

Sunday July 26 and Sunday August 2, 2020

Pastor's Corner

Beach Vacation



Seeing that his disciples were exhausted from their ministry labors, Jesus said, “Come away by yourselves to a secluded place and rest a while” (Mark 6:31). Jesus understood the need for renewal after an intense period of work. So, with the approval of Jesus, I will take off five days for a vacation with family on July 27-31, a Monday through Friday. I will celebrate masses the weekend before and the weekend after my time away.

My family is going to Orange Beach, Alabama. We will stay in a condo. My sister is bringing enough cleaning and disinfectant supplies for the entire state of Alabama! I plan to visit, sleep, play cards and board games, of course, go to the beach. We will eat in for most meals and take turns cooking. I either will do a pot roast, mashed potatoes and a veggie, or homemade pizza and a salad, when it is my night to cook.

My nieces and nephews are super-excited about the vacation. They absolutely love the beach, the water, the waves, the sand and the sun. I used to share their enthusiasm, but I am older and wiser now. I will try to avoid the sun as much as possible. I will be the guy sitting underneath a beach umbrella, wrapped in clothing from head to toe, wearing a mask, socially distanced, and looking like a mummy!

The week that I return from vacation is really busy: a priest ordination, baptisms, meetings, appointments, the presentation on substance addiction, a prayer hour for School Parents and Teachers, and our Faculty and Parish Staff Retreat. I want to be fresh for all those commitments, which is why I am looking forward to a few days away.

Please pray for me that I get some rest and renewal on my vacation. I will pray for your refreshment during this second month of the summer vacation season.

God bless,
Fr. Joe