

MESSAGE FROM THE LAPTOP

PRAISED BE JESUS CHRIST; NOW AND FOREVER!

Sunday Greetings Parish Families of HNOJ & HC:

I begin this week's reflection with a direct message for our family members at Holy Cross. The week just past most certainly may have been one filled with great emotion as Sunday/Monday was the one-year anniversary of the passing of Fr. Michael. Even though a year has passed, the memories are still very vivid. This was very evident this past Monday evening at the special memorial Mass that took place at our parish Prayer Garden which just blew me away by the tremendous turn out of parishioners. The Mass, along with the special celebration that followed Mass out front of the church, made for a fitting tribute to a fine, dedicated priest of Jesus Christ who left this world too prematurely. **I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude to our parish staff, the Knights of Columbus, the Columbiettes, music ministry, altar servers along with others who pitched in to bring about the evening's solemn liturgy and spirited festivities which was a fitting tribute to a dream of Fr. Michael's to have some kind of festive gathering on that great front lawn of Holy Cross. The vendors who were present for the festivities following Mass along with our musical entertainment were superb. I wish to thank them, on behalf of the whole parish, for taking the time to join with us in this day of faith and memories. Also, thanks to the Slate Hill Fire Department engine and fire fighters who shared in the activities just as they did last year.**

The Prayer Garden at Holy Cross now has a new addition of a Guardian Angel statue donated by the Columbiettes in memory of Fr. Michael. I encourage those who were not able to join this past Monday to venture into the garden to view it and offer the prayer that is attached for the repose of the soul of Fr. Michael.

We now have a few weeks of August left to begin to gear up for many parish and community activities that will be coming down the pike for September and October. For our parish family at Holy Name of Jesus, our participation in the Lions Club Carnival with our legendary Sausage & Peppers booth has already begun solicitation for donations which HNOJ family members can find on the reverse side of this Message. Otisville Centennial celebration events will follow. HNOJ is also looking to have a repeat of the successful Yard Sale day on the second Saturday of October. Our parish family at Holy Cross also will be having activities coming down the pike which I still have to get an inkling of. I'll let you know once I get an idea of their schedule.

One event that I would like to begin to set the table for will take place at the beginning of Respect Life Month. On Saturday, October 2 from 12:00pm till 2:30pm, please come and join with me, members of the Knights of Columbus & Columbiettes and other Pro-Life supporters as the Monument for the Unborn, that has been donated by Benedict Memorials via the Knights of Columbus, will be formally dedicated. A special time of fellowship is being arranged by the Knights of Columbus to surround the dedication. It has been a dream of mine to have this visible message toward the sanctity of life to be present on our church/cemetery grounds like other Catholic parishes & cemeteries have across the nation. Please make it a point to set aside a few hours for this fitting start to Respect Life month.

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

Fr. Mike