

Message From The Pastor

March 17, 2021

A Job...What A Blessing!

At age twelve, I had my first job. It was at Minardi's Bakery, on Grand Street, in Paterson. Each Saturday morning, I would arise early, and go to the bakery to place in their respective bag, the long loaves of French Bread, the Italian Bread, (actually I believe the proper name was "pane laterza)", and the round rolls. Then, after placing them in the bags, load everything onto the delivery trucks. I loved my job!

However, even more than being one of Minardi's "master baggers," I loved the "payment" for the work I did on Saturday morning! After I was done, one of the owners of Minardi's would approach me as I stood outside of the bakery garage doors, then give me three loaves of freshly baked, still warm, with that unforgettable aroma, French Breads! As I walked home with my "payment" for my labor that morning, (actually it was less than three hours), I felt so proud! I was bringing home to my mother hard earned dough! (Sorry, I could not avoid the play with words).

Maybe it was not much I received for my bagging of the bread at the bakery. However, the pride I felt for when a job is well done has remained with me. I hope you feel the same when you complete a job well done in your life. After all, to have an opportunity to do something and get paid for doing it, is a blessing! There are so many people in our world who are not employed in a job with payment. So, be thankful if you have a job to do and there is a paycheck coming to you!

And, do the job well. "As the Irish Proverb reminds us, "The work praises the person."

Peace,
Fr. Marc