

Fr. Charles Puthota's Blog

May 30, 2021

From the Pastor's Desktop



Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

Ordinary Time: The Ordinary Time started the day after Pentecost. Did you notice the change of colors in our liturgy? In Lent, we used violet. Throughout Easter season, we used white. Now in Ordinary Time of the Liturgical Year, we use green. The Ordinary Time will last until November 27th when we begin the Advent Season on November 28th with the First Sunday of Advent. This time now is called Ordinary Time because it's outside the usual big seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter. But during the Ordinary Time, we continue to journey with Christ, meditating on his life, teachings, healings, miracles, and his driving out the demons. This Ordinary Time is by no means ordinary. It's extraordinary because God's grace accompanies us every moment, every day. Like Mary, we too need to say yes to God's grace on a daily basis and find each day a sacred day filled with God's presence and blessings.

Holy Trinity Sunday: One God, Three Persons. This is the mystery we celebrate this Sunday. That God has revealed himself as a Trinity is what we rejoice over. God the Father creates and sustains everything. God the Son redeems and graces us. God the Holy Spirit sanctifies and empowers. Isn't it a consoling conviction for us that God lives not in isolation but in community? There is constant love flowing from one divine person to another, constant giving and sharing. The Trinity is revealed on many occasions in the Bible. For example, at the baptism of Jesus, the Father speaks, the Spirit descends on Jesus. Our ultimate experience of God is Trinitarian. Let's enter the mystery of the Trinity and receive the Trinitarian God's blessings in our lives.

Quotes on the Trinity: "In Christ, for the first time, we see that in God himself there exists --- within his inseparable unity --- the distinction between the Father who gives and the Gift which is given (the Son), but only in the unity of the Holy Spirit." --- Hans Urs von Balthasar. "The mystery of the Most Holy Trinity is the central mystery of the Christian faith and of Christian life. God alone can make it known to us by revealing himself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The Incarnation of God's Son reveals that God is the eternal Father and that the Son is consubstantial with the Father, which means that, in the Father and with the Father the Son is one and the same God. The mission of the Holy Spirit, sent by the Father in the name of the Son (Jn 14:26) and by the Son 'from the Father' (Jn 15:26), reveals that, with them, the Spirit is one and the same God." --- Catechism of the Catholic Church.

Honoring the BVM in May: Salve Regina: Hail, holy Queen, Mother of mercy, our life, our sweetness and our hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve. To thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn, then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us, and after this, our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary. Amen

Confirmation: Congratulations to Alejandro Aguilar, Maximiliano Gomez, Mellieha Gomez and Ashley Rodriguez who were confirmed at St. Mary's Cathedral on May 15th.

First Communion Last Sunday: Last Sunday, four of our parish children Anthony Barajas, Santiago Delgadillo, Iker Rodriguez and Kevyn Rodriguez received their First Holy Communion. Congratulations to them and their families! I'm grateful to the team in our Faith Formation---Fran, Lily Codd, Laurie, Patti Spiteri---for the fine job done!

Archdiocesan Annual Appeal Done! We have reached our goal of \$39,425. We accomplished this within a period of 11 weeks. Please see the names of donors on the last page of bulletin. I'm so delighted and grateful. You are wonderful! As you know the purpose of AAA is to support the Archdiocesan mission and ministries. Thank you! The Archdiocesan Annual Appeal second collection envelopes are still coming to you because the envelope company sends these to all our parishioners throughout the year. If you are able to, especially those of you who haven't donated so far, please do continue to donate, because whatever excess funds collected for AAA will be returned to the parish by the Archdiocese.

A Story to Ponder: There was once a man who was busy building a home for himself. He wanted it to be the nicest, warmest, coziest home in the world. Someone came to him to ask for help because the world was on fire. But it was his home he was interested in, not the world. When he finally built his home, he found he did not have a planet to put it in.

A Poem: "I'm nobody! Who are you? / Are you nobody, too? / Then there's a pair of us – don't tell! / They'd advertise – you know! / How dreary to be somebody! / How public like a frog / To tell one's name the livelong day / To an admiring bog!" --- Emily Dickinson

Think About It: "The whole problem with the world is that fools and fanatics are always so certain of themselves, and wiser people so full of doubts."---Bertrand Russell (1872-1970).

Epitaph Humor: 1. In a Thurmont, Maryland, cemetery: "Here lies an Atheist / All dressed up and no place to go." 2. In a cemetery in England: "Remember man, as you walk by, / As you are now, so once was I. / As I am now, you soon will be. / Prepare yourself and follow me." To which someone replied by writing on the tombstone: "To follow you I'll not consent / Until I know which way you went."

Your Friend and Pastor,

Fr. Charles Puthota