

Day 203 – Friday, October 9, 2020

I am excited today. Tonight I am doing a wedding rehearsal for a young lady that I baptized 25 years ago. It has always been a dream of mine to baptize someone and then officiate at their wedding. Okay there are two ways to look at this. 1) Yes I am getting old. If I did the baptism 25 years ago it puts me at 59 (60 in 2 ½ weeks). 2) I can see the fruits of my labor. I know I only had a limited influence on this young lady, but I have seen her grow and blossom into a beautiful young lady, and it has always given me great joy to see the flame of faith being ignited into a roaring fire. I just know she will be an asset to whatever parish she will eventually find herself in.

I have watched her struggle in planning her life, and in the last few months struggle to plan a wedding in the midst of COVID. In all of these struggles she has not only survived, she has thrived. And tomorrow all of it will come together. It is the first time I have felt that the priest is more excited than the bride.

This experience has given me a little insight in our relationship with Jesus our Savior. Many times he is referred to as the Bridegroom, and we (the members of the Church) as the Bride. And it makes me realize that Jesus is as excited about his relationship with us, as I am about officiating at this wedding. I cannot even begin to imagine the joy that will be in heaven. I can only look forward to it.

And God must be listening to her prayers because tomorrow will be the last warm/sunny day of the year. Please pray that all goes well!

In the light of eternity, we're here for a very short time, really. We're here for one thing, ultimately: to learn how to love, because God is love. - James Finley

Sincerely,
Fr. Jim Kaptein