

A Note from the Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners,

On this Mother's Day, it is fitting that all Mothers are in our intentions for God's special blessings. Remembering our Blessed Mother and all of our Mothers in this month of May is one way of thanking Mothers for their sacrifices and thanking God for their goodness. The Mass is the greatest prayer and Mass intentions are the strongest prayers we have.

Whether Mothers, Grandmothers, Godmothers and others are with us here on Earth or they have gone on to Heaven, we should remember that a Mother's love never ends. May our Blessed Mother watch over all Mothers and may Jesus bless and protect them always.

Last week, we prayed in a special way at Mass for vocations. We continue to ask Jesus the Good Shepherd to provide good shepherds in the priests of the Church here on Earth. It is only with God's help that the "crisis of vocations" will be overcome. God will always take care of His flock but, according to His plan, He needs the hands and hearts of holy priests to reach out to every person. Every one of us, for our part, has to try to live our faith with God's grace. If we let others know how important our faith is to us, perhaps others will not be afraid to respond to God's call and follow where He leads.

As we seek ways to live our faith and strengthen our faith, we should look for ways to increase our prayer life. Again, coming to Mass is the best way of knowing of God's love and receiving His grace. There are other ways of praying that can truly help us stay close to Jesus. In this month of May, the rosary comes to mind as a traditional way of praying based on the mysteries of Jesus' life and scriptural images. Our Blessed Mother figures heavily into the image of a follower of her Son. She was with Him on Earth from beginning to end. She is with Him now in Heaven.

The Mission for our cluster of parishes begins this Monday evening. Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday promise to be prayerful gatherings at 7:00pm at St. Joseph's Church in Somers. Since we had our own parish Mission followed by Holy Week, I have not over-emphasized the Cluster Mission, but if you can make the time, I am certain it will be a spiritual boost. I will be there.

May the Lord and His Blessed Mother be our inspiration.

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Monsignor Giandurco". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.