

Deacon Jim's Corner

A Letter from Our Pastoral Coordinator
May 12, 2019



May Christ's peace, joy and hope be with you all!

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

The Month of May is traditionally devoted to the mother of Our Lord Jesus, the Blessed Virgin Mary. She is significant in the story of the salvation that God has given us in, with and through Jesus. It was because of her "Yes" to God (her "*fiat*") via the angel Gabriel, i.e. her faithful and full cooperation with God's grace that enabled Jesus to be born. Mary as the Mother of God and as our mother, can enable us to be better disciples.

In my remarks at the beginning of the school mass on Friday, May 3rd, at Holy Rosary Bilingual Academy, I noted that Mary is like the moon and Jesus is the Son/Sun. She has no light of her own but reflects the light of God – Jesus - to us. Some say that Mary gets too much attention, but I would suggest that all Mary wants is to continue to give us her Son and point us more and more to Him. A healthy devotion to Mary is important for us as Catholics. In studying her, and trusting in her prayer for us, we better learn how to be disciples. For she is indeed the first disciple.

In addition, I don't think we can ever minimize the impact that Mary's own faith life had upon Jesus. She learned so much from her in how she was faithful and devoted to God.

She communicated to Jesus, I'm sure, on a regular basis, how central her relationship to God was in everything she did.

On this Mother's Day, we remember our own mothers from whom many of us received our first sense of love, grace, and faith. For us whose mother has died we pray for them and offer prayers of gratitude for them even asking them to pray for us as well. Just as we underappreciate the gift of the Blessed Virgin Mary in her teaching and being an example to Jesus, we often fail to appreciate the selfless and Christ like love of our own mothers.

For the rest of this month, I'd ask you to consider spending time with Mary in your prayer time as a way to get closer to Jesus. In either imaginative meditation with Mary, or in slowly praying a decade of the rosary each day, we can learn from her and draw closer to her Son. That I believe was and remains her deepest desire for us – that we grow more and more in love with Jesus. For His love heals us of all our wounds and hurts whenever we trust, even imperfectly, in Him.

In God's great love, hope and mercy,

Deacon Jim

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Deacon Jim". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Deacon Jim Fish, Pastoral Coordinator
Holy Rosary and Visitation parishes
Archdiocese of Seattle