

# MESSAGE FROM THE LAPTOP

## **ALLELUIA, HE IS RISEN AS HE SAID, ALLELUIA!**

*Sunday Greetings Parish Families of HNOJ & HC:*

I am fuming this week over a couple of items that hit me last week. First, I received **ALERT NOTICES** from two New York entities to seek assistance in reaching out to our elected officials on the state level to voice outrage about an Assembly Bill that was moved out of House to the Senate which would authorize the State Commissioner of Health to “investigate” (in reality, HARASS) Pregnancy Care Centers by requiring production of exorbitant amounts of documentation which would lead the commissioner to deem them “LIMITED” and either impede them or pull a “California” on them and require them to supply information for ABORTION. What I find laughable about this is that you will not find this reported on any media service. Has the **TIMES HERALD-RECORD** had any story of substance that has to deal with our local area??? I have not seen anything about this issue reported at all. If it was not for our **CATHOLIC WATCH DOGS** keeping attention in Albany and sending out the notices, I would be clueless like most of you. It's time to reach out to our parish family members and urge you to sign up for important notices that need our voice and support. You can go to **ARCHNY.ORG**, **NYSCATHOLIC.ORG**, or **USCCB.ORG** and sign up to receive vital notices as they come up. Just take the time to scroll through each web site to find where to sign up and do it. Remember, if you don't make the effort, you will surely never hear it from the **NEWSLESS TIMES HERALD-RECORD THAT IS A SHELL OF WHAT IT ONCE WAS.**

Second, **HNOJ had 20 souls at 4:00 Mass last Saturday.** *What happened?* Well, as I was coming over to HC for 6:00 pm Mass, I passed Finchville Turnpike and saw that the parking field by the ball fields was packed. Little League started and everyone was at the fields. I could hear the cheering from Mt. Hope Avenue as I drove along. The 9:30 Mass the next morning did not bring out any ball players. **For the whole weekend, only 8 youngsters for Mass at HNOJ.** I think I want to take a line from Cardinal Dolan's column from Catholic New York a few weeks ago and cry out, “If it's okay to go shopping, okay to go to the beauty salon, okay to go to the ball fields and playing fields, then **it's time to make it back to CHURCH.**” I get a sense that there is an excuse floating around HNOJ that the Mass schedule doesn't work now since it has been adjusted for the current situation that I have been asked to take on. **I SAY BUNK!!!** I have seen more souls from HC making the effort to attend Mass at HNOJ, thus keeping it in the family, than I have seen HNOJ seeking to do the same. We have been called to adapt to a new configuration that I don't see changing at all. May I encourage both parish families to take the time, now that the weather has improved, to pay a visit to the other parish church to get a sense of the route and the location and setting of each church? More thoughts later.

**I want to continue highlighting the Annual Cardinal's Stewardship Appeal as we journey into the Easter season.** As of Friday, April 23, the reports for HNOJ & HC stood at: **HNOJ was \$21,531.00 pledged by 60 families while HC was \$18,525.00 from 48 families.** HNOJ is so close to 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 3 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*