



Most Blessed Sacrament Church

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Dear Congregation:

“Father, if you are willing, take this cup away from me; still, not my will but yours be done.”

Luke 22:42

This quote above from the 22nd Chapter of St. Luke is one of the more recognizable prayers in the Bible. After the Last Supper, Jesus and the disciples go out to the Mount of Olives to pray. Jesus withdrew from the disciples and prayed to His Father. What is important about this prayer is how it begins and ends:

“Father, if you are willing ... not my will but yours be done.”

Everything that we have and all that we are comes from God. He is the source of everything. When we pray, we start by acknowledging this and then thanking God for all of our blessings. It is only then that we ask for something.

This fifth issue of Proclamation focuses on Prayer. As stated in the Catechism of the Catholic Church (paragraph 2560), “The wonder of prayer is revealed beside the well where we come seeking water: there, Christ comes to meet every human being. It is he who first seeks us and asks us for a drink. Jesus thirsts; his asking arises from the depths of God’s desire for us. Whether we realize it or not, prayer is the encounter of God’s thirst with ours. God thirsts that we may thirst for him.”

Everyone, including me, has good days and not so good days of prayer. It is a part of the human condition. What you will see in this issue of Proclamation is that Prayer is a “spiritual battle.” We hope to arm you with information and tools for this spiritual battle, from examples of how to pray, to thoughts from fellow parishioners on what prayer means to them, and how some of our ministries have grown in their prayer lives, especially the women and men who have attended a Welcome Weekend.

As we approach the end of the Easter season, I pray that you can use the information and tools in your spiritual battle against the forces that want to separate us from God. May we all pray together, individually and as a parish, to defeat these forces so we all may enjoy “the encounter of God’s thirst with ours.”

Yours in Christ Our Lord,

Rev. Msgr. Joseph Pemberton
Pastor