

## JUNE NEWSLETTER

### WHAT RHYMES WITH JUNE?

By: Fr. O'Dell

Well here we are in June already! I am so glad summer is here. It has been a really busy Spring so I'm glad to have a little time to slow down. One of the things about slowing down though is that my brain slows down as well. So, this month I was having a hard time thinking of something to talk about in the newsletter. I sat and pondered, and thought and pondered, but nothing was coming to me. I thought so long that my brain started to hurt. Finally, I was about ready to give up.

Then, in the very midst of my desperation - inspiration hit. I decided to find all the words I could think of that rhymed with June and see if some idea emerged from that. The first two words I thought of were **coon** and **goon** - those didn't seem too promising. So, I started at the other end of the alphabet and the first word that popped into mind was **tune**. Guess what, that got the wheels to start turning. **Tune** reminds me of the beauty of music. It also reminds me that I should be raising my voice every day to the Lord in a song of praise. A song of gratitude for all the many blessings He has bestowed upon me. That I should continually make a joyful noise unto the Lord in worship and adoration as He is my Creator, my Redeemer and my Sanctifier. June is a wonderful time to sing a **tune** to God.

The next word that came to mind was **soon**. **Soon** means that something is going to happen quickly, in the near future. **Soon** applies to my faith life, too. I am reminded at every Mass that I attend that **soon** and very **soon** I am going to meet the Lord. My time here on earth is limited - just like all of us I am **sooner** or later going to die. I am reminded that I should live my life everyday as if my last day would happen very **soon** and that I would meet the Lord in judgment quicker than I think. **Soon** also means that if I stay connected to God's grace - **soon** my soul will be filled with serenity and peace beyond description. June is a month to remember just how **soon** some really important things from the Lord may cross my path in life.

Another word that I came across was **rune**. A **rune** is a strange hieroglyph - an odd bit of writing that communicates something that is held in secret. **Runes** are all about a language which only a few folks understand. I am reminded that the Will of God made manifest in the Holy Bible isn't communicated in **runes**. It isn't hidden or hard to sort out if I just take the time to read the Scripture, to study what the Church tells me about what I read, and to open my heart to the whisper of God's voice and direction. Too often I treat the Bible as a big mystery - filled with **runes**. When I do that, I cheat myself out of the privilege of having a close connection with the Lord in His inspired word. June is a month to stop treating the Bible as if it were a **rune** and to start reading it regularly.

Then there is the word **noon**. **Noon** is the time during the day that the light of the sun should be its brightest. I am reminded that my faith invites me to walk in the **noon** day light that comes from a solid relationship with Jesus Christ. When I walk in the bright light of my Savior, nothing is hidden, nothing is obscured in the darkness of evil. A relationship with Jesus is the most important gift I use to stay in the light of the truth. June is a time to walk in the **noon** day light of the Lord.

Finally, there is the word **boon**. A **boon** is a favor that is given by a King or Queen to his/her people. Certainly God's Blessings to us are **boons** that we receive every day we walk through our life here on earth. Some of His **boons** include things like the seven Sacraments - in particular the Holy Eucharist and Reconciliation, the relationships He has blessed us with here on earth that support and sustain us, the many prayers we make to God that He continually answers. There are millions of **boons** that God gives us - one of our primary tasks is to share these same **boons** with others. June is a month to reach out in a blessed way, to do a favor for someone else, to help them have an easier time of it.

Well, I guess this article wasn't such a difficult thing after all. Remember, June is a time to stay close to God. Maybe the words I rhymed for you might help you to think of new ways to do just exactly that!