

28 June 2020

Dear St. Charles Parishioner:

The Church's liturgical calendar calls this the **Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**. The regular calendar indicates that this is the last weekend of June. So the year 2020 is almost half-over. Do you remember the "Back to the Future" series of movies from thirty or so years ago? People could travel through time in a souped-up DeLorean-turned-time-machine. I saw a recent cartoon of the movie prop DeLorean with a warning now firmly attached "Do Not Go Back to 2020!" What a year this has been! Pandemic, racial unrest, toppled statues, presidential election...and we still have six months to go!

Speaking of calendars, **next Saturday** is the **Fourth of July**, our mid-summer holiday, national birthday, and the 244th anniversary of our independence. Since this year the Fourth occurs on a weekend, the powers-that-be tell us that Friday the Third is a holiday. So there will be a holiday schedule here at St Charles. On Friday the Parish Office will be closed but we will offer the 11:00am on-line Mass and the daily Mass in church at 7:00pm. On Saturday we will offer the 11:00am on-line Mass and the usual 4:00pm Vigil Mass in church.

I spoke with our long-time friend, **Father Anselm**, last week. He underwent surgery a few days ago and he is progressing slowly. He says he is "out of the wheelchair" but "still on the walker." He tells me that stairs are a challenge. I assured him that, when his strength and mobility return, he is most welcome here at St Charles. His tentative plan, as he continues to make progress, is to return to us later this summer. In the meantime, I promised our prayers and support.

Those who tune in to our 11:00am livestream Masses and those attending our 7:00pm Mass in church have seen this summer's two resident seminarians: **Jeffrey Liptak** and **Joseph McCarron**. In addition to providing liturgical help, they spend most of their time on the maintenance crew. They have moved a mountain of mulch, kept the planting beds weeded, repaired and renovated the porch by the Sisters' Convent and tackled a number of other projects. They also told me last Friday to take the day off from cooking dinner and they would take over. I am writing this on Friday afternoon, so I'll have to report on this evening's meal next week. Joe is beginning his first year of theology studies with ordination planned for 2025; Jeff is in second theology and looks forward, with his classmates, to 2024.

Our first "Two Step" Raffle **Seller's Appreciation Drawing**, for **\$500**, will be **this Sunday**, June 28. There will be seven more weekly drawings, at \$500 per, until the Grand Drawing on Sunday, August 16. There are additional "white and blue" June First Mailing "Two Step Raffle" tickets available from the Parish Office. The July Second Mailing is scheduled to go out the second week of July—what would have been "2020 Carnival Week." Please return your bought/sold tickets in the Offertory, at the Parish Office, or in the mail. I'm working on that **Spectacular Raffle Gift** for those who sell four sheets of tickets!

The Offertory for June 21 was \$15,619. Thank you for your continued support for St Charles Borromeo Parish.

