

Pastor's note

10th week of Ordinary Time

When we return to Ordinary Time each year, I greatly enjoy the feast days we celebrate. There is something special about pausing and sitting with the mystery of the Most Holy and Blessed Trinity as well as that of the Eucharist (we celebrate Corpus Christi this upcoming Sunday). In these celebrations we are called to “get back to the basics” of our faith. As I preached last week, there is nothing more fundamental than the Trinity, everything is rooted from this reality. This weekend I will preach on the Eucharist being the source and summit of the Christian life. We Catholics understand in a beautiful way the reality that Jesus instituted the seven canonical sacraments and from them we have the heart of our prayer, our liturgy.

Vatican II states in Sacrosanctum Concilium, “In the restoration and promotion of the sacred liturgy, this full and active participation by all the people is the aim to be considered before all else; for it is the primary and indispensable source from which the faithful are to derive the true Christian spirit; and therefore pastors of souls must zealously strive to achieve it, by means of the necessary instruction, in all their pastoral work.”

Because of this, we are going to spend most of the rest of the summer using the ability given to us in the General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM) to pause periodically during the mass and have the priest explain what and why we are doing what we are doing. The Mass is the greatest gift given to the Church and to better understand it can allow us to deepen our relationship with Christ. Beginning the 11th week of Ordinary Time, I will begin to use this opportunity of pausing and explaining. I will limit the explanation to just a few minutes at most and will use the shorter Eucharistic prayer so as to not place graver demands on our people's time.

The Pastor's notes will speak to these parts of the mass as well, so please try to keep them side by side as well as paying particular attention to the mass in the upcoming weeks. It is a weekly opportunity to get a taste of heaven on earth, where all of creation is brought together, let us not miss this opportunity.

God bless,
Fr. Adam