

Sunday, August 16, 2015

Self-acceptance is perhaps the deepest surrender to God's will that you and I can make – to live peaceably and happily with ourselves as we truly are – as God made us. This is to embrace God's will for us as Mary embraced God's will for her:

I AM THE LORD'S SERVANT. MAY IT HAPPEN TO ME AS YOU HAVE SAID.

Yet it will not always be easy to accept ourselves as we are. There will come those dark moments of self doubt when thoughts of our weakness and our inadequacy will crowd in on us, when we will become painfully aware that others are what we are not and others have what we do not. For such bleak moments let me suggest this simple prayer: O God if life is so many things that I am not, then give me the strength to be what I am.

Tuesday, January 16, 2018

We as Catholics on our way through life should be positive. We should count our garden by the flowers – never by the leaves that fall. Count our days by golden hours. Don't remember the clouds at all. Count our nights by stars and shadows. Count our age by friends not years. That is the joy of the Catholic faith, which we profess.

Wednesday, January 24, 2018

The Lord shall preserve your going out and your coming in. Life can be seen at any point in time in just that way – as a going out or a coming in. Which ever it is, God is there to sustain us.

Tuesday, January 30, 2018

Fear, suspicion, distrust, resentment, jealousy, insecurity, self-pity... These are some of the negative emotions that take hold of us from time to time. My dear friends, God has the power to drive these defeatist feelings from your life. God can fill you with positive thoughts and feelings – love, courage, hope, good humor, optimism, and self-confidence.

Monday, February 5, 2018

In any problem you find yourself in, play it down and pray it up. God will give you the strength to cope with the worst that may happen.

Tuesday, February 6, 2018

Your faith is like a bank; the more you put into it, the greater the interest. Read about your Catholic faith – you will be richly rewarded if you do.

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

Life has its ups and downs as we all know. No one is up all the time, nor are they down all the time. In God's good time, problems come to an end. Storms give way to the sun; God always comes to the rescue.

Monday, March 5, 2018

Some prayerful and consoling words:

When I am burdened or weary

Jesus is all I need

Never He fails to uplift and make glad

Jesus is all I need

Friday, March 9, 2018

In the rough and tumble of life, we are left to wonder what the meaning of it all is – the ups and downs we have to face. When all is said and done we must not forget that God has not promised us a quiet journey but rather a safe arrival. We must bear in mind that the brook would lose its song if the rocks were removed.

Wednesday, March 14, 2018

Jesus says to us: Follow Me. What if we do follow Jesus? What would that be like? We would become someone who loves and cares – someone who understands and forgives, someone who can ignite hope and put meaning into life.

Friday, March 16, 2018

Our goal in life is not to be successful but to be faithful. Some Christians would prefer to hear people say of them, “What a great guy” or “What a wonderful woman” but instead we should want to hear Our Lord say to us “Well done, good and faithful servant.”

Tuesday, March 20, 2018

One of several reasons why we come to Mass daily is because we want to be as Christ wishes us to be – the salt of the earth – the light of our world. In other words to be a blessing for others as salt is a blessing and light is a blessing.

(Note: Today’s Gospel, John 8:21-30, Verse 29, “*He has not left me alone, because I always do what is pleasing to him.*”)

Wednesday, March 21, 2018

Worship is love made visible. Your worship of God is an expression of your love for God.

Monday, March 26, 2018

The beauty of springtime makes one think of the goodness and greatness of God. There is a legend about St. Francis who one day in winter went walking through the countryside. He came upon an almond tree. He stopped and said to it: “Speak to me of God” and the almond tree blossomed. My dear friends, Nature speaks to us of God – His beauty and His goodness.

Wednesday, March 28, 2018

A famous English Catholic priest was once asked: “When we make the sign of the Cross what are we saying?” He answered: the first two gestures make the letter “I.” The next gestures cross it out. In other words – we want to be humble – crossed out – unimportant. It is Christ who must increase in our life. We must decrease.

Tuesday, April 3, 2018

After the famous battle of Waterloo, due to bad weather the wrong message got back to England. It read: “Wellington defeated.” The full message should have read: “Wellington defeated Napoleon.” It’s like the word that went around on Good Friday: “Jesus died” but on Sunday the full news was: “Jesus died on Friday and rose again on Sunday.”

Wednesday, April 4, 2018

My dear friends, the Church loves and cares for you. Do you love the Church in return? Are you proud to be Catholic? You should be.

Thursday, April 5, 2018

HOLY MOTHER THE CHURCH – an expression we do not hear often enough. No one loves and cares for you more than your mother and no one loves and cares for you more than your mother, the Church.

Monday, April 9, 2018

My dear friends, sometimes life offers one person a bouquet and another a thorn bush. But the first person may find a wasp in the flowers and the second may discover roses among the thorns. Many are the blessings in disguise that come our way in life.

Thursday, April 12, 2018

Each one of us ought to make an effort with God's help to drain out of our life: fear, suspicion, distrust, hatred, resentment, jealousy, self-pity, insecurity. In their place God can introduce into your life love, courage, hope, good humor, cheer, optimism, enthusiasm, and self-confidence. Sound difficult? Nothing is impossible for God.

Tuesday, April 17, 2018

My dear friends, when we are in trouble we need a friend to stand by us, to hold us close and say to us: "I'm here to help." When Jesus needed friends, they left him miserably alone. He faced his trial without a single friend to stand by him. Why did he subject himself to such misery? For your welfare and mine – for love of you and me. Does the thought ever come to you – "I am grossly undeserving of the love and care Jesus has for me?"

Wednesday, April 18, 2018

My dear friends, consider this: nothing and nobody can separate you from the love God has for you. And nothing that you do or say can separate you from the love God has for you – a most consoling thought.

Saturday, April 21, 2018

My dear friends, it is disappointing to find that some people have no regard, much less love, for God. Why should that be? It is certainly not because they have had a direct encounter with God and are disappointed in Him. No, what has happened is that they have formed their impression of God by observing the less than honorable behavior of certain Christians.

That is one huge reason why we should be circumspect about our behavior. Listening to what we have to say, watching what we do, people should come to know how good God is, how merciful, how kind and loving.

Tuesday, April 24, 2018

THE LORD IS MY LIGHT AND MY SALVATION.

My dear friends, just think how dull and blank life would be for you if you were blind. Even more dull and drab life would be for us without God. Indeed THE LORD IS MY LIGHT AND MY SALVATION.

Wednesday, April 25, 2018

Life sometimes presents one person with a bouquet and another person with a thorn bush. But the first person may find a wasp in the flowers and the second may discover roses among the thorns. Yet through it all wasps or roses God in his loving kindness stands by us in fair weather or foul, through thick and thin in good times or in bad God walks through life at our side.

Monday, May 7, 2018

God Himself asks that you love your neighbor as yourself. Have you ever stopped to think who is NOT your neighbor? Who does not deserve your love and care? Whose hunger can you overlook? Whose homelessness? The answer that Jesus gives to these questions is simply this: NO ONE'S. My dear friends, how deep and rich and wide-ranging is the charity Christ asks of you and me.

Tuesday, May 8, 2018

If you were to take a billion cards and write one letter of the alphabet on each one and then throw them into the air and expect some of them to fall together and form the simple sentence: This is a church. The chances of that happening are incredible. Yet there are people – atheists – who would say that this complex and beautiful world of ours came into being in just that way – by chance. Only a simpleton could believe that.

Thursday, May 10, 2018

Today we celebrate Our Lord's ascent to heaven. An ascent Our Lord wishes each one of us to make so as to be with Him forever and enjoy with Him unending happiness.

Friday, May 11, 2018

In order that the body of Christ might be shown to be a real body, he was born of a woman, but in order that his divinity might be made clear he was born of a virgin, that is a woman who never had relations with a man.

Tuesday, May 15, 2018

An American man was hired to teach at a Japanese school on the condition that he would never speak about religion. He agreed. He never once spoke about religion. Nevertheless at the end of the term forty of his students asked to become Christians. It was all due to the power of good example.

Wednesday, May 16, 2018

Oftentimes it is not the experience of today that drives men mad – it is remorse or bitterness for something that happened yesterday or else it is the dread of what tomorrow may bring. What to do? Do not fret about the past or the future. Put your hand into the hand of Jesus and place your trust in Him.

Thursday, May 17, 2018

At times of trouble in our lives, we must remember that Our Lord did not promise us a quiet journey but rather safe arrival – Heaven.

Saturday, May 19, 2018 on Monsignor Turro's 70th Ordination Anniversary

I first came to Park Ridge in 1950. Those days we worshipped at St. Mary's, as Our Lady of Mercy was then known, located on Hawthorne Avenue, across from the railroad. Thanks to the foresight of Msgr. Lillis, the pastor at that time, St. Mary's was replaced by the splendid edifice we know as OLM. From those days until now I have served happily here at OLM. I am most grateful to Msgr. Chapel for conceiving and executing this celebration. It outruns what I deserve. I am thankful as well to Fr. Bob and Fr. Patrick whose good fellowship makes it a pleasure to be at OLM rectory at any time.

Lastly I thank the parishioners of OLM for your unfailing friendship and your good will toward me. I feel it powerfully and it is a sheer joy for me. I take comfort in the thought that these many years my words spoken from this pulpit may have brought the love of God, peace and comfort to all who listened.

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Monday, May 21, 2018

Nothing honors God more than to praise Him in time of tribulation because to praise Him in such a moment is to express our belief in God's goodness – come what may.

Tuesday, May 22, 2018

My dear friends, no one attains success in life by simply doing what is expected of him or her. It is when one goes beyond what is required that determines the greatness of one's life and behavior. You are not obliged to come to daily Mass; nonetheless if you do come you do something great and wonderful in the eyes of God.

Wednesday, May 23, 2018

In God's goodness, every obstacle can be an opportunity. So one loses one's job... he or she can start their own business, one can travel, one can go back to school – remember, God never abandons us – not even in the dark moments of our lives.

Saturday, May 26, 2018

Trees have to be pruned, gold refined, grain sifted and pearls polished and so it is that we humans are tried in life – so that we may achieve our potential and reflect God, our Maker's glory.

Tuesday, May 29, 2018

MY SHEEP HEAR MY VOICE AND THEY FOLLOW ME.

My dear friends, face it – it is much easier to follow the crowd than to follow Jesus. We Catholics are finding that out in spades, these days. The media, the government, the courts – all enthusiastically endorse same sex marriage and abortion. But we – we have to stand aside and dissent – we march to the beat of a different drum. God helping us, we cannot do otherwise.

Wednesday, May 30, 2018

We as Catholics on our way through life here on earth should be positive. We should count our garden by the flowers – never by the leaves that fall. Count our days by golden hours. Don't remember the clouds at all. Count our nights by stars not shadows. Count our age by friends not years. That is the joy of the Catholic faith, which we profess.

Prayer for Generosity by St. Ignatius Loyola

Teach us, good Lord, to serve you as you deserve.

To give and not to count the cost;

To fight and not to heed the wounds;

To toil and not to seek for rest;

To labor and not to ask for any reward

Save that of knowing that we do thy will.

Monday, June 4, 2018

My dear friends, when Jesus needed friends, they left him miserably alone. He faced his trial without a single friend to stand by him. Why did he subject himself to such misery? For your welfare and mine – for love of you and me. Does the thought ever come to you: "I am grossly undeserving of the love and care Jesus has for me?"

Friday, June 8, 2018

My dear friends, I once read of a man who found himself in a very dangerous desert zone between the Arab and Israeli forces. At one point when the fighting was heavy, he saw a small boy playing on a flute. He called out to the boy to come to him. As the boy approached, the man saw that the flute the boy was using was made from a rifle barrel. An instrument of destruction had been made into an instrument for making beautiful music. My dear friends, God always gives us the chance to turn an obstacle into an opportunity.

Monday, June 11, 2018

When you think of it, the world is incessantly speaking to us of God. There is something of God in a single raindrop, in the soft colors of a sunset. In thunder and lightning, in the snow and frost, in the heat and cold – the whole world is witnessing to the goodness, the power and beauty of God.

Wednesday, June 13, 2018

When you think of it – it is as if we are in a waiting room. We wait all day long – for planes, for trains, for five o'clock, for Friday, for the light to change – indeed our whole world seems to be a waiting room.

My dear friends, what we are really waiting for is to hear those golden words: GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT – THE LORD WILL SEE YOU NOW.

Monday, June 18, 2018

People come together for a variety of reasons – some reasons more noble than others. We come together at the supermarket to buy food to sustain ourselves. We come together on a bus to get to work in New York. We meet at the doctor's office to be treated back to good health. And we meet here in this chapel for the most exalted reason of all – to honor and worship god – to thank Him for His great goodness to us.

Tuesday, June 19, 2018

My dear friends, it is disappointing to find that some people have no regard, much less love for God. Why should that be? It is not because they have had a direct encounter with God and are disappointed in Him but they have encountered Christians and formed their impression of God by observing the less than noble behavior of those Christians. Bear in mind you are an advertisement for God in your little world.

Tuesday, June 26, 2018

Some prayerful and consoling words:

When I am burdened or weary

Jesus is all I need

Never He fails to uplift and make glad

Jesus is all I need.

Wednesday, June 27, 2018

My dear friends, there are two words that bring me the deepest help and consolation in any troubling life situation in which I may find myself. The two words are: "God cares." Indeed God does care – He cares for me and for you.

Tuesday, July 3, 2018

A never to be forgotten fact – we do not walk through life alone. In fair weather and foul, God is always at our side.

Wednesday, July 11, 2018

We have powerful words with which to start every new day – God saying, "I will go with you and watch over you."

Sunday, July 15, 2018

You shall be my witnesses.

My dear friends, these words of Jesus are found in Scripture specifically in the Acts of the Apostles. They apply to you and me. They define our purpose in life. When you think about it they are terrifying. They are saying that the way you and I speak, the way we behave on any day of our life should make a statement about Jesus, what He stands for, what He said, what He did.

Every evening before we retire we ought to think back over our speech and behavior during the day that is now coming to a close. Then we should ask ourselves: during this day now drawing to a close, did in fact my words and actions reflect the life and teaching of Jesus? The answer you come up with will declare to you whether your life this day has indeed been a success or a waste of time, a dismal failure.

Monday, July 16, 2018

From time to time, life being what it is, we enter the valley of suffering. If that suffering turns us to God, that suffering becomes a blessing.

Tuesday, July 17, 2018

John the Baptist's role in history is a very exalted one. His task was to identify Jesus for his – that is for John's contemporaries. Seeing Jesus walking by one day he said bluntly, "Look there goes the Lamb of God."

My dear friends, in a less dramatic way that is our role in life as well – that is, to identify Christ for our relatives, our friends, our acquaintances – for anyone at all who will listen.

Wednesday, July 18, 2018

God is always with you – think of that. As the Bible puts it – "The Lord will go ahead of you and He – the God of Israel will protect you from behind." In short – you are always in God's care.

Saturday, July 21, 2018

Of course we all want peace in our lives. But how does one attain it? Our Lord has given us the formula for achieving it in our lives. Very simply put: "You must love the Lord your God, with all your strength, with all your soul, with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself."

Monday, July 23, 2018

My dear friends, we have to be constantly on our guard. If we do or say the wrong thing we've lost a friend. But nothing and nobody can separate us from the love God has for us. A most consoling thought...

Wednesday, July 25, 2018

My dear friends, every one of us from time to time experiences an unexplained depression. We are sad and don't know why. This is really a longing for God. You have made our hearts for Thee and they shall not rest until they rest in Thee. These are powerful words that cut right to the heart of the matter.

Sunday, July 29, 2018

My dear friends, when you stop to think of it – what a vast and deep impact Christ has had on our world, on our culture, our history, and our life. We declare this impact every time we date a letter or a document – if it is from antiquity, we write B.C. (before Christ) or if it is from our era, then we write A.D. (anno Domini) Latin for "in the year of Our Lord" that is, Christ. No doubt about it, the influence of Christ on our culture, our history, and our life is bottomless. How should we respond to all this goodness of God? By starting each new day with these words on our lips and in our hearts, "for the greater honor and glory of God."

Monday, July 30, 2018

One of the saddest life situations is one-sided love, unrequited love. John loves Mary, but Mary has no feeling whatever for John.

Thank God that is not the case with you and God. God loves you passionately – loves you strong enough to die for you. And you in your quiet way love Him in return. This is what your coming here each morning declares, namely your love for Jesus in return for His love for you.

Tuesday, July 31, 2018 – the feast of St. Ignatius Loyola

I went to a Jesuit high school and a Jesuit college and on the first day of each class we were instructed to print the four letters “ADMG” at the top of each paper. These letters stand for the Latin phrase “Ad maiorem Dei gloriam” which means “to the greater glory of God,” and it originated with St. Ignatius Loyola, the Founder of the Jesuit order. In the course of each day we are confronted with any number of challenges. We should face up to each one of these challenges for the greater honor and glory of God.

Wednesday, August 1, 2018

My dear friends, no one attains success in life by simply doing what is expected of him or her. It is when one goes beyond what is required that determines the greatness of one’s life and behavior. You are not obliged to come to daily Mass nonetheless if you do come you do something great and wonderful in the eyes of God.

Tuesday, August 7, 2018

Some unknown genius in just a few words has defined the gigantic role Christ plays in each one of our lives – yours and mine. He wrote simply:

LIFE IS SHORT
DEATH IS SURE
SIN THE CAUSE
CHRIST THE CURE

Monday, August 13, 2018

In our relationship with God we must understand that the initiative rests with Him. He comes to us, not vice versa. The woman at the well did not speak up to Jesus rather it was the other way around – it was Jesus who spoke to her. And so it is with every encounter we have with God – He comes to us – not otherwise. He says: I stand at the door and knock.

Tuesday, August 14, 2018

I WILL NEVER LEAVE YOU OR FORSAKE YOU.

These words of God to us are found in Ps. 33. This and all the other psalms should make of us the bravest people on earth. They make clear to us that we have really nothing to fear. God stands at our side. He will never abandon us. I WILL NEVER LEAVE YOU OR FORSAKE YOU.

Wednesday, August 15, 2018

My dear friends, one of the most comforting and reassuring titles of Our Lady is “Gate of Heaven.” This title implies that devotion to Mary results in an eternity of happiness in Heaven. We who have taken the trouble to come out to Mass this morning to honor Our Lady may indeed look forward to a rich reward.

Thursday, August 16, 2018

When God shuts a door He opens a window. How true that is. Think of something you have wanted but never received. But then think of some break that you never dared to hope for. It now materializes beyond all your expectations. Indeed when God shuts a door in our life, He opens a window.

Monday, August 20, 2018

My dear friends, if you love those who love you what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. In other words, what is your reward for doing good – for helping others? Is it because of the good feeling you get in helping others? Is it because of the thanks that often follow any good deed you might do? No, you love and help those in need simply because God wants you to do so.

Tuesday, August 21, 2018

God loves me. My dear friends, every time a negative thought about yourself enters into your mind, repeat those few simple words: God loves me. He does indeed love you – more even than you love yourself.

Thursday, August 23, 2018

You may have had the unpleasant experience of trying to get closer to someone only to have that person pull away from you. That will never happen between you and God. Our God is a loving and caring God. You take one step toward Him, He takes ten steps toward you. So how can you have any fear or worry? You are leading a charmed life.

Friday, August 24, 2018

Taken from Isaiah, 52:12: “The Lord will go ahead of you and the God of Israel will watch you from behind.” Therefore, my dear friends, what have you to worry about? Go out and face this new day with all its challenges.

Saturday, August 25, 2018

I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE. My dear friends, this simple sentence declares the vast importance Jesus has for us.

He is the way, the road, and the path – without Him we can make no progress.

He is the truth – without the truth we go astray.

He is the life – the energy we need to live and move.

All of this declares to us the huge significance Jesus has for us.

Monday, August 27, 2018

I ONCE READ OF A PSYCHIATRIST WHO SAID: I WISH I COULD SAY TO MY PATIENTS, “Your sins are forgiven.” My dear friends, any Catholic priest CAN say that and thereby restore peace and happiness to a troubled soul.

Tuesday, August 28, 2018

My dear friends, the most comforting thought that you can have is this: "I belong to God and so nothing, not my worries, my pains, my sense of loneliness, depression, not the worst catastrophe, not death itself, can separate me from His love.

Saturday, September 1, 2018

My dear friends, what is in store for us who are God's faithful ones is joy, everlasting joy, joy which we on earth can only sense, now and then – pure delight to be in the presence of God and His Son.

Wednesday, September 5, 2018

Consider the importance of Mary for your salvation and mine. Picture God saying to you: I give the end of a golden string. Only wind it into a ball – It will lead you into Heaven's gate, built into Jerusalem's wall. Mary is that golden string.

Tuesday, September 11, 2018

My dear friends, this morning I'd like you to consider that each one of us has much to give –

Our time

Our attention

Our energy

Above all – our love

How much of this richness do we offer to God Who is our greatest benefactor bar none? It is Christ who gave up His life for your eternal happiness and mine.

Sunday, September 16, 2018

My dear friends, the role of the priest in your life, if you think of it, is huge. His role is to bring you to Christ, and at other times, to bring Christ to you. He brings Christ to you very literally at Mass – at Communion time. Also in his homily the priest brings something of Christ to you – his teaching. There can be no more exalted work than that of the priest – bringing Christ into the everyday life of people. Very sadly these days we must read of the gross failure of certain priests who have taken advantage of the people they were meant to serve. The shame I feel for them is bottomless. For their sins, I profoundly beg your pardon and ask your prayers that the priesthood may once again serve its intended purpose, which is to bring Christ into your lives through their homilies and their celebration of Mass and also by the example of the lives they lead.

Tuesday, September 18, 2018

If God were not willing to forgive sin, heaven would be empty. Because of the Sacrament of Penance, confession, we can throw off the guilt of sin and can once more stand in God's eyes, free and clear of sin and, utterly pleasing to Him.

Wednesday, September 19, 2018

Here is Paul's formula for success in life – Do nothing from selfishness or conceit but with humility of mind. Let each of you regard one another as more important than one's self. Do not merely look out for your own personal interests but also for the interests of others (Phil. 2:3-4). My God what a changed world this would be if people acted in that selfless generous way.

Monday, September 24, 2018

My dear friends, perhaps the harshest words that we can ever hear is for someone to say to us, "I will never forgive you for what you have done," or "for what you have said."

How different it is with God and us. Not once but repeatedly the Psalms say of God, "He forgets our sins and remembers them no more."

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

One difference between God and us is this: when we have a falling out with our neighbor. With the passage of time we make up with one another yet we can never ever forget the hurt our neighbor inflicted on us.

It is not so between God and us. We offend Him and with time we beg His forgiveness, which He readily grants. But when God forgives He does not forgive grudgingly, but readily, gladly, and totally. He forgives us as if we had never ever offended Him.

Wednesday, September 26, 2018

When you think of it, what tremendous guarantees of safety you and I enjoy. Listen to the assurances we have:

God saying, "I am with you always." God saying, "Come unto Me all who are tired and burdened and I will give you rest." God also saying, "I am with you always and will watch over you wherever you go."

Saturday, September 29, 2018

Some people wrongly imagine that religion is a somber, solemn affair. But in fact the message the Church seeks to convey is good news – news that should make one ecstatically happy. For a moment consider how the birth of Jesus was announced to the world: "I bring you tidings of great joy – long lay the world in sin and sorrow pining until He appeared and the soul felt its worth." The Catholic faith that you and I profess conveys that comfort and joy.

Monday, October 1, 2018

We like to imagine that we reach out to God whereas in fact it is God who always takes the initiative. He makes the first move. At the well it was Jesus who initiated the conversation with the woman. It is always God reaching out to us.

Tuesday, October 2, 2018

Who should be in charge in a marriage? That is not a Christian question. The Christian question for a man is: "How can I serve my wife?" and for a woman is "How can I serve my husband?"

Wednesday, October 3, 2018

From time to time every one of us finds himself, herself in a desperate situation. Our consolation in those times of trials is the ironbound guarantees of protection that Our Lord has given us. Our Lord has said: "I am with you always and I will watch over you wherever you go. Come unto me you who are tired and burdened I will give you rest."

Tuesday, October 9, 2018

To the person in misery and despair, God, in the Scriptures speaks words of warmth and comfort.

Listen: I will take you
I will gather you
I will bring you
I will deliver you

My dear friends, what is there to fear?

Wednesday, October 10, 2018

Great works are achieved not by strength but by perseverance - an example, such as coming to Mass morning after morning.

Tuesday, October 16, 2018

How much kinder and more gracious God is to us than we are to one another! That struck me recently as I looked at the news and learned that the Senate kept extending the examination for the prospective Supreme Court judge - just when the candidate imagined that it was all behind him. How grueling life can be for us here on earth. How much kinder and more gracious God is to us than we are to one another!

Wednesday, October 17, 2018

"When through the deep waters I call thee to go, the rivers of woe shall not thee overflow. For I will be with thee thy troubles to bless to sanctify to thee thy deepest distress."

My dear friends, these words from ancient times declare a most comforting fact: nothing and nobody can put us beyond the reach of God's love and mercy.

Tuesday, October 23, 2018

When you think of it - how deeply in debt to Jesus we are. He gave His very life for you and for me. How can we make some return to Him?

Listen to the words of an ancient hymn:

"Kind Jesus since I cannot pay Thee

I do adore Thee.

I think on thy pity and thy love unswerving - not my deserving."

Tuesday, October 30, 2018

A simple prayer that will prepare us for any of the contingencies of life, however daunting: Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place my trust in thee.

Monday, November 5, 2018

In time of trial, we speak blithely of going to God. But always it is the other way round – in time of trial, God comes to us.

Tuesday, November 6, 2018

A very powerful question: if your suffering turns you to God, doesn't it thereby become a blessing?

Wednesday, November 7, 2018

You can walk away from God, but take comfort in the thought that God will never, ever walk away from you.

Monday, November 12, 2018

Some people have an overwhelming, pitiful fear of what the future may bring. My dear friends, we who are privileged to profess the Catholic faith need never be troubled. We stand staunchly convinced that God, in His loving care, watches over us, come day, go day.

In our moments of fear and loneliness this is the prayer that we must make:

"Dear God, give me a light that I may walk safely into the future." With that, put your hand into the hand of God and walk confidently into the new day with all of its challenges.

Tuesday, November 13, 2018

I am going to quote for you the most consoling words that you will ever read or hear – in this world or the next.

"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword?" No, in all things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor lie, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers nor heights nor depths, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

Monday, November 19, 2018

My dear friends, surely you have noticed that in this world the rain falls equally on the just and the unjust. It is in the next world where the good are rewarded and the wicked punished. So you who do good, be patient, your reward will be great in heaven!

Tuesday, November 20, 2018

What attitude should we take as we make our way through life? Here is what St. Paul suggests: "BE PATIENT IN TROUBLE AND PRAYERFUL ALWAYS." (Rom.12:12)

Wednesday, November 21, 2018

All of Nature testifies to God. It says to you: "God made me." Even in the depth of winter we are confronted with the beauty of God's world. Think of the exquisite design of a single snowflake.

Tuesday, November 27, 2018

"I am the Lord your God, your Savior, you are precious to me and I love you."

Having heard these words how can you possibly have any fear or any doubts at all? Hold your head high and go out to face the new day.

"I am the Lord your God, your Savior, you are precious to me AND I LOVE YOU."

Wednesday, November 28, 2018

"Do not be afraid for I am with you." (Is. 43:1 – 3)

My dear friends, God in the Scriptures speaks to you and to me these words. That being so, how can you fear the challenges that life will put to you this day?

"Do not be afraid for I am with you."

Monday, December 3, 2018

I once read a very curious but powerful saying; it read: "It is not the cry but the flight of the wild duck that leads the flock to fly and follow." No sermon on the value of attendance at daily Mass is as effective as your example of coming to daily Mass.

Tuesday, December 4, 2018

Mark Twain was at his best when he wrote, "Few things are harder to put up with than the annoyance of good example." Your neighbor may be thinking: "I find it difficult to get to Mass on Sunday and she/he goes to Mass every morning."

Wednesday, December 5, 2018

Our speech and our behavior should be so strong and so appealing as to get people thinking of the Catholic faith that we profess and the faith that makes us the kind and gracious persons that we are.

Tuesday, December 11, 2018

WE cannot say "thank you" to God loud enough and often enough in response for all the goodness and joy with which God has graced our lives. Yet puny as it is, each year we stop for just one day to thank God for His overwhelming goodness to us.

Wednesday, December 12, 2018

My dear friends, Julian of Norwich back in 1342 drew a picture of the vast love God has for us. He wrote, "Out of love God enfolds and embraces us, His tender love surrounds us, never but never to leave us."

My dear friends, after a difficult day at work or at home, these are golden words to hear. "Out of love God enfolds and embraces us. His tender love surrounds us, never but never to leave us."

Monday, December 17, 2018

At the first Christmas Jesus became like us, human while remaining divine. All our lives here on earth we should be struggling as best as we can to be like Him.

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

One of the most comforting lines in Scripture is a verse from the psalms. "He, that is God, forgets our sins and remembers them no more." That being so, there is no reason whatever for us to be downcast. God forgives and forgets. He forgets our sins and remembers them no more.

Monday, December 31, 2018

Tomorrow we shall be rewarded with a precious gift, the gift of time – a new year. You can make the new year something special and enriching for you. All you have to do is to resolve that you will spend the upcoming year, months, weeks, days, hours, minutes living and working for the greater honor and glory of God.

Monday, January 7, 2019

One of the most comforting lines in Scripture is a verse from the psalms. "He, that is God, forgets our sins and remembers them no more." That being so, there is no reason whatever for us to be downcast! God forgives and forgets. He forgets our sins and remembers them no more.

Tuesday, January 8, 2019

My dear friends, Jesus is the central figure of history. All the armies that ever marched, all the senators that ever sat, all the kings or presidents that ever reigned have not affected life on this earth in the massive way in which Jesus has. That is why we date our lives and actions in terms of His time on earth – B.C. (before Christ) and A.D. (Latin for the year of Our Lord). Talk about great – He is the greatest.

Wednesday, January 9, 2019

The Gospels report that both Jesus and the Christians prayed for the sick and laid hands on them. In daily life it is often the touch on the shoulder or the hug of a friend that lets us know that we are loved. Touch gives expression to our prayers and concern for one another.