Is Your Cup Half Full or Half Empty?

There are some unusual things that happen during services that only the priests find interesting or amusing. During the course of my ministry, I have observed an oddity of sorts during Eucharist. No matter how much wine is consecrated, and no matter how many people are receiving Communion wine, the amount left at the end of Communion remains about the same.

I think there is something in our power of observation that allows us to see how much wine is in the Chalice and then influences how much wine we consume. If I prepare Eucharist with a tiny amount of wine, you typically respond by just barely consuming any of the wine and at the end of Communion a small amount of wine remains in the Chalice.

So, when I set the table, I always like to have Chalices with an abundance of wine. When you come to the rail, I want you to be reminded of the abundance of God’s love. When you make that unconscious glance into the cup, your mind should always be reminded of abundance.

Does this seem a little far-fetched to you? Maybe you’re thinking that I need a few days off? Consider this: how many times have you been with friends and had one cookie left. Typically someone comes and splits that cookie in half and this continues until a small piece remains at the end of the evening.

Jesus Christ invites us to live boldly and abundantly. We tend to live in fear that there won’t be enough. There won’t be enough money, groceries or time. Rather than living in fear that there won’t be enough, experiment with what it is like to live boldly. Try to “use-up” all of God’s resources. In my life, God has always provided me with what I need (not always with what I wanted!). I look forward to a day, when all the wine in the Chalice is consumed and we slip into the Sacristy to bless more wine.

Father Bur
Do you recognize the chapel in this picture? This is what the property looked like when it was the home of the Walter family, early settlers in Fredericksburg. The picture was taken sometime before 1930. Streets were not paved. The well and kitchen are to the left and the barn is on the right. A fence kept livestock away from the house.

Our humanity is a marvelous thing. One aspect of it, though, is that we are mortal. We die. Modern medicine looks at healing.

Dr. Gawande discovered that dealing with end of life issues was not a part of his medical education nor was it part of normative medical practice. This book is a personal meditation on how we can better live with age-related frailty, serious illness and approaching death. He gives a dignified voice to older people in the process of losing their independence. Readers will see the world from their perspective, not just those of their physicians and family members.

Wisdom School classes will be held on Thursdays, Sept. 6–Nov. 15, 2018.

- Contemplative prayer will be offered in the Sanctuary at 5:45 p.m.
- Participants will meet in the Parish Hall at 6:15 p.m.
- Classes will meet from 6:30–8 p.m.

The fee for each course is a one-time payment of $10. You can buy books in the office or on the first evening. Register on line at www.stbarnabasfbg.org or by calling the office at (830) 997-5762. For more information, call Debbie Gorden at (830) 285-7668.
In June, Fr. Jeff, Ric McCormick and I spent a Saturday attending the Diocese of West Texas Abide in Me Conference at our TMI School. The conference topics centered on Stewardship with breakout sessions from various speakers from DWTX and other organizations on the role of clergy in stewardship, online giving, stewardship of time and talent, financial fine points for Vestries and Bishop’s Committees, narrative budgets, legacy giving, new consecration Sunday stewardship program, endowment funds and capital campaigns.

The keynote speaker for the conference and leader of two breakout sessions was The Rt. Rev. Gregory Rickel, the Bishop of the Diocese of Olympia. Bishop Rickel was the rector at St. James Episcopal Church in Austin before being elected to his current post in 2007. Bishop Rickel is an enthusiastic advocate of stewardship; he is the bishop of an area mission in western Washington State and served on TEC Standing Committee on Stewardship and Development. He is a truly inspiring man, a great speaker, and I recommend catching one of his presentations if you ever get the chance.

Fr. Jeff, Ric, and I all learned a good deal from the day at TMI. The conference was packed with information on all levels from stewardship philosophy to practical financial practices. It was great to visit with folks from parishes both larger and smaller than St Barnabas about their stewardship programs.

The biggest lesson I learned from the day is that giving, whether in finances or time, is a heart issue. Do you give? Whom do you give to? How much do you give? Do you give financially or with time and talent? Do you give based on a percentage? Do you tithe? These are all heart related issues we face on our journey through Christian life.

I also learned that we are often emotionally tied to our finances, especially when they are hard earned. Many of us, especially myself, fall into the line of thinking that because we work hard for our financial stability, we need to protect and control what we earn. We can forget that even though we earned what we have, it is God who gave us the talent, opportunity, good fortune, insight and skills to achieve that success. I am not sure I will ever be able to chunk the financial steering wheel out the window and let God drive; however, I think we can all agree that it is good thing to pause for a minute to say I don’t know everything, and I will let God’s work be done with my finances, time, and talents.

Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me. (John 15:4)

John Sumners, Sr. Warden
Celebration for New Members of the Daughters of the King

On June 10, four new members were admitted to the Daughters of the King, after completing a discernment class led by Debbie Agnew and Gail Moreman. The Daughters is a women’s organization that asks its members to commit to a rule of life that includes prayer, service and evangelism. The next opportunity for new members will be in January 2019.

After the service, the new Daughters were welcomed with a luncheon in the Parish Hall.

The Daughters meet once a month on the second Saturday. The next meeting will be at 9:30 a.m. on September 8.

At St. Barnabas, we welcome all visitors of any species. On June 21, the office staff was surprised by a beautiful family of ducks outside the office door. The next day, this little fellow was by himself, scurrying around, likely looking for his family. Soon he took off in the direction of the creek, where we hope he was reunited with the others.

St. Barnabas Vestry

Sr. Warden—John Sumners • Jr. Warden—Bill Snyder • Treasurer—Ric McCormick

2018-2020
Bob Bates
Tim Bowyer
Cindy Scroggins

2017-2019
Shelly Kothman
John Wallace
Ken Smith
John Youngblood

2016-2018
Julie Alvarez
Frances Money
John Sumners
Out of the believer’s heart shall flow rivers of living water.

John 7:38

Meetings and Ministries

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
Sun Mon Tues Wed Fri Sat  8 p.m. in the CEB
6:30 p.m. on Monday and Friday
Thurs, Closed Meeting (Women) 7 p.m. in the CEB

AL-ANON
Monday—6:30 p.m. in the CEB
Friday—6:30 p.m. in the CEB

BELL CHOIR
Off for the summer

MEN’S BIBLE STUDY
Monday—7 a.m. in the Library

BOY SCOUT TROOP 137
Tuesday—6:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall

COMMUNITY DINNER
Sunday - 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall

CHOIR
Off for the summer

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING
Off for the summer

EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY
Off for the summer

KITCHEN TABLE BIBLE STUDY
Thursday—10-11:45 a.m., Call Bernie Swanzy

KNIT-WITS (KNITTING GROUP)
Wednesday—3 p.m. in the CEB

LADIES’ LUNCH
3rd Thursday - 11:45 a.m. at the Herb Farm

LIBRARY GUILD
1st Thursday — 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.—Library

MEN’S BREAKFAST
Thursday—7 a.m. in the Parish Hall

MMO (MOM’S MORNING OFF)
Off for the summer

VESTRY
No Meeting in July

WISDOM SCHOOL
Living Presence: 11:30 a.m.—Library
July Birthdays

1st  Lynne Cross
    Martha Davis
    Frances Money
3rd  Stella Hill
4th  Jane Elwood
     Rebecca Williams
7th  Adelyn Barter
    Alan Brockmeier
    Luke Cowsar
    Wilfred Fanning
9th  James Muncey
11th Evelyn Burns
    Ruby Davis
    Paula Provost
12th Stephen McCrummen
12th Pam Montandon
    Michael Swanzy
    Shelly Kothmann
    Juliet Yonke
    Thea Setterbo
16th Mike Massengale
17th  Mell Jackson, Jr.
    Tracy Mason
    Jack Daffern
19th Cindy Scroggins
21st Mary Ann Garrett
    Jana Neale
22nd Carla Herbig
    Carla Herbig
    Pam Montandon
    Michael Swanzy
    Shelly Kothmann
    Juliet Yonke
    Thea Setterbo
    Mike Massengale
    Mell Jackson, Jr.
    Tracy Mason
    Jack Daffern
    Cindy Scroggins
    Mary Ann Garrett
    Jana Neale
24th Cheri Rothermel
    Cheri Rothermel
    Michael Swanzy
    Shelly Kothmann
    Juliet Yonke
    Thea Setterbo
    Mike Massengale
    Mell Jackson, Jr.
    Tracy Mason
    Jack Daffern
    Cindy Scroggins
    Mary Ann Garrett
    Jana Neale
25th Rex White
26th Joanie Harris
    Joanie Harris
    Cydney Mickelson
    Bill Sadd
27th Humberto Palmerin
28th Meredith Clements
    Meredith Clements
    Justin Davis
    Rosamond Haertlein
29th Heather York
30th Carly McMahon
    Carly McMahon
    Marilee Pankratz
    Morey Weldon

Dates to Remember

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<td>VBS</td>
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<td>1st Day of FISD</td>
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<td>1st Day of EfM</td>
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July Anniversaries

7th  Judy & Tom Taylor
8th  Suzanne & Alan Brockmeier
12th Stella & Billy Hill
14th Katharine & Chris Brundrett
    Sharla & Jonathan Godfrey
    Christi & John Sumners
15th Elizabeth & Harvey Coe
17th Janice & Tom Christofferson
17th Ginny & Roberts Thomason
22nd Beth & Jimmy Davis
26th Mary Lou & Rex White
30th Cydney & Richard Mickelson
CHURCH CLERGY AND STAFF:
Rector: The Rev. Jeff Hammond
Assistant Rector: The Rev. Bur Dobbins
Lay Pastoral Minister: Morey Weldon
Clergy Associate: The Rev. Dr. Dyana Orrin
Clergy Associate: The Rev. Anne Finn
Clergy Associate: The Rev. Tom Luck
Parish Administrator: Rachael Cole
Office Assistant: Carol Schreider
Youth Director: Hazel Hanson
Lay Ministry Coordinator: Steve Neale
Mom’s Morning Off Director: Deanne Moellering
Nursery Director: Madeline Clanton
Housekeeper: Patty Ramirez

School Supply Drive
Take your donation of school supplies to the Needs Council, at 1904 N. Llano before July 27.

- Backpack (no wheels)
- Notebook Paper, wide rule
- Binders, 3-ring, 1.5” and 2” sizes
- Pencil Sharpener with shaving collector
- Pocket Folders with brads, all colors
- Pencils
- Subject Dividers, plastic with pockets
- Pens, black, blue or red
- Crayola Crayons, regular and twist up
- Highlighters, any color
- Crayola Colored Pencils
- Pink Pearl Eraser
- Crayola Watercolors
- Spiral Notebook, wide rule, 70 page
- Crayola Markers, classic broad line
- 5-Subject Spiral Notebook
- Expo Dry Erase Markers, all colors
- Composition Notebooks
- Glue Sticks
- Elmer’s Glue 4 oz.
- Scissors, pointed and rounded tip