

This weekend we hear a familiar parable. A man gives his property to stewards to care for it until he returns. Each is given a different amount, and each returns to him something different. The owner does not worry that the one given two talents only returns two more (and not the five that his fellow servant did). He did what he could with what he was given - and this meets with approval. It is only the one who does nothing with what he was given who upsets the master. So we all can ask ourselves: "What have I done with what the Lord has entrusted to me"? "What will I be able to give to Him on His return"? The total amount is not what is important, what is important is that we do the best with what we have.

This week we had a meeting of our COVID committee. Although we are all encouraged by the news of a prospective vaccine, we must remain vigilant. I was made aware - to my dismay - that due to some people not following proper guidelines others have not felt comfortable coming to certain Masses. This upset me and I will be addressing it head-on this week. It should never be the case that we do not act in a manner that allows people to comfortably attend worship and have their minds focused to God. We refined some issues with ventilation, and will be discussing communion procedures this weekend. We want to be able to get to the end of this COVID "kookiness" and move to the new light at the end of the tunnel that now seems to be coming into view.

School Board also met this past week. School went back into session this past Monday and all went well. The Board looked at the school finances, the enrollment (which is up a bit - but limited due to COVID), and discussed review of the curriculum. Our efforts are to continue to grow as a school that imparts the faith to these young people while providing the highest quality education possible. Thanks to the dedicated members of the Board, the teachers (who have been putting in a great effort eat this time), and to the families who continue to believe that a well-rounded Catholic Education is the best option for their children.

Staff Meetings continue as a way to bring together the various departments to collaborate with one another to keep things moving along during the pandemic. I have been doing a good amount of praying and thinking (as I take my evening strolls through downtown) about how we can grow even more after the pandemic subsides. The Lord is calling us to take the talents he had given us, and use the resources available to be His presence in this community and the world. I ask you to join with me in prayer asking for the Lord's inspiration and guidance as he leads us on that way that he maps out to us. If you have any questions or concerns, or suggestions, please do not hesitate to send those to me. May God be with you all.

Peace, *Father Steve*