

20<sup>th</sup> B August 16, 2015 (festival weekend)

“Wisdom...has dressed her meat, mixed her wine, yes, she has spread her table...she calls...out over the city...to the one who lacks understanding, she says, Come, eat of my food and drink of the wine I have mixed!” [pause]

It sounds like our festival!

So I searched the internet for a more modern translation of our first reading (you can always trust the internet!). So here goes:

St. Bernadette has rented 45 booths. She has cut the sausage, pulled the pork, thawed the burgers, and breaded the chicken. She has set up 18 tables and 120 chairs in the food tent. She has mixed the lemonade, hooked up the Coke tanks, chilled the Bud and Yuengling.

And now St. Bernadette calls out to the neighborhood, “Everyone is welcome this weekend! No matter who you are, or what you have done, or what you believe—come visit us at festival! If you are among the 18% of Americans who have no religious affiliation—come meet us at St. Bernadette! Eat of our food, drink of our wine! Learn that Catholics are good and decent people.

And learn this too: that the Catholic Church can feed, not just your body, but your mind and your heart too. Feast on the writings of our saints, on the teachings of Pope Francis, on our core value of the worth and dignity of every human life. You can learn a lot here!

And visitors, we have a very special “food court” here at St. Bernadette. We have a very special kitchen every week. We have the Body and Blood of Christ. And he will feed your soul—at a level no other food or drink can reach. And he will help you live forever. “Taste and see that the Lord is good!”

So, dear neighbors, enjoy the festival. It is our gift to you. Now that you know that we are here: if you are hungry or thirsty or searching or lost—come back next weekend too!