

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Divine Mercy of Jesus Council 17249

St. Jerome's Catholic Church 10895 Hamlin Blvd. Largo, FL
November 2021 Volume 3 Issue 8



Couple Expects Child to Die Shortly after Birth

Joe Baker and his wife Ann are parents to three children, and are also currently expecting their fourth child, who tragically is not expected to survive long past birth. Yet the family has found a way to celebrate their preborn daughter's life, and reach out to others as well. "Three months into our pregnancy, we found out we were having a girl, which we've always wanted — we have three boys at home," Baker said. "Then we found out our baby has a fatal defect, and will survive only up to birth." Ember, they learned, is not expected to live long after birth. "She has a 10% chance of surviving one week," Baker explained. "She'll likely survive a few hours, maybe a day, but not long."

Ember has a defect called anencephaly. Anencephaly is a serious birth defect in which a baby is born without parts of the brain and skull. It is a type of neural tube defect. As the neural tube forms and closes, it helps form the baby's brain and skull, spinal cord, and back bones. Anencephaly happens if the upper part of the neural tube does not close all the way. This often results in a baby being born without the front part of the brain and the thinking and coordinating part of the brain (cerebrum). The remaining parts of the brain are often not cov-



Child with anencephaly



Joe and Ann Baker

ered by bone or skin. A child born with anencephaly usually dies within a week or maybe even at birth.

The family was repeatedly pressured to have an abortion, but refused, even as they had to work through their grief. "We kind of had to walk through a deep well to figure that out, and share that with our boys," he said. "At the beginning of it, it felt like someone had died. It was really hard." But the family's love for adventure and traveling helped them get on the road towards acceptance and healing. With that, what Baker calls "The Ember Tour" was born, and it brought their family closer together. "Through that process, of climbing mountains with my pregnant wife, and our little unborn baby, just talking about her and praying for her all the time, she's really come alive in our family," he said. "Now we don't even want November to come, because it kind of signifies the time where we begin to lose her." "Ann brought this map to me, and she said, 'I want to take Ember to

all of these places,'" Baker recalled. "And I'm like, 'Ann, I don't even think she's going to be discharged from the hospital,' and she's like, 'No, Joe. We're going to all these places between now and November.'"

So far, they've visited a number of places across the country, including Sylvan Lake in South Dakota, where the couple got married. They also visited Yosemite, Rocky Mountain National Park, Chicago, and many other mountains that had been placed on Ann's bucket list for Ember.

"Ann and I fell in love mountain climbing, and it was such a big part of our love story, and then our marriage," Baker said.

From there, as they began to prepare for childbirth, they realized another way to celebrate Ember and her life. "We came up with this idea where we would make artwork for her delivery room, with our boys, to really keep them engaged. It's kind of their way of welcoming their sister," he said. "Then, Sam shared that with his class at school, and then the next thing you know, his class is making artwork for us. Now the whole Christian school is making artwork for us."

The support and love for Ember is something that Baker realizes is missed every time parents give in to the pressure to abort a child with a diagnosis. FacebookTwitterMore119

Once the story was shared on social media, the idea began to spread. "I was overwhelmed with messages. Not just

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FROM THE DESK OF THE GRAND KNIGHT



Bill McClelland

Brothers, I am constantly humbled, amazed and encouraged by your faithful participation in parish, regional and national activities. In just over a month, we have had members

participate in marches and prayers for life in addition to prayerful meditation and participation in church services and events. You have succeeded in moving and rededicating the Columbus monument from St. Petersburg and hosting council 2105 for this historic event. You have also participated in fellowship cookouts, hosted Alpha dinners and provided Sunday donuts and coffee for parishioners and guests.

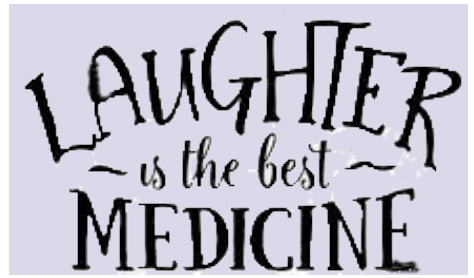
You have also participated in the "Hu-

man Trafficking" seminar on campus and attended or provided the labor for the very successful "Raise the Roof" fundraiser. The "Silly Sinatra" concert fundraiser was a lot of fun, but they also raised hundreds of dollars to purchase chickens to feed the poor, which we will help to unload at the end of the month. All of this would look like a full schedule for most parishes, but there is more.

November offers new challenges for us and opportunities to put our faith in action. Many of you have already donated money or supplies to help with the hurricane relief effort in Louisiana. Ralph Frizzle has kindly offered the use of his box truck to store and transport the items to those in dire need, while I am still organizing volunteers to travel with me to assist in distribution of supplies and clean-up efforts.

Again, thanks for everything you continue to do.

Vivat Jesus,
Bill



I changed my iPod's name to Titanic. It's syncing now.

England has no kidney bank, but it does have a Liverpool.

Haunted French pancakes give me the crepes.

This girl today said she recognized me from the Vegetarians Club, but I'd swear I've never met herbivore.

I know a guy who's addicted to drinking brake fluid, but he says he can stop any time.

The thief who stole my calendar got twelve months.

When the smog lifts in Los Angeles U.C.L.A.

FROM THE DESK OF OUR PASTOR



Fr. Tom Morgan

Dear Brother Knights:

I would like to share with you all once again a bit of what I shared at the unveiling of the statue of Christopher Columbus:

"The statue of Christopher Columbus is intentionally placed. Columbus looks toward the Cross and our church. He is a visible reminder of what our own Divine Mercy of Jesus Council #17249 has been since its foundation, directed to the service of Jesus and His Church. The statue will continue to remind our Council in the days ahead of what we are called to be. If through human frailty we forget, we will remind one another that we exist to have everything we do to be in the direction and service Jesus and His Church."

Let us allow this thought to always be on our hearts, souls, and minds.

I included below a schedule of events that will be taking place at the parish during the month of November.

Sincerely yours in Christ, Fr. Tom Morgan

St. Jerome Parish Events

11/1 All Saints Day Masses: 7:00am, 9:00 am, and 7:00 pm

11/2 All Souls Day Masses: 7:00 am, 9:00 am, 7:00 pm

11/4 9 am Mass, Exposition and Benediction

11/5 9 am Mass, Exposition and Benediction, First Friday

11/6 9 am Mass, Exposition and Benediction First Saturday

11/6 & 11/7 All Sunday Masses
ECC Poinsettias fundraisers GS

11/6 & 11/7 Veterans Honored at all Sunday Masses

11/11 OFFICE CLOSED -
Veterans' Day

11/11 9 am Mass, Exposition, and Benediction

11/13 & 11/14 All Sunday Masses
ECC Poinsettias fundraisers GS

11/14 10:00am Anointing of the Sick – following the Sunday 9:00 am Mass

11/18 9 am Mass, Exposition, Benediction, Thursday

11/20 & 11/21 All Sunday Masses
Catholic Campaign for Human Development

All Sunday Masses ECC Poinsettias fundraisers GS

11/25 OFFICE CLOSED -
Thanksgiving Day

11/26 OFFICE CLOSED –
Thanksgiving Holiday

11/26 9 am Mass, Exposition, and Benediction

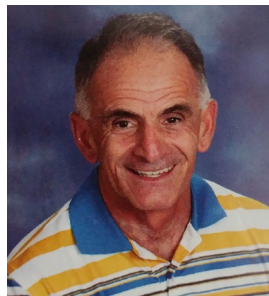
11/27 9:30 am-10:00 am
Drive-through Confessions, north entrance of church

11/27 & 11/28 First Sunday of Advent: Advent Wreath Blessing at all Sunday Masses and Tree of Hope Sharing before Mass begins

Photos from "Wall of Remembrance" available at Welcome desk in main gathering space of church



Rich Jennings
November 2



Pat Minucci
November 4



Ralph Frizzle
November 4



Alfonso Castagnini
November 14



Paul Lee
November 17



Paul Partridge
November 19



Mark Godcharles
November 21



Gregg Appel
November 23



Jim Allen
November 30



ARGENTINE “MOTHER TERESA” DIES

In her early 20s, Natty Hollmann de Petrosino had no need to beg. Not only was she a model and actress, but she'd formed a family that lived comfortably in Bahía Blanca, a coastal town in Argentina.

However, everything changed after she almost died during ear surgery due to cancer at age 27. She made a sharp turn in her life and embraced her “heavenly family” down the street.

She remained known for charitable work in Argentina for more than 50 years, until she passed away on July 26, 2021, at the age of 81, after a battle with COVID-19. Many consider her an Argentine Mother Teresa.

Natty Petrosino was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2009. But none of this acclaim took away her focus on serving the poor, not even the 2013 invitation of Pope Francis to travel to Rome—an invitation she declined (although she was grateful) in order to remain at the side of the poor of her country.

After that “revelation” at the age of 27, when she felt her calling, she totally shifted the focus of her life. In 1978, she set up the St. Francis of Assisi Pilgrims’ Home, a place to care for the vulnerable with illnesses or disabilities, which fed thousands of people a day. However, 30 years ago she left the space in the hands of the diocese, so

she could go wherever the poor would call her. One of those calls to serve others led her to the native communities of northern Argentina.

Since then, she would periodically go to live with them and serve them. Not even the pandemic stopped her, to the point that in 2020 she was prosecuted for violating travel restrictions.

On that trip, which she was able to make after eight months of quarantine, she helped a mother deliver her baby. The baby was breech (positioned for birth feet-first). In those precarious conditions, such a delivery would have been very complicated, but the child turned around at the last minute.

“Thank you, Jesus,” was the first thing Natty said when she told others about the event. She used to thank God for everything—and ask Him for everything, too.

She spoke without any qualms of God inspiring her. When she was nominated for the Nobel Prize, she declared, “The news makes me feel good as an Argentinean. The fact that I am being nominated at a time when values are in decline ... It seems to me that God wants to speak to the world.”

And although she never refused to talk



Natty Hollmann de Petrosino

about her inspiration in the Gospel, she used to say she preferred to act rather than quote the Bible, interpreting Jesus with her deeds. She also was known for her commitment to many other needy people in the Province of Mendoza, and others in Tucumán and Formosa.

The death of the Argentinean Mother Teresa leaves thousands of orphans. She led a full life, but above all, a life given for others.

November

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Knights to LA for hurricane cleanup (shifts from 1 - 10 November)		Alpha Dinner- Joe Ghezzi lead	Officers' meeting Parish Center East 7 pm			Knights at all Masses to drive golf cart for those who need assistance.
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Coffee and Donuts Knights at all Masses to drive golf cart for those who need assistance.		Alpha Dinner- Joe Ghezzi lead "Peace in Troubled Times" Education Building 7 - 8:30 pm	General Meeting Parish Center East 7 pm	Veterans' Day Rosary in Grotto?		Knights at all Masses to drive golf cart for those who need assistance.
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Coffee and Donuts Knights at all Masses to drive golf cart for those who need assistance.				4th Degree Meeting at St. Patrick's 7 pm		Knights at all Masses to drive golf cart for those who need assistance.
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Breakfasts begin Knights at all Masses to drive golf cart for those who need assistance.				Thanksgiving		Knights at all Masses to drive golf cart for those who need assistance. Drive-thru confessions @ 9:30
28	29	30				
Coffee and Donuts Knights at all Masses to drive golf cart for those who need assistance.						

Six Reasons to Make the Sign of the Cross

A mini-creed

The Sign of the Cross is a profession of faith in God as He has revealed himself. It serves as an abbreviated form of the Apostles' Creed. Touching our forehead, breast and shoulders (and in some cultures, our lips as well), we declare our belief in the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We are announcing our faith in what God has done — the creation of all things, the redemption of humanity from sin and death, and the establishment of the Church, which offers new life to all. When we sign ourselves we are making ourselves aware of God's presence and opening ourselves to His action in our lives. That much alone would be enough to transform us spiritually, wouldn't it? But there is much, much more.

A renewal of baptism

First-century Christians began making the Sign of the Cross as a reminder and renewal of what happened to them when they were baptized. It still works the same way for us. When we sign ourselves we are declaring that in baptism we died sacramentally with Christ on the cross and rose to a new life with Him. We are asking the Lord to renew in us those baptismal graces. We are also acknowledging that baptism joined us to the Body of Christ and equipped us for our role of collaborating with the Lord in His work of rescuing all people from sin and death.

A mark of discipleship

At baptism the Lord claimed us as His own by marking us with the Sign of the Cross. Now, when we sign ourselves, we are affirming our loyalty to Him. By tracing the cross on our bodies, we are denying that we belong to ourselves and declaring that we belong to Him

alone. The Church Fathers used the same word for the Sign of the Cross that the ancient world employed to indicate ownership. The same word named a shepherd's brand on his sheep, a general's tattoo on his soldiers, a householder's mark on his servants, and the Lord's mark on His disciples. Signing ourselves recognizes that we are Christ's sheep and can count on His care; His soldiers, commissioned to work with Him in advancing His kingdom on earth; and His servants, dedicated to doing whatever He tells us.

An acceptance of suffering

Jesus promised us that suffering would be a normal part of a disciple's life. So when we mark our bodies with the sign, we are embracing whatever pain comes as a consequence of our faith in Christ. Making the sign is our taking up the cross and following Him. At the same time, however, it comforts us with the realization that Jesus, who endured the Crucifixion for us, now joins us in our suffering and supports us. Signing ourselves also announces another significant truth: with St. Paul, we are celebrating that our afflictions as members of the body of Christ contribute to the Lord's saving work of perfecting the Church in holiness.

A two-edged move against the devil

When the devil watched Jesus die on the cross, he mistakenly believed he had won a great victory. Instead, the Lord surprised him with an ignominious defeat. From the first Easter morn-



ing through the present, the Sign of the Cross makes the devil cower and flee. On one level, then, making the sign is a defensive move, declaring our inviolability to the devil's influence. But, more importantly, the sign is also an offensive weapon, helping us reclaim with Christ all that Satan lost at the cross. It announces our cooperation with Jesus in the indomitable advance of the kingdom of God against the kingdom of darkness.

A victory over the flesh

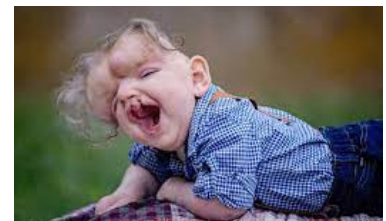
In the New Testament, the word flesh sums up all the evil inclinations of our old nature that persist in us even after we die with Christ in baptism. Making the Sign of the Cross expresses our decision to crucify the desires of the flesh and to live by the Spirit. Like tossing off a dirty shirt or blouse, making the sign indicates stripping ourselves of our evil inclinations and clothing ourselves with the behaviors of Christ. The Church Fathers taught that the Sign of the Cross diffused the force of powerful temptations such as anger and lust. So, no matter how strongly we are tempted, we can use the Sign of the Cross to activate our freedom in Christ and conquer even our besetting sins.

Couple Expects Child to Die Shortly After Birth (from page1)

comments, but unlimited messages, more than I could even deal with, from people who wanted to support us," Baker said. "And we were just thinking of this kind of concept of the kind of impact that could have, and kind of show the world that Ember isn't just ours. A lot of people are impacted by her life." The support and love for Ember is something that Baker realizes is missed every time parents give in to the pressure to abort a child with a diagnosis. Ember's bucket list and the artwork have also helped their three boys grow closer to their sister — and it's made an impact on everyone who has come

across her story. "Our three boys talk about her every day, all the time," he said. "That's just tremendous impact. They will forever know that they had a sister." The name Ember has special meaning for the family. "We spend a lot of times around campfires as a family," he said. "And it's just such a beautiful thing to see these embers break away from a fire, and fade away." But Baker added that a tiny ember can also have a profound and unexpected effect on the world. "An ember is also something that breaks away from a fire and can burn down a forest."

In the meantime, as the Bakers await Ember's arrival in November, they're encouraging anyone who feels called to send artwork to celebrate her arrival and her life baby," he said. "I think a simple way to do that would be to make us the most beautiful delivery room in history."



Christopher Columbus Statute Moves To Its New Home





All Saints' Day is a solemn holy day of the Catholic Church celebrated annually on November 1. The day is dedicated to the saints of the Church, that is, all those who have attained heaven. It should not be confused with All Souls' Day, which is observed on November 2, and is dedicated to those who have died and not yet reached heaven. Although millions, or even billions of people may already be saints, All Saints' Day observances tend to focus on known saints --that is those recognized in the canon of the saints by the Catholic Church.

All Saints' Day is also commemorated by members of the Eastern Orthodox Church as well as some protestant churches, such as Lutheran and Anglican churches.

Generally, All Saints' Day is a Catholic Holy Day of Obligation, meaning all Catholics are required to attend Mass on that day, unless they have an excellent excuse, such as serious illness.

All Souls Day is a holy day set aside for honoring the dead. The day is primarily celebrated in the Catholic Church, but it is also celebrated in the Eastern Orthodox Church and a few other denominations of Christianity.

Most protestant denominations do not recognize the holiday and disagree with the theology behind it.

According to Catholic belief, the soul of a person who dies can go to one of three places. The first is heaven, where a person who dies in a state of perfect grace and communion with God goes. The second is hell, where those who die in a state of mortal sin are naturally condemned by their choice. The intermediate option is purgatory, which is thought to be where most people, free of mortal sin, but still in a state of lesser (venial) sin, must go.

Purgatory is necessary so that souls can be cleansed and perfected before they enter into heaven.

Knights Share in Small Get Together



Our council uses every opportunity to get together to enjoy ourselves. GK Bill McClelland decided to use the food left over from the re-dedication of the statue of Christopher Columbus for a small gathering Saturday, October 16, for those of us who could be there. We're pleased to acknowledge of the 383 or so councils in the state, ours is one of 5 moving forward, hoping and usu-

ally succeeding, to add 5 new members each year. We are happy to be of use to the parish and community. That is our main goal. Parishoners can join the council at any time of the year. The membership chairman is Worthy Sir Knight Gregg Appel. He can be contacted at 727-244-2832 and karokega1@gmail.com

Raise-the-Roof Campaign Raises Money for Roof Repair

On October 25, starting around 6:30 pm, our parish began a money-raising campaign on the church patio to help pay for a new roof. We have needed one for quite some time now. Unfortunately, the pandemic kept many parishioners home from Mass, thus cutting contributions to the need for roof repair. This effort did help, but of course there is much more to go, but we have wonderful parishioners, so ultimately we will have a new roof!

The setting was excellent. Once the sun went down, a nice breeze kicked up, and with the music Tom Kurt provided, memories came to the front as several couples danced the time away. Sr. Lucia was there too, trying to talk Tom into playing "The Chicken Dance," but that didn't happen. More than one person was heard to say, "We should do this every month!"



Chris Hicks turned her 50/50 winnings back to the church.



Rick Hendrickson waits for his next customer. Parishioners wanted wine more than beer.



JoAnn Bannon takes care of her first customer.



It's no surprise to me to see that Tom Kurt knows how to have a good time.



Bob Siler and George Jirotko might be looking for more than they can handle.



Several parishioners try their version of the Hokey Pokey.



"Gregg, I'm telling you one more time: keep your hand off my knee!," Mary said.

How the Disciples Died

Matthew suffered martyrdom in Ethiopia. He was killed by a sword wound.

2. **Mark** died in Alexandria, Egypt, after being dragged by horses through the streets until he was dead.

3. **Luke** was hanged in Greece as a result of his tremendous preaching.

4. **John** faced martyrdom when he was boiled in huge basin of boiling oil during a wave of persecution in Rome. However, he was miraculously delivered from death. John was then sentenced to the mines on the prison Island of Patmos where he wrote his prophetic Book of Revelation. The apostle John was later freed and returned to serve as Bishop of Edessa in modern Turkey. He died as an old man, the only apostle to die peacefully

5. **Peter** was crucified upside down on an x-shaped cross. According to church tradition it was because he told his tormentors that he felt unworthy to die in the same way that Jesus Christ died.

6. **James**, the leader of the church in Jerusalem, was thrown over a hundred feet down from the southeast pinnacle

of the temple when he refused to deny his faith in Christ. When they discovered that he survived the fall, his enemies beat James to death with a fuller's club. This was the same pinnacle where Satan had taken Jesus during the temptation.

7. **James** the Son of Zebedee was a fisherman by trade when Jesus called him to a lifetime of ministry. As a strong leader of the church, James was beheaded at Jerusalem. The Roman officer who guarded James watched as James defended his faith at his trial. Later, the officer walked beside James to the place of execution. Overcome by conviction, he declared his new faith to the judge and knelt beside James to accept beheading as a Christian.

8. **Bartholomew**, also known as Nathaniel, was a missionary to Asia. He witnessed for our Lord in present-day Turkey. Bartholomew was martyred for his preaching in Armenia where he was flayed to death by a whip.

9. Andrew was crucified on an x-shaped cross in Patras, Greece. After being whipped severely by seven soldiers, his body was tied to the cross

with cords to prolong his agony. His followers reported that, when he was led toward the cross, Andrew saluted it in these words: "I have long desired and expected this happy hour. The cross has been consecrated by the body of Christ hanging on it". He continued to preach to his tormentors for two days until he expired.

10. **Thomas** was stabbed with a spear in India during one of his missionary trips to establish the church in the Subcontinent.

11. **Jude** was killed with arrows when he refused to deny his faith in Christ.

12. **Matthias** was the apostle chosen to replace the traitor Judas Iscariot. He was stoned and then beheaded.

13. **Paul** was tortured and then beheaded by the evil Emperor Nero at Rome in A.D. 67. He endured a lengthy imprisonment which allowed him to write many epistles to the churches he had formed throughout the Roman Empire. These letters, which taught many of the foundational Doctrines of Christianity, form a large portion of the New Testament.

BITS AND PIECES

5. We are pretty sure that one or these Saturdays we will have a retreat with Fr. Tom in the Parish Center. Stay tuned.

6. Gregg Appel is looking into getting some Keep Christ in Christmas bumper stickers. Unfortunately they don't stick on plastic bumpers which is what so many cars have now.

7. Phyllis Steele (ECC Director) may need our help with the upcoming Winter Wonderland.

8. Youth Director Mike Guarino might need our help with this year's drive-through Christmas too.

9. Breakfasts will begin the third Sunday of the month if we are able to have Masses in the church.

10. Two Knights have transferred to our council: Joseph Campagnola and David Unkrich.

11. We will have a soccer challenge this month, but there is no definite information in yet.

12. We still need a Membership and

Retention person for our council.

13. Another corporal communion has not yet been planned.

14. Brother Henry Rodriguez said he will be moving back to Virginia because his wife has cancer and he needs to be near family. We wish him the best.

15. We soon plan to update our telephone tree. We hope it will be helpful in a time of emergency.

1. Sunday breakfasts will begin the third Sunday of the month. Money gained will be used to purchase an ultrasound to help women decide whether or not to have an abortion.

2. Faithful Navigator Bob Anderson stated that 4th Degree is sponsoring a Christmas dinner Thursday, December 16, at 6 p.m. in the Msgr. McCall Hall. Tickets are \$25 a couple. Liquor will be \$2.00 each. The menu will be crab legs, shrimp, wings, ham. The proceeds will go to VAVS, the Department of Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service.

3. There will be a 4th Degree exemption in Orlando November 27. Reservations must be in by Nov. 1. If interested, call Bob Anderson at 727-595-0133.



Another View of the Skills God Gave Craftsmen

The Cathedral Basilica of Saint Louis, also known as the Saint Louis Cathedral, is a cathedral of the Roman Catholic Church located in the Central West End neighborhood of St. Louis, Missouri. Completed in 1914, it is the mother church of the Archdiocese of St. Louis and the seat of its archbishop, currently

Mitchell T. Rozanski. The cathedral is named for Saint Louis and was designated a basilica by Pope John Paul II in 1997.

The cathedral was built as a replacement for the previous Saint Louis Cathedral. Although workers began clearing ground for the building on May 1, 1907, dedication of the Cathedral and its first Mass did not take place until October 18, 1914, when the superstructure was complete. The church is known for its large mosaic installation which is one of the largest in the Western Hemisphere.

In 1912, installation of mosaics in the interior began. Completed in 1988, the mosaics collectively contain 41.5 million glass tesserae pieces in more than 7,000 colors. Covering 83,000 square feet (7,700 m²), it is the largest mosaic collection in the world outside Russia.



MOST NATIONS HAVE A HISTORICAL FLOOD STORY

The great flood story from Genesis 6-8 has been widely debated among theologians with regards to accuracy and authenticity. The Catholic Church neither requires nor prohibits a worldwide flood to be interpreted from Sacred Scripture. Rather, the Church understands these accounts to be translated with "simple and metaphorical language adapted to the mentality of a people but little cultured, both state the principal truths which are fundamental for our salvation, and also give a popular description of the origin of the human race and the chosen people." (Pope Pius II, *Humani Generis*, 38)



drinking festival during the annual Nile flood season.

Asia:

There is a striking tale that comes from India concerning two characters: Matsya (the incarnation of Lord Vishnu as a fish) and Manu (human). Mastya warns Manu of a destructive flood and orders him to collect all the grains of the world into a large boat. In some variations of the story, all living creatures

were instructed to be collected and placed on the boat. After the flood destroys the land, Mastya pulls the boat ashore to safety.

Europe:

An ancient Welsh legend describes the story of Afanc, a lake-monster called Llyn Llion. Afanc causes a huge flood. Two humans, Dwyfan and Dwyfach, were the only survivors. They constructed an ark-like boat called Nefyd Naf Neifion, which carried a pair of each species.

North America:

The Choctaw, Ojibwe, Menomini, Mi'kmaq, Anishinabe, Ottawa, Cree, Nipmuc, WSANEC, Inuit, Eskimo people. Christian missionaries evangelized to the Native American people and discovered a fascinating story that existed within the Choctaw tribes. The legend describes a great period of darkness that covered the lands. The elders of the tribe kept watch for daylight for some time before finally succumbing to despair. At last, light was discovered in the northern skies. The entire nation rejoiced until they spotted great mountains of water rolling over the lands. Everyone was destroyed, except for a few families who had anticipated the waters and constructed a large raft for safety.

Okay – so, Catholics can interpret Genesis 6-8 as accurate, poetic, or both. What about non-biblical, ancient historical records? If there was a worldwide flood, wouldn't there be similar accounts among early tribes and indigenous peoples?

Virtually every ancient civilization, from every living continent, has a great flood story within their ancient mythology. In fact, when early missionaries spread out to all nations to preach the Gospel, they were shocked to discover these societies to have their own accounts of a great flood. These were cross-continental, isolated groups. Having never fraternized with each other to transmit stories or tales. Consider this list of ancient civilizations, and some of their stories:

Africa:

The flood story among Egyptian legends centers around the god, Ra, and his daughter, Sekhmet. Ra sent Sekhmet to destroy humanity because of their unfaithfulness. In the end, Ra intervened by causing Sekhmet to become drunk and fall asleep. This event was commemorated with a wine

Why do some Eastern Catholics use spoons for Holy Communion?

In the Roman Rite, Holy Communion is typically distributed first with consecrated unleavened bread and then with consecrated wine. Very few Roman Rite parishes use the practice of intinction, which is when the priest dips the consecrated host into the chalice of consecrated wine. This practice of intinction is much more common in the Eastern Rites of the Catholic Church, as well as in Eastern Orthodox churches. However, what is different is that many Eastern Catholics use leavened bread, making intinction a bit trickier.



In the Eastern tradition leavened bread represents the resurrection of Jesus, and early on they did not feel it was necessary to directly imitate the Last Supper. (Some scholars still debate over what type of bread Jesus used when he instituted the Eucharist.) They believe that the Eucharist is much more than a representation of the Last Supper and that it focuses on the connection to the heavenly banquet.

With this in mind, Eastern Catholics had

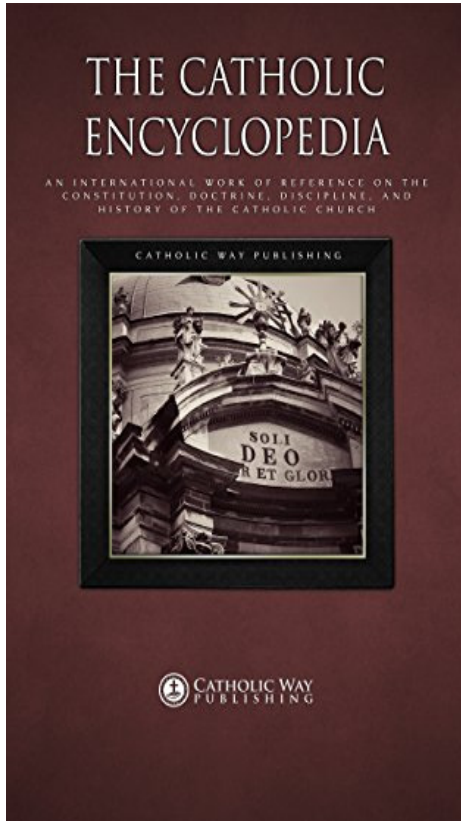
to come-up with a solution to reverently distribute Holy Communion, ensuring that particles of the consecrated bread and drops of the consecrated wine did not fall on the ground.

This protection of the Holy Eucharist revolves around the belief that Jesus is truly there, body, blood, soul and divinity, under the appearance of bread and wine. As a result, a communion spoon was invented, making it easier to dis-

tribute communion reverently, ensuring no particles or drops would make it to the ground. The person receiving opens his or her mouth and tips the head back slightly. The priest drops the contents of the spoon into the recipient's mouth, without the spoon itself touching the lips, teeth, or tongue.

It is a unique expression of Eucharistic faith that continues today in many parts of the world

What Does the Catholic Encyclopedia Say about Viaticum?



Among the ancient Greeks the custom prevailed of giving a supper to those setting out on a journey. They were given provisions of all things necessary for such a journey: food, money, clothes, utensils, etc. The noun equivalent in Latin of both these words is viaticum which meant the provisions for the journey of life and finally by metaphor the provision for the passage out of this world into the next. Formerly it meant anything that gave spiritual strength and comfort to the dying and enabled them to make the journey into eternity with greater confidence and security, anything that tended to reconcile the dying with God. Even children who have reached the age of reason are bound by divine precept to receive the Viaticum when they are in danger of death, according to the opinion of theologians and the rule of the Church. If a person becomes dangerously ill on the day on which he received Holy Communion out of devotion, it is disputed whether he may, or is bound to, receive it as Viaticum. This leaves the decision of this question to the prudent discretion of the priest.

Formerly Viaticum was usually administered under the species of bread, because the Blessed Sacrament, which was to be carried to the house of the dying person, was customarily reserved under this form only. Some priests would dip the host into the wine (intinction) because the throat of the ill person was too parched to swallow the host, yet it was never believed that those who communicated under the species of bread only did not receive, whole and entire, the Body and Blood of Christ. Also, if difficulty is experienced in swallowing the Host on account of the parched condition of the throat, a little water may be given to the sick person before he receives Holy Communion. At present Viaticum is administered, at least in the Latin Church, under the form of bread only.

If the sick person has not previously confessed, the priest should ask those present to leave the room; then he hears the confession, imposes a light penance, and may recall the sick person's attendants. Even if the priest had previously heard the confession, he should not administer Viaticum until he has given the sick person an opportunity to confess again, if he desires it. If the danger of death be imminent, but the person be able to receive, the priest may omit any prayers and give Communion immediately.