

Message From The Pastor

February 20, 2021

The Dumpster Diver

On an afternoon about one month ago, as I was bringing another bag of stuff from my parents' attic to the dumpster in the driveway, just before I tossed it in, I noticed a man standing inside of it! With diplomacy and patience, I gently inquired, "With all due respect, sir, what are you doing in the dumpster?" He replied, "I am looking for metal." I stared at him; he did the same to me. Then, I quickly said, "Well, good luck." I tossed my bag of stuff into the side of the dumpster in which he was not.

Immediately thereafter, as I walked towards the entrance into my parents' house, the snorkeler swimming for thrown away metal objects in an 8x14 metal container, apparently was not done with me. Politely, he said, "Thank you. Bless you." I turned to him and thought, "What? That's my job to bless and thank! How do you like that? I have been made an example by a dumpster diver who doesn't even know I am a priest!"

My friends, you never know who will teach you a lesson in life! Apparently, I was too preoccupied with other matters at that moment to give him my attention as a priest. Shame on me!

Thank you very much Mr. Dumpster Diver. Thank you for being such a good man reminding me, (and the readers of this message) we should never be too busy to be present to those who enter our lives for the first time. A person may be sent from the Lord to teach us a lesson! Even if the person you or I meet for the first time is found in the most unique circumstances imaginable. In a dumpster, sitting in your parents' driveway.

Peace
Fr. Marc