

Fr. Charles Puthota's Blog

November 15, 2020

From the Pastor's Desktop



Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

November, a Month Dedicated to the Dear Departed Souls: As you know well, the month of November for Catholics is a time to think about life and death and to hold sacred the memory of those who have died from our families and communities. November 02nd was the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed. I hope you have taken the time to visit the family graves of the departed, if possible. As we recall them with love, honor, and sadness, we pray for them that the good Lord may grant them eternal life and rest from all their labors. As we mourn the departed and renew our faith in their new life because of the resurrection of Jesus Christ, we hope to acquire perspective on our present life. How we live, how we love, what we do with our time, how we pay attention to those things that really matter in the long haul, how we share Christian virtues and human values to others, especially our children and grandchildren --- these are things to ponder as we think of death and everlasting life. Knowing that we are all made for the grandeur of eternity and immortality is what will give us purpose and perspective on what we have to do today and all the various choices we have to make on a daily basis. Let's continue to whisper the prayer: "Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. Amen. May their souls rest in peace. Amen. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen."

Quotes on Death and Everlasting Life: "Unable are the loved to die, for love is immortality." --- Emily Dickinson. "All say, 'How hard it is that we have to die' --- a strange complaint to come from the mouths of people who have had to live." --- Mark Twain. "Death is a distant rumor to the young." --- Andrew A. Rooney. "Death may be the greatest of all human blessings." --- Socrates. "Honey, Don't be feared of them pearly gates... Honey, Go straight on to de Big House, An' speak to yo' God..." --- Sterling A. Brown. "There's nothing certain in a man's life except this: That he must lose it." --- Aeschylus.

Sunday Mass Schedule: This Sunday Nov. 15th there will be one Mass at 9:30 a.m. Sunday November 21st onwards we shall have two Masses on Sundays: at 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. All Masses will be inside the Church. 100 people maximum allowed for each Mass.

First Communion and Confirmation Completed: Congrats to the four First Communion children of last Sunday. These are: Jethro Durman, Andrea Rosales, Darey Urrieta and Yareli Urrieta. On Sunday October 11th, four other children (Robinette Ducut, Arleth Gonzalez, Itzel Ocegueva, and Daniel Rodriguez) received their First Communion. On October 25th, I gave Confirmation to ten children. Let's give thanks to God for these children who have received these sacraments and seek blessings on their families!

Archdiocesan Annual Appeal (AAA): Please give whatever you can toward the goal of \$48,719. You have donated so far \$26,341. We still need \$22,378. Please give as early as it's possible for you. If at all possible, please belong to "1% or More Circle" by donating \$500. When the time comes, after we have made the goal, I'll invite the 1% Circle folks to a dinner. The purpose of AAA is to support the ministry and mission of the Archdiocese.

Legion of Mary: I had a meeting last week with the members of Legion of Mary. They felt that at this stage they should continue their prayers and meetings remotely. In the new year, we shall evaluate and see how to proceed.

This Thanksgiving Holiday, No Food Donation: After consultations, I have come to the conclusion that this year, we shall forego the tradition of collecting food on Thanksgiving Day because of concerns of Covid. We shall resume the tradition next year. Please keep in mind that the Mass on Thanksgiving Day---November 26---will be at 9:00 a.m. instead of at 8:00.

New Sound System: I'd like to inform you that, after consultations with our parishioners and the Archdiocese, and after weeks of reflection, I have decided to move forward with the project of a new sound system. Tony Belo will be installing this new sound system for us. He has installed new sound systems in some of the parishes in our Archdiocese as well as in some churches in Europe. It may be completed by the end of the year or early in 2021. I shall keep you posted on the developments of this project.

Advent is Coming Soon: November 29 is First Sunday of Advent.

Humor: Little Johnny's new baby brother was screaming up a storm. He asked his mom, "Where'd we get him?" His mother replied, "He came from heaven, Johnny." Johnny says, "Wow! I can see why they threw him out!"

Wishing you good health and peace and love and happiness and all other blessings our hearts are yearning for.

Your Friend & Pastor,

Fr. Charles Puthota