

A Note from the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

Next weekend is Palm Sunday and the following weekend is Easter Sunday. Fortunately, there is still time to take advantage of this Lenten season. The hope is to focus on the sacrifices that Jesus made for our sake and to turn our hearts fully to God. Lent is about God's love for us which is shown in many ways but most powerfully on the cross. Make time in the remaining weeks of Lent for prayer and penance. The sacrament of Reconciliation will be available on many occasions. Good Friday will be a special time for fasting but other times also can be moments of union with God in our mind and heart and soul as well as sacrifices made out of love and gratitude for God. The Triduum of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday can be extremely prayerful for those who can be here but whenever we are able to pray and be in church is a blessed time.

Actually, it is a blessing to be a part of the Church established by Jesus and this great parish. It takes effort on our part to make the parish strong with God's help. The Saturday after Easter will be a time when the parish tries to thank the many volunteers who serve others here. I often say this but there is so much good that takes place here every day in Jesus' name.

Once again, I thank everyone for desiring to live the faith that comes to us from Jesus and for coming together as a family in Christ. We will probably see many more people in the pews the next two Sundays and that is a blessing in its own way. God calls us as individuals and he is gentle in His call. He will never give up on asking us to follow him every day but he is always gentle and loving and forgiving.

I also want to thank everyone for your generous support of the parish. The next couple of weeks are important for the financial support given to the parish also. In addition to regular collections, second collections, the Cardinal Appeal, etc., the Palm Sunday and Easter collections provide extra help.

In many ways, God helps us to keep our faith strong as He works through His Church. God bless as Easter draws near.

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Monsignor Giandurco". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long, sweeping underline.