

FROM THE PASTOR
OCTOBER 15, 2023
TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Dear Parishioners:

As we prepare the bulletin for this Sunday, we have all just learned of the eruption of war once again in the Middle East. Sadly, even the Holy City Jerusalem has come under missile attack. We must heed the words of the psalms, written by King David:

*For the peace of Jerusalem, pray.
If I should forget you Jerusalem, may my right-hand wither.
Jerusalem, the great King's City, to it the tribes go up.
Jerusalem, Jerusalem, may all who love her prosper!*

The City of Jerusalem was the place where the great events of the Redemption played out...Our Lord's Passion, Death, and Resurrection. It was from Jerusalem that Our Lord ascended into Heaven. Many of our parishioners have made pilgrimages to the Holy Land and have prayed at the Holy Places.

We know that in the Garden of Eden at the beginning of the human race the great revolution began. Adam and Eve believed the ancient lie of satan: *You shall become like Gods*. It was the sin of pride which has played out in every generation, and which erupts in all the wars of human history.

In 1917 the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to the three shepherd children at Fatima, Portugal. There she foretold the end of the war (World War I ended the following year, 1918). But she predicted that a yet more terrible war would erupt (World War II). However, Our Lady gave us the peace plan from heaven, repentance and prayer. In such times as these let us turn to God and beg of Him that peace which the world cannot give. May the pride of the nations come under the gentle rule of Christ the King.

As many know, our parish picnic had been scheduled for Sunday, September 24th. On that weekend a great storm swept our region, and the picnic was cancelled. Our rain date was to have been the following Sunday, October 1st, but that too, was a rain filled day. It is our fond hope that the picnic of next year will bring us all together again. In the meantime, may we invite all parishioners to the Pancake Breakfast, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. It will be Sunday November 19th immediately after the 10.30 Mass. Some of the features from the picnic will be there also, like the ever-popular Ice Cream Truck, which is provided by a generous parishioner, Mr. Joe Palumbo.

May God bless you

May Mary keep you

Monsignor James F. Pereda