



Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel
627 East 187th Street
Bronx, New York 10458
718.295.3770

FROM THE DESK OF FATHER JOSÉ FÉLIX

July 28, 2019

I think it is one of the slogans of the police department: "If you see something, say something." Also, in some towns, I saw some neighborhoods that call themselves "Watchful Community." I am going to borrow both ideas for our Parish.

We should be a watchful community, where we watch out for each other as brothers and sisters in Christ. Belonging to a Parish is more than worshipping in a Church; it should also mean being part of a community, an extended family. As a family, we should care for one another, but we should also be available to collaborate and help when needed. If a member of my family has a need, I should do everything I can to help out. The same holds true with a member of my Parish. We come to the Church to meet Christ, but He always asks us to open our eyes and see the needs of the others around us. Let's not be shy to open up and share our spiritual or material needs with our brothers and sisters.

If you see something, say something. If you see someone in need, or if you see a need... don't imagine that everyone knows and is aware. Maybe that is not the case. Overall, don't imagine that the pastor (or administrator) knows. Jokingly, in the previous Parish that I was a pastor, I used to answer when someone asked me: "I don't know, I am only the Pastor." Sometimes a parishioner is sick for days or weeks, don't expect me to know this... please if you see something, say something. Also, if there is something that is not working, or needs to be improved... please let me know. Obviously, I'm not encouraging you to only see the negative aspects. My point is that we are a community; your needs are mine; your concerns are mine.

I hope the police don't mind that I am using their slogans.

God bless,
Father José Félix