

April 30, 2021

Dear Friends,

May is just around the corner. For some of you, if you delay reading my emails, May is upon you. For those of you who take joy in *nerdom*, we will have two important days next week in the fourth and fifth of May. While I mention the dates, I don't mention what they are because I like to leave some intrigue to these messages. Regardless, a new month is always a good time to open our minds to possibilities.

When we talk about Easter, people often use the phrase, "Christ's victory over sin and death." Last night while listening to the radio, I heard another phrase regarding Easter "The Resurrection is not the reversal of defeat. But it is a manifestation of victory." While the two quotes are similar in tone, there is something about how the second quote is read that is such a powerful image. While obviously, this quote because it is new to me leave more of a mark, I think this is something that we need to be thinking about.

How do we manifest that victory in our own lives? How do we give thanks for that victory? As we move into a new month, now is a chance to start moving forward. Think of May as not just the month of Mary, but a chance to do our own Spring cleaning. Just as you started discarding bulk garbage this past week, discard those things that keep you from your faith and see what you can do to manifest victory in your own life. There is so much joy in our faith. Make it your own and live as God has called you to live. Always remember the victory won for you all of those years ago.

I have a few announcements as well. I know we do those on the weekend, but just a reminder that this weekend we are doing the sandwich and prepackaged meals for Bridges. Please drop items off on Sunday by 11:00 am. Also, earlier in the week we asked for volunteers to assist with ticket sales on Dover Chester Road for our Spring Car raffle. While we typically talk about financial support for St. Matthew's, we also need to answer the call and offer a little of our time to help our parish as well. Please sign-up to sell tickets online:

[www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b49aaa92da2f85-stmatthews1](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b49aaa92da2f85-stmatthews1)

God Bless,  
Fr. Brian