

From the Pastor

August 8, 2021

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost

OUR LADY'S LENT: In many places of the Church, it is the custom and tradition to keep a fast beginning on August 1st until August 15th. It is given the charming name of *Our Lady's Lent*. It is a fast in honor of Our Lady as we celebrate her principal feast of the year on August 15th, the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. I would encourage our parishioners to follow this ancient spiritual practice.

THE SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION: This year the Solemnity of the Assumption falls on a Sunday August 15th. Beginning that weekend (14th and 15th) the Obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holydays will be reinstated. The dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass on Sunday and Holydays was dispensed in March 2020. That is now rescinded in a sign that things are returning to normal. What a wonderful way for the Obligation to return all as we honor Our Blessed Mother. Although the dispensation from the obligation is rescinded, we must remember that the Church Law itself dispenses those who are ill or caring for the ill, those who are travelling, those caring for infants, and other serious reasons from the obligation to attend Mass.

PARISH GOLF OUTING: Please save the date of Thursday August 19th for our annual Parish Golf Outing and Awards Dinner. Our honorees this year are Thomas and Irene Principe. As many know the Golf Outing, along with the Gala Casino Night, are the two major fundraisers for our parish. In 2020 we were unable to have either of these events, and, as a result, our parish suffered a budget deficit. This year we will only be able to have the Parish Golf Outing and Awards Dinner. The Gala Casino Night will not be held this year because it would only be separated from the Golf Outing and Awards Dinner by only six weeks. It is our fond hope that in 2022 we will be able to have both events once again.

Since there will be no Gala Casino Night this year, I am making a special request. I would like as many parishioners as possible to attend the Golf Outing and Awards Dinner on Thursday August 19th. Even attending the Awards Dinner only (without golfing) would be a wonderful thing for St. Paul's. The outing and dinner are at the Engineers Club in Roslyn and outdoor dining will be available. St. Paul's depends on this for our financial health.

Our annual income has three sources: Sunday collections, donations, and our two fundraisers. These are all vital for the health of our parish. As your pastor and priest, I would encourage you perhaps to consider suggesting that donations be made to St. Paul at the time of the Funerals of loved ones. Very often we may read that *in place of flowers, the family would like donations to be made to...* How nice it would be if the parish which was the center of the faith life of the beloved deceased would be remembered also.

Many of the events from the Casino Night (50/50, raffles, prizes) will be available the day of the Picnic. The parish picnic is a way to thank all parishioners. Admission is a gift, but we hope many parishioners will enjoy themselves and purchase the raffles.

ST. PAUL'S PICNIC: Our annual parish picnic will be held on **Sunday, September 12th.** It will begin at 12 noon and all parishioners are most cordially invited to attend. How nice it will be to greet our friends and fellow parishioners after we were unable to have the picnic last summer of 2020. September 12th is the Feast of the Most Holy Name of Mary and so we trust Our Lady to provide good weather that day.

VISIT OF BISHOP MURPHY: On Sunday, August 22, 2021, Bishop William F. Murphy, S.T.D. will celebrate the 10.30 Mass here at St. Paul the Apostle. Bishop Murphy is the Bishop Emeritus of the Diocese of Rockville Centre and it was while he was Bishop that our beautiful renovation began. The Bishop has heard so many wonderful things about the renovation from the priests, deacons, and faithful, that he is anxious to see the Church. We welcome Bishop Murphy in the charity of Christ and I hope many will come to greet the Bishop that day.

SUBJECTS FOR DAILY MEDITATION:

Remember Christian Soul , that you have today, and every day of your life:

God to glorify,

Jesus to imitate,

The Angels and Saints to Invoke,

A Soul to save,

A body to mortify,

Sins to expiate,

Virtues to acquire,

Hell to avoid,

Heaven to gain,

Eternity to prepare for,

Time to profit by,

Neighbors to edify,

*The world to despise,
Devils to combat,
Passions to subdue
Death, perhaps, to suffer, and judgment to undergo*

*In Jesus and Mary,
Monsignor James F. Pereda*