

A Note from the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

Last week, I mentioned July 4th in this column only to say that by the time this holiday is upon us, the Summer Season is in full swing. Of course, July 4th has a much grater significance than Summer time for Americans.

Without question, we should think of the Declaration of Independence which did more than give the reason for breaking away from British rule. The most famous line of the Declaration reads as such: "We hold these truths to be self evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator, with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

No wonder that phrase is considered an Immortal Declaration. The quotation has to do with God's action and God's plan for the human race. It is almost certain that many people in our time do not agree with or even understand the truths of which the Declaration speaks. Without a doubt, those who don't believe in God disagree with the statement and some people feel it should be removed or changed. However, it is an historical document and the first document of the new country we know as the United States of America. It is the founding principle on which our Country rests.

For Catholics and all Christians, it is easy to accept that everyone is created equal in the eyes of God. In fact, we believe Jesus came to save every human person. We also believe that it is God who gives us our rights, not the State first and foremost. No one can take away the rights of innocent persons to Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness.

For those of us who follow the teachings of Christ and His Church, we believe that life begins at conception and human life is to be protected at every stage of development. If anything is unalienable, it should be this truth.

Let us thank God in these days for our Country, our Freedom and our Life. May the Lord who gives us life protect our Freedom and may we use our Freedom to do God's will. May God bless America!

Sincerely in Christ,

Monsignor Giandurco