



ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

THIS SUNDAY MAY 20 & BEYOND

Indiana Jones — The Chalice of Life



You may remember some of those myths about the “Fountain of Youth”, and the last I heard it was supposed to be somewhere in Florida. Or at least it was when the Spaniards were in New World discovery mode. Is that why so many retirees go to Florida? Maybe, if

they could find the Fountain there, it would give their retirement age and activities some more time just to enjoy life!

That same kind of quest and idea was brought into the scene from Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade, when Professor Jones and a variety of sinister persons were looking for the Holy Grail, the Chalice, the Cup that Jesus used with the apostles at the Last Supper. Christians believe that the Holy Sacrament of the Body and Blood of Jesus does in fact allow us to share in the eternal life and strength of Jesus Christ, Son of God. It’s a stretch theologically, but you could say that the Blood of Jesus brought to us in the Communion service in a chalice is a fountain of life. Of course, that’s the foundation for this scene, and the movie. So back to the movie.....

Upon discovery of the cave where the chalice was kept, the explorers were encountered by a Crusader Knight, left behind centuries before to guard the chalice. The strategy to keep it safe was large, long rock ledge that had a hundred different chalices on it. And only one, of course, was the correct chalice. The problem was if you chose the wrong one, put water into it and drank from it, you would die. Indiana, being the movie’s protagonist, chose correctly, and to the benefit of his father who had been shot. The water in the Lord’s chalice would be poured onto the mortal wound and his father would be miraculously healed. But all that happened AFTER the greedy antagonist picked the wrong chalice, drank water from it, and died on the spot, gruesomely. You may remember the ancient Knight’s famous line, “He chose... poorly.”

This coming Sunday is when the Christian faith celebrates what is known as “Pentecost” (pente is a word referring to the number “50”, as in 50 days after

Easter). It is the day the promised Holy Spirit of God would come down from heaven and fill to overflowing the gathered disciples, waiting for something to happen for them as Jesus had said. They had prayed together for 10 days after Jesus ascended to heaven. And now, on this Jewish feast day celebrating harvest and new life, here comes the Spirit. The Spirit came to do several things for those believing in the risen Jesus as the Messiah, the Anointed one, the savior of the world. One of those things was to give Life.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of Life. THERE's your fountain of life! Not just of Youth, but of eternal life no matter how old you might be! Here, we believe it is the work of the Holy Spirit at the invitation of the prayer of people and priest that the bread and wine do become somehow the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ at the Mass. Thus, again, the Holy Spirit is the giver of life. AND, He is the giver of the Life you will need to be an effective follower of Jesus here on earth before you go to heaven.

This fountain is not for sale. And all may come to it. And you do not have to produce a life of perfection to receive it. And you cannot horde it. There is no arbitrary need to figure out which Spirit, like the multiple chalices in the movie, or some kind of divine shell game. For there is only one Holy Spirit, and God the Father allows the Spirit of life to be given as a loving Father would at the request of His child.

Do you need Life?! Is Life slipping away from your grasp? Does a direction and goals for your life seem clouded in gray? Do you feel more like the walking dead than the joyful person full of living? Good News! The promise given through Jesus is that if you will turn away from the things that bring you death because you are serving only yourself rather than God and others. Believe in Jesus, be baptized. Seek the Holy Spirit as the disciples did before Pentecost and you will be filled with this Holy Spirit to overflowing! You will have found and received the LIFE you seek and need.

Pray this: "Come, Holy Spirit!"

Father Rob Eaton, Interim Rector

CALENDAR

SUNDAY: The Day of Pentecost (Whitsunday)

8:00a Low Mass (Church)

10:30a Solemn High Mass (Church)

—The entrance to the church is on 6th Avenue—

Note: Coffee Hour & Fellowship follow the Mass in the Parish Hall.

MONDAY: 7:00p (AA) Doctors' Group (Fireside Room)

TUESDAY: Noon Mass (St. Mary's Chapel)

FRIDAY: AA Meetings

8:00p Ladies' Group (Fireside Room)

8:15p Men's Group (Parish Hall)

SATURDAY 7:00pm Willan West 2018 Celebration – High Solemn Mass honoring
St. Augustine of Canterbury