

PASTOR'S CORNER

A Mixed Bag – Prayer for Healing, Hurricane Response, Elections and the Missions

Prayers for Healing. Last week's revelation of sexual abuse and sexual misconduct by local priests have rocked our Church. Our first response is prayer for the victims – that they may experience God's healing. Our second response is prayer for our Church – wounded grievously by this scandalous behavior. I ask you to join me in ongoing prayer for the healing of clergy abuse victims and for healing of our Church.

Response to latest Hurricane. I have been in touch with two priest friends in Lake Charles to see what kind of help is needed for the damage caused from Hurricane Delta. There is a great deal of numbness in Lake Charles because of the second hurricane strike. As I write this article, I am awaiting their response. As soon as I get clarity about this, I will inform our community and ask for your help.

Parish Council Election Results. I am most grateful to the 13 people who accepted nomination for one of the three new seats on our Parish Pastoral Council. We received well over 250 ballots in last weekend's election. The top three vote-getters were Cathy Lorio, Nancy Brunet and Jeff Hamm. I welcome each of them as a member of the Council and look forward to their contribution for the good of our community.

National, State and Local Elections. Significant elections at all levels of government are less than three weeks away. This bulletin contains an insert on principles of our Catholic faith to consider when voting. I hope you find time to read and pray over the insert. May the Holy Spirit guide the electorate of our community, state and nation as we cast votes on important issues and elect candidates to lead our civic life.

Mission Sunday. This Sunday is Mission Sunday, a day for prayer and financial giving to support the missionary work of the Church. This Sunday we get to fulfill the command of Jesus to "go forth and make disciples of all nations." Because of Covid, the Catholic missions around the world are greatly in need of monetary resources. Please consider making a generous contribution to this vital work of the Church. Thank you.

God bless,
Fr. Joe