

GARGOYLE GAZETTE

May 2021



The Loop of Grace

Once upon a time, I was talking with a person who didn't know if he believed in God. He asked me why I believe in God. I thought for a while because this was a very profound question. I said that I believe in God because I have experienced God. I added that I have experienced God in the sacraments, the church and in one another. I have experienced God through others, my family, my friends and community who have shown me the love of God.

The way someone may experience God is perhaps different for each person. Some have experienced God through creation or through difficulties. The key word here is "experience." God is mystery, which is beyond our total understanding. However, we do know that we do not know God completely. We will never fully understand this mystery in this life. We grasp mystery through our lived experiences, this is "faith." This faith calls us to put the mystery of God into action so others may know God too. How do we do this?

Bishop Robert Barron speaks of the "loop of grace," he says, "the more we receive the divine life, the more we should give it away and thereby get more of it."

Pope Francis in his encyclical "Fratelli Tutti" says, "The smallest, the weakest, the poorest should touch our hearts; indeed, they have a 'right' to appeal to our heart and soul. They are our brothers and sisters, and as such, we must love and care for them."

As we look forward to the feast of Pentecost on May 23, let us ask the Holy Spirit to stir our experiences and actions into a living flame!

We congratulate Jack Bertoli, who made his First Communion on Saturday, May 1st. We congratulate Carter Anderson who made his First Communion on Sunday, May 2nd. May they always continue to grow in faith, hope and love.

Sr. Barbara Woeste, O.S.B

