

From the Pastor's Desk (9/6/20)

In the Gospel, Jesus presents two models of persistence. First is the persistence at helping someone get back on track - especially if this person has done wrong to us. Usually we might just want them to self-destruct, but Jesus wants us to try to set them straight (using a variety of ways). Secondly he references the persistence in prayer. It is not that we, by gathering and praying get God to do things - but it is in our aligning with the mind of God, and coming together in agreement in that mind - that we will see prayer answered. He is pressing us to a unity and not to a division. He is pressing us to an approach of others and God in a united community, not as individuals with our own plans and with our own agenda. Let us continue to work together to unite in such a spirit of unity in our parish.

We have met to begin the process of selecting the new principal for our school. The committee is formed of parents, teachers, administrators, and is competently led by School Board Chair Leonette Roy. We hope to soon identify the individual who will take the reins from Mrs. Tavaska and lead the school to the next phase of its life. If you are aware of any qualified individuals, resumes may be sent to lroy@holyfamilyacademy.org. On a positive note, the enrollment for the school is healthy and we expect a good year - although a little different because of COVID restrictions.

Pastoral Council had asked me to keep you informed about the situation at The Caring Place. The lack of enrollment continues to place the future of TCP in jeopardy. I ask you to spread the word to those who may be looking for preschool child care. The Caring Place has enjoyed a strong reputation in the community for many years, and its' experienced staff is willing and able. I will keep you informed.

We have Pastoral Council meeting this week and will continue to explore our level of engagement, look forward to the winter, and discuss the spiritual life of the parish. Please continue to pray that these parishioners continue their excellent work in advising me as your pastor. Our councils will also consider the new plans for handicap access that I spoke to you about. Thank you for your patience in this REALLY long process. If all goes well (the architect is reviewing the changes) we will be moving forward as soon as a contractor can be identified.

I will also be reviewing with Pastoral Council the Faith Formation activities that Maura and I discussed after the input of parishioners was combined with the committee's work. In addition to my great happiness that we are able to worship together again, I want to be sure that we continue to offer chances for more growth and enrichment. We are also discussing how the parish Bazaar will look this year, and how we continue to remain strong and united as we get to the other side of the COVID "kookiness."

Through the continued path of forgiveness and unity, knowing the mind of God and following, trusting in the power of Jesus to support us and to bring us forward together, we will see greater things..

God Bless,
Fr. Steve