



From the Desk of Fr. Leo F. Arnone

Thank You! Although we are not ready to offer a final report, I want to express my gratitude to all those who helped to

make this year's festival a great success! A special word of gratitude goes out to the festival committee members for all their planning, preparing and performing the various elements of the festival. We are particularly grateful to all our younger parishioners who helped with the set-up, managing, parking and take-down – you guys were fantastic help! God blessed us with two beautiful days, may He continue to bless Cresson Catholic Community with His abiding presences, and may we continue to be a blessing to each other!

Festival Debriefing Meeting: I'd like the committee members to get back together one last time this year so we can talk about what worked and what didn't, what we might change or add, and how we can make next year's festival even better. Please plan to meet on Friday, Sept. 20 at 7:00pm at SA hall.

SA Pastoral Council is set to meet on Tuesday, Sept 17 at 7:00pm in Blessed Mother room. Committee chairs should be ready to offer a current report.

Attention CCD and Confirmation Families:

- ❖ **CCD starts today:** Sunday, Sept. 15 from 9:15 to 10:45am.
- ❖ Our Freshman-Parent Confirmation meeting will be Sunday, Sept. 22 from 9:45 to 10:45am.
- ❖ I am calling for a MANDATORY meeting with my CCD and Home Schooling parents on Sunday, Sept 29 from 9:45 to 10:45am. One or both parents is expected to be in attendance.

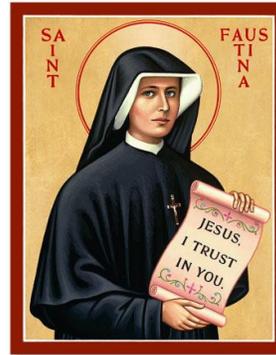


The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

will have its initial meeting on Thursday, Sept. 26 at 5:45pm at SA Rectory to explain the process, answer any questions, and set a definitive day and time for our weekly sessions. If you or someone you know might be interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith, please contact me at 886-2374 or frleoarnone@gmail.com.

Reminder: I feel uncomfortable saying it during Mass, but I need to remind all who attend that there is to be no gum chewing during Mass. As I look out upon the congregation, I cannot help but see an occasional face chewing the cud.

Considering what all Jesus sacrificed for us, refraining from gum during Mass is the least we can do.

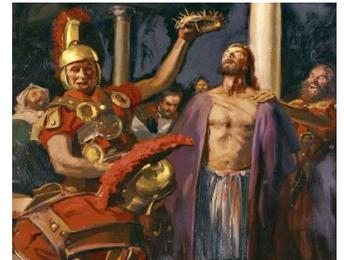


Divine Mercy in My Soul

Lessons from the Diary of St. Maria Faustina

408 When I become immersed in the Lord's Passion, I often see the Lord Jesus, during adoration, in this manner: after the scourging, the torturers took the

Lord and stripped Him of His own garment, which had already adhered to the wounds; as they took it off, His wounds reopened; then they threw a dirty and tattered scarlet cloak over the fresh wounds of the Lord. The cloak, in some places, barely reached His knees. They made Him sit on a piece of beam. And then they wove a crown of thorns, which they put on His sacred head. They put a reed in His hand and made fun of Him, bowing to Him as to a king. Some spat in His face, while others took the reed and struck Him on the head with it. Others caused him pain by slapping Him; still others covered His face and struck Him with their fists. Jesus bore all this with meekness. Who can comprehend Him – comprehend His suffering? Jesus' eyes were downcast. I sensed what was happening in the most sweet Heart of Jesus at that time. Let every soul reflect on what



Jesus was suffering at that moment. They tried to outdo each other in insulting the Lord. I reflected: Where does such malice in man come from? It is caused by sin. Love and sin have met.

Reflection: Through my own devotion to the Divine Mercy and reading the whole of St. Faustina's Diary, I find that meditating on the Passion of our Lord provides a most compelling awareness of the extent of Jesus' love and mercy for us. Consider the scene St. Faustina describes here – it is the mocking of Jesus by the soldiers. This would have been after the scourging and before being sent back to Pilot for final judgment. I can only imagine the brutality of the soldiers... Knowing that He endured all that for me evokes profound appreciation and a strong desire to love, praise, and worship Him and to amend my life in such a way as to conform more and more perfectly into His image. I know that Jesus suffers no more and now reigns in glory. But meditating on what all He endured (even on the smallest details revealed in Scripture) cannot help but compel your appreciation

At Bishop Bartchak's request a special collection will be taken at all Masses in parishes throughout the diocese on the weekend of September 21-22. Checks may be made payable to *Catholic Charities*. All contributions will be forwarded to Catholic Relief Services and Catholic Charities USA who will see to it that financial assistance will go to those in need.