

A Note from the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

I was away for some days at a time this Summer. Even on vacation, I usually come back to get some work done so as not to let things pile up. I actually wrote these words about ten days ago so that I could go and spend more time with my parents. When I wrote these words, the headline news was the aftermath of the two mass shootings in El Paso and Dayton. The pain of the families and those communities is awful and people all across the country feel the pain. Our Country often seems to become numb to tragedy after a while and we almost forget how terrible things can get, but it is important to remember that only God can help us confront evil in any form and overcome the same.

We have been asked to pray for victims of abuse of any kind and certainly we must pray for victims of any kind of violence as well. We should also pray for immigrants who are suffering (recalling how most of us are descendants of immigrants, if not immigrants ourselves). We call upon Jesus to heal the hearts of those who mourn and the lives of those who are hurting. Sometimes it seems that everything is bad and things will only get worse but for those of us who trust in God, we must remember that Jesus came to save us from evil and death. Even though those realities were all around Jesus as they are all around us in this world, Jesus conquered sin and death for us. Nothing is more powerful than God's grace and love.

Again, we are accustomed to hearing bad news for our Country, our Church, indeed the whole world, but it is easy to forget how much good there is in the world and in our Church. May the Lord increase the good and eradicate the evil. Every one of us should do all we can to turn away from evil and embrace the goodness of the Lord. As individuals and as a Church, let us be strengthened by the presence and the promises of Jesus and rejoice that He is with us always.

Again we ask the Lord to bless us and especially those who suffer...those who are weary and burdened. Jesus promised to give us rest from our struggles and burdens because he carries them with us. He is with us!

Sincerely in Christ,

Monsignor Giandurco