Cynwyd, Thursday

**CATHOLIC FORUM** has completed its first year at Saints AJ with marked success. A small but enthusiastic group of parishioners gathers regularly after the 10 AM mass to reflect on the day's Liturgy of the Word and how to make it real in our lives. We are not Bible scholars but just earnest Catholics engaging the Word of God. Special thanks go to Tom Finnegan for his faithful hospitality ministry. Catholic Forum will take a brief respite during the month of June (not much fun in the Parish Hall summer heat), but will resume meeting at the Newman Center in July after the 10 AM Mass. All are welcome to join our motley group of Biblical explorers. Please join us in July!

