



The Angelus

August 2025

From the Rector's Desk

I've bored many of you to tears talking about my new interest in riding my motorcycle. So here's one more chance for you to hear more about something you may not be interested in!

I've always liked learning new things, especially things that I don't think I'll be good at or that intimidate me. When I was in my late teens, I learned how to tune my own car with nothing but a torque wrench and a timing light. Very soon after that, cars became very complicated with computer chips, injectors, etc. For that and many other reasons machines have fascinated me and intimidated me since then.

So, controlling while I ride and maintaining as I use something like a motorcycle feels unnerving sometimes, even while it's fascinating and exhilarating. The edge of feeling is all the more since I'm still not a very good or experienced rider yet.

I really hope we feel this way about our connection with Christ and the saints, at least sometimes. We need comfort and solace from our God, sure. But if we never feel like we're not quite comfortable or never feel a little scared taking the risk of living the Christian life, then we run the risk of turning God into a pet and the Christian life as justification of our preferences.

One of my favorite books from my early teens, through my car-tuning years, to this very day is CS Lewis's *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*. The Christ figure in that book is a lion named Aslan who liberates the fictional country of Narnia from perpetual winter by the White Witch. He succeeds, of course, but at the cost of his own life. Yet because of self-sacrificial love, he comes back to life. The human protagonists in this land of talking animals and mythical beasts aren't quite sure of Aslan, even when it's clear he's on the side of freedom and justice.

They even go so far to ask a Narnian, "Is Aslan safe?" The Narnian (a beaver) answers without missing a beat, "Safe? Of course he isn't safe. But he's good." And again and again, Narnians keep saying of Aslan, "He's not a tame lion."

This is not to say that the heretics are right that God is just looking for ways to beat us up for our sins. That's not what being a tame lion is about. It's only a good Christ that is not quite safe that can defeat death by entering it and destroying it from the inside out. How ready are we to have as the center of our life a God so pure that it burns away dross to get to our purest holiness?

I think of this so many times as I ride along Lake Michigan, see gorgeous blues of sky and water while wrapped by wind and light. And all while astride something that's not a little dangerous and makes me feel alive like few things I've done before.

Peace,
WLB+

P.S. Stay tuned for more news about our Grace Motorcycle Group that while take a short ride on **Friday, September 26!**

A Reflection by Fr Scott Leannah, Canon to the Ordinary, Diocese of Wisconsin

Here is a letter from our Canon to the Ordinary. What's that? A Canon to the Ordinary is mostly a bishop's right-hand person and is often the first point of contact for diocesan clergy and parishes. Fr Scott was with us a few month ago, celebrated, preached, and got acquainted with Grace. Several of you read his reflection and were moved by it and asked it be put in the Angelus. So, here it is!

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A few weeks ago, on a weekday afternoon, I received a text message from Gina, my wife:

“I have a Vincent De Paul meeting this evening and did not really make plans for dinner. I know you are working late today. There is a new Chipotle restaurant near our house. Can you get dinner for us, and we can eat together after our meetings?”

This is not a usual occurrence for us, picking up take-out, and I texted back that I was happy to do that, and I would see her later, around 8:00 p.m.

A few hours later, I walked into the restaurant. I happened to be dressed in black—pants, shoes, and clerical shirt with a white tab collar. A couple was having dinner near where I was standing and looking at the menu board. As I moved forward to make my order, I heard a voice, “Excuse me, ¿estás padre?” I indicated that I am, and the three of us proceeded to have a conversation in a wonderful mix of English and Spanish. They asked about my denominational affiliation, and if I was familiar with the Milwaukee area.

The man who first called out to me said, “I am Alex, and this is my wife, Anna. We just got into town from Austin, Texas. We drove straight through. My sister, Adrianna, is in hospice care, and they do not think she will live much longer. We don’t know anyone here and were really hoping to have a priest come and pray with us and anoint Adrianna and offer her Last Rites.” He said their family was connected to both the Catholic and Episcopal churches, and that a priest from either tradition would be great. Did I know anyone?

I said, “I do know one, and I am talking with you right now. I would be very blessed and honored to pray with you and your sister.” Alex and Anna began to cry a little bit, and he said, “We were not going to stop here, but she (Anna) told me she was hungry, and so we did. I can’t believe this.” We exchanged numbers, and I made plans to meet them the following morning at 7:30 a.m. at the hospice facility. I told them to call during the night if Adrianna’s condition declined.

I picked up our dinner and went home. I told Gina about what I had just experienced, and the sense that the Holy Spirit was palpably present in Chipotle.

The following morning Alex met me in the parking lot and led me to a room where Anna and others were waiting. Adrianna was not verbal; she was lying quietly on the bed with her eyes closed. I was surprised at how young she was. I was told that a couple of months ago, there was a recurrence of cancer that had been in remission, and it was spreading rapidly. Together we prayed. I offered Adrianna Last Rites. It was a profound and beautiful moment of grace, tinged with sadness and solemnity.

After our prayer ended, we stood together in shared silence. I headed into the rest of my day and Adrianna’s loved ones stayed with her in the hospice room. Later that afternoon, I received a text message from Alex, telling me that his sister had gone home to God and was at peace. He expressed gratitude that our paths had crossed. I assured him of my prayerful remembrance of Adrianna, him, and his loved ones.

I stopped what I was doing for a moment after sending that reply to Alex. I offered prayers as I indicated I would, and then I said to God in a spirit of wonder and humility, “Who am I that I get to live this life?” I prayed in gratitude, asking that I would always be open to the promptings of the Spirit and the incarnate presence of Christ.

I share this with you because I know you understand. How many times have we had those moments of grace and blessing, being invited into the sacred, wonderful, and very human moments of the lives of others? How is it that we get to do this holy work and be present for these moments?

Ordained ministry today is about as challenging as I have seen in my 32 years of priesthood. And the bulk of our ministry is certainly not what I just shared with you in this reflection. However, it is our privilege, and our call, to be present and open to moments like that. There must be some people in the community of believers who can point to the presence of grace, call upon God in moments too profound for anything else, and be present in wonder as it all unfolds. We need for there to be some among us who can call us together so that, in the midst of our very human lives, we can step back and remember once again our identity as God's precious children, beloved and redeemed.

Really, how did we get to be the ones who do this sacred work?

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Scott R. Leannah" followed by a small cross symbol.

Father Scott Leannah
Canon to the Ordinary
Episcopal Diocese of Wisconsin

Ladies of Grace

A new ladies group is being offered starting Tuesday, September 2nd at 2 pm. You may ask Why? What? and Where? Why, well, for those who attended Father Throop's Sunday School class back in the Spring, "Christian Faith, Science and Technology," we were made aware of the side effects of modern technology, one being isolation. There is no hard and fast "What?" This is a group still to be determined. We make it what we want it to be and what GOD is calling us to do. The foundation is



rooted in Christianity. The bare bones of such meetings will include prayer, singing, a bible reading taken from the daily lectionary and a time to share the needs of family, friends and the sick followed by tea/coffee and cake/cookies. A sign up sheet will be made available in the Narthex. Where we meet will depend on the number of people interested. If the number is only six or so we can start off in my home and go from there. If the starting number is larger we can meet at Grace Church - room to be determined. If there are any questions or suggestions or the day of week or time is not available to you please contact me at ellemay3rd@yahoo.com

Ellen Aparicio



Brat Fry

Congratulations and many thanks for all the hard work the following parishioners did to make the brat fry on July 12, 2025 a smashing success! The net **total of \$2,018 (\$553 from the bake sale - leftovers were donated to the well deserving Coast Guard)** was raised to help fund outreach programs. It also translates into grilling and selling 407 brats and 162 hamburgers!

Please thank the following parishioners who volunteered their time and baked goods to make it such a success. A special thank you to Robert McMillan who chaired the event.

Our fabulous bakers:

Deb Gagin, Sarah Clabots Kim, Nancy Imig, Barb MacEwen, Jessica Ambelang, Mary Clabots, Pat Sather, Pat Miller, Mary Snyder, Betty Potter, Rachel Annis, Mary Gallimore, Erika Gallimore, Pat Ford Smith, Connie Schneider, Shannon Luckey Mueller.

Brat Hut Staff:

Fr. William, Bob MacEwen, Mary Snyder, Tom Wright, Tim Miller, Pat Miller, Sarah Clabots, Kim and her daughters, Sidonia and Bea, and John Keller

Bake Sale Table:

Tomomi Kanemaru, Deb Gagin, Mary Snyder.

And the Brat Boys of Grace Fryers that made it happen:

Art Imig, Bill Gagin, Robert McMillan, Bob Imig, Jack Britton, John Davis, Fr. William, Tom Wright, Doug Jenkins, Bob MacEwen.

Many thanks to parishioners and friends who came to eat and buy goodies. But above all we give thanks to God for our abundant blessings in making this such a successful event.





EpiscoWisco Youth Love Journey

On Friday , July 25th, students from around the diocese stayed overnight at Grace, as a stop on their pilgrimage across the state learning more about Episcopalians in WI. Members of Grace volunteered to help provide and serve dinner, along with breakfast to the pilgrims and chaperones, in support of the brothers and sisters in Christ.

Many thanks to Deacon Paul for organizing this event, and to Crystal Lopez, Pat Ford Smith, Pat Miller. Addison & Clayton Spray, Mary Clabots, Rachel Annis, Tomomi Kanemaru for volunteering their time to prepare meals and serve, and also to Fr. William for leading the Grace Tour, which made this wonderful stay such a success!

What an honor it was to have students of DioWisconsin visit and experience Grace Church. Saturday, July 26th, the Road crew headed home as their journey ended. We ask that they all returned safely and with a greater sense of love as Christ-followers.



June Vestry highlights:

- As the Angelus goes to print, we are pleased to announce a new roof and gutters have been installed on rectory.
- The neighborhood around the rectory has seen a dramatic change in status as strangers have been wandering around the yard, knocking on the doors of rectory at all hours, and various other activities. The vestry is requesting funding from GWF to install security fencing and a video security system.
- Fr. Bulson and Tomomi will travel to Japan for the month of November.
- Shannon Luckey-Mueller presented the new signage mock-up for the Walsingham Shrine. It will be located near Seventh Street office entrance touting the Walsingham proto shrine in the church proper of Grace. Vestry will ask GWF for \$1000 to cover manufacture and installation on the sign.
- *Check out the new website:* Walsingham.us
- Fr. Bulson reported on his planned sabbatical in 2027. Details to follow.

June Financial Focus

<u>April Income</u>	<u>YTD Income</u>	<u>Annual Budget 2025</u>
\$ 32,040	\$ 211,768	\$ 314,048
<u>April Expenses</u>	<u>YTD Expenses</u>	<u>Annual Budget 2025</u>
\$ 35,764	\$ 190,553	\$ 360,081

Mark Your Calendars

- **AUGUST 10th:**
Baptism of Addison Vera MacEwen at All Saints Chapel
- **AUGUST 11th:**
Elkhart Lake Downtown Night 5-9 p.m.
All Saints Brat Fry. Contact Robert McMillan to volunteer
- **AUGUST 15th at 6 pm**
Mass – The Assumption of the BVM (Blessed Virgin Mary)
- **October 16th - 19th**
Annual Pilgrimage to the American Proto-Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham

August Birthdays

Steve Weinert	8/6
Ben Crouse	8/8
Mary Tasche	8/12
Jeff Lynas	8/16
Danie Wilson	8/17
Hsa Gay	8/18
Connie Schneider	8/19
Kevin Norwick	8/19
Bev Evans	8/24
Jean-Margret Merrell-Beech	8/28
Wayne Sather	8/29

August Anniversary

Hank & Polly	
Bohenstengel	8/4
Karl Mueller &	
Shannon Luckey-Mueller	8/8
James & JoAnn Sorenson	8/18
Paul & Andrea Aparicio	8/23

Parish Staff

The Rt. Rev. Matthew A Gunter, *Bishop*
The Reverend William L. Bulson, *Rector*
The Reverend Paul D. Aparicio, *Deacon*
Clayton Logue, *Organist-Choirmaster*
Crystal Lopez, *Parish Administrator*
Greg Allen, *Sexton*

The Vestry

The Reverend William L. Bulson, *Chair*
Mary Snyder, *Senior Warden*
John Davis, *Junior Warden*
Brian Heck, *Treasurer*
Helen Mullison, *Chancellor*
Vestry: Sarah Bernhardt, Jack Britton,
Fr. Jack Connelly, Jane Hanson,
Doug Jenkins, Robert McMillan,
Tim Miller, and Steve Weinert



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