

FROM FATHER DAVE

If you could ask for one thing in life, what would it be? In today's first reading from the First Book of Kings the Lord appears to Solomon in a dream and says, "Ask something of me and I will give it to you." What would you ask for? Good health? A free vacation? The end of the pandemic? A winning lottery ticket?

Solomon asks for an understanding heart to judge God's people and to discern right from wrong. What a humbling response!

In this time of pandemic and transition, this can be a very powerful petition for all of us. "Lord give me an understanding heart."

What is an understanding heart? An understanding heart is one that listens and does not react. This understanding heart is also compassionate and forgiving. An understanding heart also takes into consideration the whole situation and does not prejudice others.

The other day I was listening to music and an old tune emerged, "What the world needs now, is love sweet love...". This sweet love involves an understanding heart. This week I invite us all to pray collectively for an understanding heart. God knows we all need to understand more in our lives and in the lives of others. There is also a sense in which we want to be understood. How many times we will make a comment only to follow it up by saying, do you know what I mean? Of course, communication is a key to understanding and being understood. At the heart of this communication is an attentive listening. May the Lord bless us all with an understanding heart.

We welcome home to Saint Aidan Parish native son Father Jeff Craig who is celebrating the 9:00 a.m. Mass today at the Saint Alphonsus parking Lot. This will be his first public Mass for the parish. Welcome home Father Jeff!

Next Saturday, August 1, is the Memorial of Saint Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of the Church. Because this is the patronal feast of one of our dedicated church buildings we will celebrate. As a result, on that day the **8:00 a.m.** Saturday morning Mass is being moved to the Saint Alphonsus parking lot in the back of the rectory. All are welcome!

Have a wonderful week!

