



RESURRECTION UNIVERSITY PARISH

Land Stewardship Committee

AMAZING!

Yes, God is amazing. God loves us and he shows us that in many ways. God loves us so richly, so generously, and with such grandeur. God created everything. Fr. John Riccardo in his recent article *Rescued: The Unexpected and Extraordinary News of the Gospel* reminds us of that fact through the methodology of math. Ready?

Fr. Riccardo noted that God made the sun and made the moon as well as the stars. "The universe is forty-six billion light-years across. Our sun is one of roughly one hundred billion stars in our galaxy. And there are roughly a hundred billion galaxies in the universe.

Our sun is a relatively small star, and yet our sun could hold roughly 960,000 Earths. One of the largest stars in the universe, Canis Major (which is Latin for "The Big Dog"), could hold seven quadrillion Earths. You can fit seven quadrillion Earths inside Canis Major, and that's just one of hundreds of billions of stars in a universe that's forty-six billion light-years across and ever expanding.

There is one very important ramification: in this universe that is massive beyond our understanding, the creature God loves more than any other creature, is you."

The Pioneer Space probe launched in 1964 has long since left our solar system and is now in outer space--so to speak. Since 1964 it has been traveling 32,400 mph. That is 32400/60 or three seconds to Livingston, 8.5 seconds to Yellowstone National Park. Amazing! Here is the real amazement. In 36+23 years (59 years) it hasn't hit anything. Sort of makes you wonder what God wants with all that empty space. Simplicio, the Aristotelian asked that question to Salviati, spokesman for Galileo, "What good is the empty space--it seems superfluous and vain?" Salviati answers "It is brash for our feebleness to judge the reasons for God's actions."

"How Great Thou Art"

O Lord my God, When I, in awesome wonder,
Consider all the worlds Thy Hands have made.
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

GREEN LEAF

WHAT IS SO RARE AS A DAY IN JUNE?¹



Ruby Crowned Kinglet

And what is so rare as a day in June?
Then, if ever, come perfect days;
Then Heaven tries the earth if it be in
tune,
And over it softly her warm ear lays.
Whether we look, or whether we
listen,
We hear life murmur, or see it glisten;
Every clod feels a stir of might,
An instinct within it that reaches and
towers,

And, grasping blindly above it for
light,
Climbs to a soul in grass and flowers;
The flush of life may well be seen
Thrilling back over hills and valleys;
The cowslip startles in meadows green,
The buttercup catches the sun in its
chalice,
And there's never a leaf or a blade too
mean.

To be some happy creature's palace;
The little bird sits at his door in the sun,
Atilt like a blossom among the leaves,
And lets his illumined being o'er run
With the deluge of summer it receives;
His mate feels the eggs beneath her wings,
And the heart in her dumb breast flutters and sings;
He sings to the wide world, and she to her nest,--
In the nice ear of Nature which song is the best?

¹ Lowell, James Russell, *The Vision of Sir Launfal*", within the Prelude to Part First.

YELLOWSTONE REVISITED

A recent trip through Yellowstone Park revealed the extent of the damage from the flood of 2022. The new entrance road at Gardiner replaces the previous road that washed out from Boiling River to Rescue Creek Trailhead. There is yet no definitive statement from the Park Headquarter if the road that paralleled the Gardiner River-Rescue Creek road on the down hill slid into the junction with the Yellowstone will be rebuilt sufficiently to carry the late summer traffic. The new road (temporary?) is a bit like driving through North Carolina Mountains at



night. There are many switch backs and U-Turns of 110 degrees or more. Stopping is prohibited except in designated areas. There are many affording public adequate opportunities to stop and enjoy what is for many a gorgeous view of Gardiner and environs from a high elevation.

Early visitors to the Park, despite frequent stops at Gardiner Bridge, Yellowstone River Bridge, and Lamar rapid narrows, enjoyed many views besides the terrific damage caused by the flood water.

Mother Black bear emerged from hibernation a

little late but then, no doubt, her two cubs kept her up at night. (One baby can be seen frolicking slightly above the sow and to the left. She looks bored and tired!). Round Prairie is

no longer round it has been scarified by the water that coursed through what used to be Pebble Creek Campground. The Lamar narrows is being totally reworked and the huge boulders removed and hauled away.

The road is being shifted to the north for the length of the narrows and then joins the old road into Lamar Valley. Likewise the narrows into Round Prairie was eliminated and the new road moved to the west. This would be in the area of Trout Lake

The Yellowstone River Picnic bridge is being removed and a new bridge constructed. The entrance will be from Tower Hotel front area. The old road will be eliminated, scrapped and replanted with sage. Wrecker Point could well be eliminated. There is no news on that. An overlook appears to be under construction.



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And Pebble Creek? The debris and rip-rap is two stories high. The ground has been stripped of vegetation.

Man proposes: God disposes

UP, UP, AND AWAY

Josh Moller has solved the vagaries and vicissitudes of hoechoka.com, the web site for Land Stewardship Committee (LSC) at Resurrection University Parish. Drop in, take a look, send your comments. AND.....And listen carefully, join the membership of the Land Stewardship Committee and become part of the answer. Comments, kudos, affirmations, salutes, are always welcome as are suggestions for articles, if you want, pitch pennies but we would prefer dollars--and if so make sure the donation is earmarked for use of Land Stewardship Committee.

Green Leaf and Land Stewardship contacts are on line at the web site hoechoka.com. Any thoughts, ideas, or suggestions can be delivered to Ellie Weber at the parish office or send to the editors through the contact page on the Green Leaf. Donations for the work of the Land Stewardship Committee can be given to Ellie Weber with the notation for "Land Stewardship Committee (LSC)" use. The LSC is supported and operates through funding from grants, donation, and the good will of parishioners and public alike.

CHOMP. CHOMP. CHOMP!

<https://apod.nasa.gov/apod/ap080619.html>



Grand tidal streams of stars seem to surround galaxy [NGC 5907](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NGC_5907). The arcing structures form tenuous loops extending more than 150,000 light-years from the narrow, edge-on spiral, also known as the [Splinter](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Splinter_Galaxy) or [Knife Edge Galaxy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Knife_Edge_Galaxy). Recorded only in very deep exposures, the streams likely represent [the ghostly trail](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ghostly_trail) of a dwarf galaxy -- debris left along the orbit of a smaller satellite galaxy that was gradually [torn apart](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Torn_apart) and [merged with](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Merged_with) NGC 5907 over four billion years ago. Ultimately this remarkable discovery image, from a small robotic observatory in New Mexico, supports the cosmological [scenario](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scenario) in which large spiral galaxies, [including](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Including) our own Milky Way, were formed by the accretion of smaller ones. NGC 5907 lies about 40 million light-years distant in the northern constellation [Draco](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Draco).

**Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee
How great Thou art, How great Thou art.**