

A Note from the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

Together with many millions of Christians around the world, we rejoice in the Resurrection of Jesus! After all the hardship and suffering that our Lord and Savior had to endure, we believe that he conquered suffering, sin and death forever by rising from the dead.

That being said, however, we do realize that every individual still has to deal with those things. People still suffer. People still die. People still sin. So how is it that we believe Christ won the victory? The truth for us as Catholics is that we believe Christ is always with us. He promises the same new life to those who trust in Him and follow in His ways. Jesus is truly present in the sacraments, most especially in the Eucharist, the sacrament of His Body and Blood. He promises forgiveness of sin, and that suffering will give way to glory. If there is little relief of suffering here on earth, we have the hope that there will be no more suffering in heaven.

With all of the turmoil in the world and in the Church in these times, it is clear that some people have stopped believing. It is sad but people do walk away from Jesus. They cannot see him and they question if his promises are true or will come true. Many of the obstacles are due to sin from within the Church; other obstacles to belief come from other kinds of evil. Violence, natural disasters, sickness and other types of suffering cause people to doubt.

The saving truth is that Christ reigns from heaven over all creation and he desires for our hearts to be united with his forever. All will be made new. Even in the face of difficulties and setbacks, let us ask the Lord for the blessings we need to trust and follow him.

May our faith be renewed this Easter and may the Lord show us the way.

Blessed Easter everyone!

Sincerely in the Risen Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Monsignor Giandurco". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.