



*From the Desk of Father Peter*

*The Angel Inside Us and Our First Communion Experience*

*This month, many children of our diocese will be making their First Communion, and so I have this story to share.*



*A young boy was walking down the street when he came upon an old cathedral. He could hear banging and clanging coming from within and decided to open the door to find out what was going on. Inside, an old man worked on a huge block of marble with a chisel and hammer. The old man never noticed the young boy, and after a few minutes the boy wandered off, unimpressed by what he saw.*

*Many days later, the boy was once again passing by the cathedral. This time it was the silence that stoked his curiosity, and he peeked in to see why things were so quiet. The old man was still at work, but instead of a hammer and a chisel, he held a soft cloth that he used to polish a large angelic figure that had once been the block of marble.*

*The little boy stood in amazement of what he saw, and after several minutes he asked the old man, "How did you know that an angel was inside that block of marble?" The old man turned to the boy and said, "There is an angel inside us all. All we need to do is chip away at those little hard pieces that do not resemble one, and we will release the angel that is inside us."*

*The only way to unwrap this angel within us is to develop trust in God through the Eucharist. We need to experience it, need to see it, and need to live it as the source of our faith. Parents and grandparents, bring your young ones to church often so that they can receive the Eucharist at Mass. Parents, thank God for your child and think about God's faithfulness. Think about how God led his people (the Israelites) to the Promised land despite their weak faith and episodes of disobedience. Fill your minds with stories like these, and you will see what faithful friendship looks like. We need to reach into the depths of our hearts and allow God to use us through our guardian angel. Think about your family, job, neighborhood, church, gym, and so on. **Have you ever thought that God might have positioned you just perfectly in the midst of all these people to be a door-opener for the Good News?***

*Today, let us take some time to map out the different connections we have through our Eucharistic celebration. Start by making a list or drawing a kind of web that illustrates the many groups we are linked to. Look for ways to invite others to come and see the goodness of the Lord. Even a small act of trusting hospitality can do wonders!*



*Peace to all,*

*Fr. Peter*