Welcome to our Summer Intern, Seminarian Omeed Huemiller

Omeed has just finished College Seminary at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary in Philadelphia. He was raised in Chinquapin, NC with his parents and five siblings. Since he started college, his family has moved to Fayetteville and now to Iowa. So, this summer, the parish of Saint Paul is his substitute family. This is his first parish assignment as a seminarian... Saint Paul was Father Tully’s first assignment also but that was 39 years ago! Welcome to Saint Paul, Omeed!
THE RICHNESS OF THE SPIRIT

Students, and most adults recalling their school days, are familiar with the phrase “compare and contrast” that shows up from time to time on tests. Today we hear two different accounts of the giving of the Holy Spirit to the church. Let’s contrast, then compare. Luke’s account from Acts is filled with arresting details: the mighty wind from heaven, the tongues of flame, the miracle of different languages. John’s account seems timid: fearful disciples, the wounded Christ, the expelling of breath from his risen body, not from the sky.

Our literal, modern minds wonder which way it happened; our noisy culture probably makes us prefer the former. But if we compare the two, we find that the dazzling richness of the Spirit fills both accounts, for it is the very breath of the risen Christ, ascended to the sky in Luke, that appears to his disciples in John and sends his followers forth to carry on his mission of forgiving sin and proclaiming the mighty acts of God.

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TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — Filled with the Holy Spirit, the apostles begin to speak in tongues (Acts 2:1-11).
Psalm — Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth (Psalm 104).
Second Reading — In one Spirit we are baptized into one body and given to drink of one Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:3b-13).
Gospel — Jesus Christ appears to the disciples and sends them on their mission with the power to forgive or retain sins through the Holy Spirit (John 20:19-23).

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Pentecost Sunday
Monday: The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church; Ninth Week in Ordinary Time
Tuesday: Ss. Marcellinus and Peter
Wednesday: St. Charles Lwanga and Companions
Friday: St. Boniface; First Friday
Saturday: St. Norbert; First Saturday

SAINT CHARLES LWANGA AND HIS COMPANIONS

“Master of Pages,” reputedly the handsomest man in all Uganda, Charles Lwanga, lay catechist, courageously led about forty teenaged boys, Catholics and Anglicans, on a forty-mile forced march to martyrdom for their common Christian faith.

Teaching each other the hymns of their different churches, they strengthened one another for the ordeal ahead. King Mwanga, himself barely twenty, had ordered them executed for being “those who pray.”

But these royal pages were the king’s male harem, who, now Christians, refused what pious accounts demurely describe as his “unreasonable demands.”

Some were clubbed to death, most burned alive; the youngest, thirteen-year-old Saint Kizito, whom Charles had often shielded from the King’s lust; the most tragic, Saint Mbaga, whose father was his executioner!

In 1964, Paul VI canonized the young Catholics and praised their Anglican companions, recalling the heroism of early Christianity’s African martyrs, which we modern Christians of far less faith never expected to see repeated.

Forty years after the pope’s words, what does our faith cost us? Heroism aside, how generous is our response?
—Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Pentecost Sunday
May 31, 2020

There appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them.
— Acts 2:3

Unless the eye catch fire, God will not be seen.
Unless the ear catch fire, God will not be heard.
Unless the tongue catch fire, God will not be named.
Unless the heart catch fire, God will not be loved.
Unless the mind catch fire, God will not be known.
—William Blake
Because of the coronavirus pandemic, all of us have had to adapt to new ways of living our lives. Since March 18th, Saint Paul Catholic School students have attended classes by using the videoconferencing platform, Zoom. Many parents and grandparents who are now working from home have found ourselves sharing our home offices or dining room tables with our school-age children.

Sitting next to our children during virtual school has allowed parents and grandparents to see instruction and learning taking place first hand. Teachers and students have shown resilience and creativity as they adapt to the virtual classroom.

The school day starts at 7:45 am with morning assembly. Deacon Dave Kierski, Principal, leads the students in the Pledge of Allegiance. Then he reads scripture and discusses the scripture with the students. He also reminds students of the virtue of the week which relates to the School’s Core Values of Respect, Service, Love, Perseverance, and Excellence. A recent weekly virtue was a word that most students were not familiar with. The word was docility—with the meaning of being open to learning.

During the school year, students who exemplify Saint Paul Catholic School Core Values are recognized each quarter along with those being recognized for Academic Honors. Starting in PreK-3 and going through Eighth Grade, we are preparing our students to be the faith-filled leaders of tomorrow for our neighborhoods, communities, businesses, and the world.

If you are considering area elementary and middle schools for your children for the 20-21 school year, please take the opportunity to learn more about Saint Paul Catholic School. You may visit our website at www.stpaulcs.org. You may also call the school office at 252-633-0100 between 7:45 am and 2:45 pm each school day. We will be happy to talk with you about our school. When we are able to reopen the school building to visitors, we will be pleased to give you a personal tour.

Saint Paul Catholic School is dedicated to the development of each student. Saint Paul strives to educate the whole child and welcomes students of all faiths.

Success begins @ Saint Paul.
Go Knights!
CDA NEWS

Recently, the Catholic Daughters collected 6 boxes and 3 bags filled with food to donate to The Filling Station, in Pollocksville. The organization distributes food every Tuesday and Thursday to those who are in need. Pictured below is Theresa Lee from the Filling Station and CDA Regent, Mary Ann Harper.

SACRAMENTS

Thank you to Ralph Aviles, Faithful Navigator of the St. Paul Kenneth Parker Assembly #1820, who presented a check to the Catholic Charities New Bern office in the amount of $1,080. This funding will be used to support Senior Pharmacy Program participants who have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Seniors will receive food gift cards which they can use to obtain much needed groceries.

Please pray for our parishioners who have passed into eternal life. Keep their family and loved ones in your prayers that they may find peace.

Jerome Fleming  Eileen Reilly Caflin
Ann Smitka  Tad Michel
Dien Dinh Nguyen  Angelito D. Valdez
William J. Smith  Anna Fisher
William R. Pake  Denise A. Killoran

NEWS FROM K of C

A big thank you to Grand Knight Mike Lynch and the St. Paul Monsignor Jones #3303 Council for their generous donation of $1,200 to the Catholic Charities Senior Pharmacy Program in New Bern. This support will allow us to distribute food gift cards to assist seniors during this COVID-19 pandemic. Our seniors are very grateful and appreciative of the community thinking of them!

Thank you to Ralph Aviles, Faithful Navigator of the St. Paul Kenneth Parker Assembly #1820, who presented a check to the Catholic Charities New Bern office in the amount of $1,080. This funding will be used to support Senior Pharmacy Program participants who have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Seniors will receive food gift cards which they can use to obtain much needed groceries.
Dear Friends at Saint Paul:

This weekend is the Feast of Pentecost, the “birthday” of the Church. I have always found this Feast to be a great renewal of hope, as it represents the empowerment of people by God to love the mission of Christ. God blesses us with a community of grace, like the parish of Saint Paul. Although we suffer the anxiety of the virus and the possibility of illness, Saint Paul would want us also to remember that there is great hope. Our patron Saint urged his disciples to have the joy of Christ, in the power of the Spirit. Remember the words of the Psalm: God is our refuge and our strength.

Please also pray for the Bicentennial of our parish: Saint Paul Parish in New Bern is 199 years old this week. A year from now, we will have a wonderful and confident series of events to mark the historic milestone of our 200th year. I am urging anyone who would like to help make those events successful to serve on a bicentennial planning committee. Please send me a note with your interest and contact information.

Please also pray for God's blessing on those receiving the Sacraments for the first time this weekend: the Parish members becoming Catholic through the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults and our High school class ready to be Confirmed this Sunday.

With the Phase 2 Order in place, we continue to have Outdoor Mass this weekend. Your participation has been a real blessing. The first weekend, we counted almost 600 persons at the eight Masses. The weather held, even if windy, even thru the Sunday afternoon 4:30pm Mass. The second weekend, the Feast of the Ascension, was celebrated by almost 700 persons at eight Masses during beautiful weather, though warm at times. We'll see about this weekend but if needed, we can spread out in church as the numbers at each Mass are within limits.

For the Feast of Pentecost, here’s the plan, subject to weather:
- We will be outdoors, between the church and the school.... More than six feet apart.
- Father Rob and I are adding Masses so as to keep the numbers lower.
- I ask that you wear a mask or face covering for the benefit of others and for peace of mind.
- Stand or bring your own lawn chair (or blanket?) so that we don’t have to disinfect chairs every time.
- Eucharistic Ministers will wear masks and gloves as they pass through the congregation.
- There will be no offertory or communion procession to the altar.
- The music will be lessened and congregational songs avoided.
- Baskets will be available to drop in parish offertory (thanks!) but not passed.

The schedule stays the same and is as follows (We will maintain this schedule for a few more weeks):
- Saturday at 4:30 pm and at 6:00pm
- Sunday at 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am and 4:30pm in English
- Sunday at 12 Noon in Spanish.
- Saint Peter in Oriental Mass at 10:30am.

We do our best to have the latest announcements on our website (spccnb.org) and Facebook for news. I anticipate that in June, we will move into the church with all appropriate precautions in place. Daily Masses have already resumed with our regular schedule in the Church. Our Bishop has re-affirmed the suspension of the obligation to attend Mass. Vulnerable persons and anyone who is sick in any way should remain home. Participating in Mass through the many online sites or TV will continue to bring blessings and safety to the participants at home.
PARISH INFORMATION

To submit bulletin articles, email bulletin@spccnb.org. The deadline is Thursdays at noon. All requests should be sent in editable format 11 days before the bulletin issue date.

OLIVE BRANCH STORE & LENDING LIBRARY
WE ARE TEMPORARILY CLOSED. We apologize for any inconvenience. We will re-open when the regular Mass schedule resumes. If you have a special need during our closure, please contact the church office and they can give you your contact information so we can try to help. We look forward to re-opening soon and look forward to seeing you then. All proceeds benefit Saint Paul.

The complete Parish Calendar, as well as past bulletins, are always available for viewing at our website: www.spccnb.org

GIVING HAS GOTTEN EASIER!
Online Envelope Giving is available for parishioners through Our Sunday Visitor, our envelope company. You can give automatically weekly, monthly, etc. Simply register via the church website at www.spccnb.org and click on “online envelope”. You can manage your account and make changes at any time. Any questions, contact Donna Simon in the church office.

ACT OF CONTRITION
O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee, and I detest all my sins because of Thy just punishments, but most of all because they offend Thee, my God, Who art all-good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of Thy grace, to sin no more and to avoid the near occasions of sin. Amen.

OLIVE BRANCH  Gale & Marilyn Biers
Welcome to our church William & Denise Stanton
David & Aleksandra Woodby Javier & Minerva Cruz
Stephen & Meredith Laskovics Teresa Hodock
Cassidy & Christina Holzinger Brady & Barbara McNally

Parish DIRECTORY
CHURCH OFFICE: 252-638-1984
NIGHT EMERGENCY: 252-638-4436
Father Thomas S. Tully, Pastor: pastor@spccnb.org
Father Robert Schmid, Parochial Vicar: frschmid@spccnb.org
Deacon Rick Fisher: 252-229-1644
Deacon Mike Mahoney, OblSB: 252-571-1597
Deacon Jim Hackett: 973-479-8909
Sister Monique Dissen, IHM, Hospital: 252-675-0333
Parish Care Coordinator DeLesa Conway: dconway@spccnb.org
Bookkeeper, Donna Simon: dsimon@spccnb.org
Finance Manager: Bob Nenni
Faith Forma­tion: Joy Harsen 252-633-2394
Saint Paul School Principal: Deacon Kierski, 252-633-0100
Bul­letin: bulletin@spccnb.org
Funeral Arrangements: 252-638-4436, funeral@spccnb.org
Cemetery: Danny Gennantonio, 252-637-2322
Music Ministry: Call Church Office
RCIA Coordinator: Fr. Rob, frschmid@spccnb.org
Catholic Charities: 252-638-2188
Catholic Daughters: Mary Ann Harper, 252-633-3473
Extraordinary Ministers of Eucharist: Mary Spano, 252-633-4768
Eucharistic Ministers (Home/Sick): Dennis Colbert, 252-638-1555
Pastoral Council: Judi Williams, pcouncil@spccnb.org
Finance Council: Skip Zimmerman, 616-516-1730
School Board: Dick Dodson: 252-671-1523
Knights of Columbus Third Degree: Michael Lynch, 540-222-1596
Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree: Ralph Aviles, 252-204-7700
Religious Community Services: 252-633-2767

New Parishioners
Welcome to our church
David & Aleksandra Woodby
William & Denise Stanton
Javier & Minerva Cruz
Teresa Hodock
Cassidy & Christina Holzinger
Brady & Barbara McNally
Get this weekly bulletin delivered by email - for FREE!

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