

## Thoughts from the Deacon

## Feast of St. Catherine of Siena

This weekend starts the **Bishop Annual Appeal** for 2021. I cannot express enough my gratitude for all of the past generosity of this parish. We are a vibrant financially-solvent and prudent parish and the future looks bright! This year we have physical needs for the parish. St Ann's rectory basement door, steps and concrete wall are in need of repair. We are also pursuing making the churches more energy efficient. Neither church has insulation in the ceiling and the exterior (storm windows) are inefficient at best. Addressing these problems will give long lasting financial returns, and be in line with the Holy Father's concern for the environment by making us more energy efficient. With the new pastor, we will also have some expenses for furnishing and upgrading the rectory.

Today is the feast of **St. Catherine of Siena**. She was an excellent example of a person who stood up for the truths of the Church. She was a third Order Dominican, a lay person, but she admonished sinners (which is one of spiritual acts of mercy to which we are all called). She even admonished the Pope himself. At that time, the Papacy was relocated to Avignon in France, and St. Catherine told the Holy Father that he needed to return to Rome and he listened. It must be stressed that she spent long hours in Adoration and practiced frequent and often severe penances such as fasting, and endless service to the poor on her way to Holiness. It was her piety and all the graces that Christ poured upon her as a result that gave her the power to stand up for Orthodoxy and the Tradition of Holy Mother Church, even in the face of great opposition. This same power is available to us if we commit to meld our lives to our Lord Jesus Christ. She is indeed an example for our time!! Her writings are very readable and all in line with the Traditions of Holy Mother Church.



**St Catherine of Siena, Pray for Us**

Viva Christo Rey!!!