

MESSAGE FROM THE LAPTOP

ALLELUIA, HE IS RISEN AS HE SAID, ALLELUIA!

Sunday Greetings Parish Families of HNOJ & HC:

I first want to begin by offering a **BIG WORD OF THANKS** to all the **LEADERS AND SCOUTS** who joined with Bruce Quinn on Saturday, April 17 on the grounds of HNOJ and spent a good three hours cleaning up the grounds from the effects of this past winter along with the removal of much of the Christmas decorations that were not removed by family members. The cemetery and parish grounds look wonderful. I believe that these same **SCOUT LEADERS & SCOUTS** will be turning their attention towards the grounds of HC in the coming weeks to accomplish the same task. It is such a great blessing to have such a dedicated group of youth and leaders willing to step up to accomplish these tedious but necessary tasks.

We have arrived upon the Fourth Sunday of Easter which the Church has always designated as **GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY** due to the obvious nature of the gospel message that draws from the shepherd imagery that Jesus used to develop His teaching. It is also a weekend via the Church's dedication to **WORLD DAY OF VOCATIONS** that begins the season for Ordinations. I would like to highlight that in about a month's time, the Archdiocese of New York will celebrate the ordination of this year's diaconate class who will be called to priesthood and join with me in service to the Body of Christ here in the Archdiocese. **I would enjoin all the parish family members of HNOJ & HC, along with keeping our First Communion & Confirmation students in prayer, to offer you prayers for our ordinands-to-be and petition Almighty God to stir up the hearts of young men and women of our two parishes to have open hearts to listen for God's call and invitation to come and follow Him.** I would like to let any of our Middle / High School or College young men & women who feel a call to Priesthood or Consecrated Religious life to reach out to me via any means that you have at your service. Email me if you like @ hnojotisville@frontiernet.net and address to my attention.

I want to continue highlighting the Annual Cardinal's Stewardship Appeal as we journey into the Easter season. As of Friday, April 16, the reports for HNOJ & HC stood at: HNOJ was **\$20,251.00** pledged by **57** families while HC was **\$17,350.00** from **45** families. HNOJ is zeroing in on its **\$22,500.00** goal while HC has been making up ground toward its goal of **\$30,500.00**. I would greatly encourage those who still have the mailings from the Archdiocese to take some time this week to prayerfully consider a pledge, a significant offering that may be the suggested gift recommended or a comparable gift that can be paid over a period of time. All families of HNOJ & HC join me in supporting this year's Appeal. I would like to get a little personal right now with the most recent notification from our Appeal rep. HNOJ is so close to our goal. I urge more than just the 57 we have now to respond to the mailings this week. HC is doing better than last year's Appeal at this point; but, from a parish of roughly 1,500 families, last week saw **NO GIFTS RECEIVED**. I beg our family base at HC to join with me in reaching out to this year's Appeal request with a generous pledge that will assist HC toward the stated goal.

That is all for now. **GO FORTH AND ANNOUNCE THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD. MANY BLESSINGS FOR THE WEEK!!!!**

Fr. Mike