

A Note from the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

Today is Pentecost Sunday and the Easter Season comes to a close. However, just as the original Pentecost brought the full power of the Holy Spirit upon the young Church, so we pray for that same divine strength today, very much like a new beginning. As I mentioned in these notes last week, we trust that God is with us through the work of the Holy Spirit. Just as the first Pentecost gave Jesus' followers the courage to go out and proclaim the Good News, so too, we pray, may we not be afraid to live our faith and be witnesses to God's love in the world.

Quite frankly, it is not always easy in our world today to be known as Catholics. In this country, there is no open persecution at the present time, but subtle discrimination is becoming more widespread. It is also becoming less subtle. There are efforts taking place in different parts of the United States to deny freedom of religion to Catholics and others. Many moral truths held and taught by the Catholic Church are being denied or ridiculed. Things may get more difficult. In other parts of the world, Catholics and others are openly persecuted; sometimes they are even killed for their faith. We must pray for them!

It was assuredly similar in the early times of the Church, and again in other phases of history, and the Holy Spirit has always helped members of the Church established by Jesus to live their faith. There is no power in heaven or on earth like the power of God. All things are possible with God's help.

May the Holy Spirit always assist each one of us in living our faith. I ask for the Holy Spirit's guidance as I give the talks in Church this Monday, June 10th at Noon and again after the 7:30pm Mass. (Same talk both times.) It is best to ask that everyone in attendance be at least 18 years of age. There are some serious adult topics to discuss in thinking of the obstacles to living the faith in our time. We rely on God's help and strength, despite the obstacles. It has always been such.

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Monsignor Giandurco". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned at the bottom of the page, centered under the typed name.