

From the Pastor's Desk

10-25-20

Jesus tells us that the whole law can be summed up in two commandments. Wow great! That should make it simpler. Love God with your whole heart, and mind, and soul; and love your neighbor as yourself. There is a lot that goes into unpacking what is meant by this, but Jesus' point is that maybe we get too distracted by the specifics and lose sight of the simple deeper realities. If we can love and be devoted to God with every part of us, and we can then love neighbor and ourselves - then all is really boiling down to love. Love is not all about an emotion; love is about a commitment and a dedication. What justice would be done to God if we could more consistently have that commitment to God, and what a just world this would be if we could have that love towards each other. This is a simple thing to lay out in these two commandments - but it can take a lifetime to perfect it in us. The more we do, the more we make a reality that Kingdom of God where all are wrapped in love and justice, and God is all in all.

You may notice that there has been some paving going on around Holy Spirit. A large portion of Lovewell St. and High St. are in the process of repaving. You may also notice that the only spot not done was right in front of the church building. This was not an oversight. There is a gas main under the road directly in front of the church building that needs to be replaced. The gas company could not get to it before the winter. Rather than pave that section, and then tear up a new road, they've elected to pave the other parts first and then do that section after the main is replaced.

Communication continues with architects and contractors about work. These go slow, as it can be a long time between responses, but we are working on it. Thank you to all who are helping in this effort. Our committee working on the signs to unify our parish campuses was stopped due to the COVID, but has sprung back into action. I am told that they will have some diagrams to be presented to the Pastoral Council soon. A change in staff at the sign company helping with the design also put things on hold for a bit.

I plan to have another "Ask the Pastor" Facebook Live installment on November 2nd. Check the bulletin or website for details, and get your questions in. I have reviewed some that have come in and I am hoping for more. A reminder that we continue to have weekly Bible Study on Tuesday evenings at 6:30pm which can be attended in person or by phone conference call. Details are in the bulletin and on the website. Speaking about the website - there has been some discussions about re-doing the design to make it a little more "snazzy." Don't forget to explore it a little. There are weekly videos and materials available, and copies of this column and homilies and other resources (annunciationgardner.org).

To all those reading this who have not been able to attend Mass know that you are still remembered, and we are waiting for the day when we can put behind us a lot of this COVID kookiness (as someone I know calls it), and look to the future. May God's peace be with you, and may the Love of God and of neighbor be felt in your heart and in your life.

God Bless,
Fr. Steve