

Today is the **Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows**. As Simeon prophesied during the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple, a sword of sorrow would pierce her heart. Mary suffered through the crucifixion but stayed with her son to the end. At the crucifixion, Our Lord Jesus Christ gave her to us as Our Mother. The Catholic interpretation is that “the disciple that he loved”, to whom Mary was given, stands for all those that truly believe in Christ and are part of His Church. Christ gave Mary to all of us as Our Mother. She is always watching over us and praying for us. Her Immaculate Heart continues to be pierced with the sword of sorrow, seeing all the apostasy, apathy and even violence toward her Son and Holy Mother Church. Pray a Rosary today in reparation for all the sorrow caused our Lady and Our Lord by those that reject the faith. There is a Rosary of the Seven Sorrows, which in recent years is enjoying a resurgence, that focuses on the suffering of our Mother Mary. Remember in the Memorare we are told that no one who turns to Mary will be left unaided. She waits for our prayers of request so can intercede for us to her Son, Our Lord.

Keep **Father Franks** and his family in your prayers. I strongly request that you do not try to contact Father unless he reaches out first. The family needs time for healing and adjustment. Please have patience and understanding. Cards or notes are still welcome. We will have a retirement “party” in the future if Father is amenable to it.

Confirmation is next Thursday, September 24, 2020, at 6pm at St Mary’s. Confirmation Candidates are asked to be there 45 minutes early. **Requested attire** is your Sunday best, which is usually a jacket and tie, and dress shoes for boys and dresses with sleeves and dress shoes for girls. All candidates for Confirmation need to have the **Sacrament of Confession** this week prior to Confirmation. Father will be available before each Mass this weekend, and during rehearsal on Sunday after Mass. There will be a light reception afterwards.

As we approach **the upcoming election**, I implore everyone to look closely at the platform of each party. This is a clear cut distinction in this election. There is a hierarchy of truths given us by Holy Mother Church. The Sacredness of each life from conception to natural death, the dignity of the human person are at the top after the Trinity. The Sacredness of Marriage between one Man and one woman is also paramount. It is the foundation of the Church and society. The right to personal property and personal freedom are all important tenets of the faith. It is easy to see a distinction between the two major parties in the election this year more so than ever in the past. A Catholic cannot vote for a candidate who is in support of abortion (antife), euthanasia, gay “marriage”, redefining gender and sex, and socialism. All these are against the basic tenets of the faith. They are evils and need to be opposed. To vote in favor of them is a sin, especially when there is a clear alternative. Other issues such as immigration, environment, economy, healthcare, etc. are not unimportant but these are subject to prudential judgement and can change over time. The issues of life, marriage, and the right to personal freedom and property ownership are non negotiable and unchanging truths of the faith and of natural law. Pray and fast for our country. Learn the Faith, believe the faith, live the faith and act Catholic in all things.

Viva Cristo Rey

