

Parson's Corner – July 2024
By Father Edward Erb
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INDEPENDENCE DAY

The 4th of July - Independence Day - when we celebrate breaking away from the oppression of outside forces.

Most teens at least, are looking forward to independence - going off to college, getting their own place, a job that doesn't include, "Would you like fries with that?" - not having to answer to anyone - where are you going, who are you going to be with, why you aren't studying, why aren't you married yet; quit eating that junk food and *pick up your room!*

I have a friend - his name is George - he's a marionette. George has hung around with me for, well, many years. I'm, rather "attached" to him -- and he to me.

He told me that once he had dreamed of being independent. He hates having to be controlled by someone else, not being able to do things on his own. But when he tries, like when he decides to sky dive from my bookshelf, he always gets tangled up and in a real mess.

Being connected, being dependent on family, friends, co-workers, isn't so bad. Having a divine Master to hold us up and guide the whole thing, even untangling things on the metaphysical level, when things get out of hand and we dive bomb from the height of our pride.

George has been a good friend. He reminds me to play from time to time. He reminds me to keep things connected; he reminds me to let a guiding hand lead me, and even reminds me to dance once in a while. May you be connected and dependent on love.

St. Paul's is at Pearl and Charles Streets, across from The Green in Wellsboro. Worship Services with Holy Communion are at 5 p.m. Saturday (informal), 8 a.m. Sunday (spoken), and 10 a.m. Sunday (with music). For information, contact Father Ed at rectorstpauls@ptd.net. All are welcome at St. Paul's.

