

Fr. Charles Puthota's Blog

May 8, 2022

From the Pastor's Desktop



Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

Eastering Jesus: The British Jesuit poet Gerard Manley Hopkins in his poem "The Wreck of the Deutschland" says: "Let him easter in us, be a dayspring to the dimness of us, be a crimson-crested east." Hopkins is convinced that the meaning of Easter is that the risen Christ keeps doing his "eastering" in our lives. Easter, therefore, can be looked at as a verb rather than a noun. Easter is not so much an individual act but a continuous process of what risen Christ can do in our lives. He can give us a healing and forgiving love. Again and again, when he enters the locked doors, he does not criticize or reprove the disciples for having abandoned or denied or betrayed him but all he offers is: "Peace be with you." That is how Jesus easters in us. His Easter presence is transformative. We can be turned from fear to courage; from sinfulness to grace; from anxiety to peace. Jesus wants to easter in us this Easter season. Shall we have the love and faith to let him do just that?

Congratulations: **To the Sisters of the Good Shepherd and their Guild** for their 90 years of presence and service in San Francisco! Good Shepherd Gracenter is a residence for women in recovery. May your ministries continue to flourish!

Mother's Day: On the occasion of Mother's Day, may I have the honor of wishing all the mothers, grandmothers, and great grandmothers at St. Elizabeth parish a Happy and Beautiful Mother's Day? Thank you for being mothers. Thanks to you, we understand what it is to love, nurture, share, and be selfless.

Here's something for laughing out loud!

Lessons from My Mother: My mother taught me TO APPRECIATE A JOB WELL DONE: "If you're going to kill each other, do it outside. I just finished cleaning." My mother taught me LOGIC: "Because I said so, that's why." My mother taught me MORE LOGIC: "If you fall out of that swing and break your neck, you're not going to the store with me." My mother taught me FORESIGHT: "Make sure you wear clean underwear, in case you're in an accident." My mother taught me IRONY: "Keep crying, and I'll give you something to cry about." My mother taught me about CONTORTIONISM: "Will you look at that dirt on the back of your neck!" My mother taught me about STAMINA: "You'll sit there until all that spinach is gone." My mother taught me about WEATHER: "This room of yours looks as if a tornado went through it." My mother taught me about HYPOCRISY: "If I told you once, I've told you a million times. Don't exaggerate!" My mother taught me the CIRCLE OF LIFE: "I brought you into this world, and I can take you out." My mother taught me about BEHAVIOUR MODIFICATION: "Stop acting like your father!" My mother taught me about ENVY: "There are millions of less fortunate children in this world who don't have wonderful parents

like you do.” My mother taught me about ANTICIPATION: “Just wait until we get home.” My mother taught me about RECEIVING: “You are going to get it when you get home!” My mother taught me MEDICAL SCIENCE: “If you don’t stop crossing your eyes, they are going to get stuck that way.” My mother taught me ESP: “Put your sweater on; don’t you think I know when you are cold?” My mother taught me HUMOUR: “When that lawn mower cuts off your toes, don’t come running to me.” My mother taught me HOW TO BECOME AN ADULT: “If you don’t eat your vegetables, you’ll never grow up.” My mother taught me GENETICS: “You’re just like your father.” My mother taught me about my ROOTS: “Shut that door behind you. Do you think you were born in a barn?” My mother taught me WISDOM: “When you get to be my age, you’ll understand.” And my favorite: My mother taught me about JUSTICE: “One day you’ll have kids, and I hope they turn out just like you.”

Archdiocesan Annual Appeal (AAA): We have reached the goal of \$30,500. We launched this drive on February 13 with my letter to the whole parish and with my speaking about it at weekend Masses. It has taken three months for us to reach the goal. I would like to thank all those who have donated. Your participation is much appreciated. Please see the names of donors on the last page of the bulletin. To those who have been able to donate 1%, which is \$305, my special thanks. Some have donated far more than 1%. Thank you for making us reach the goal through your generosity. I’ll be inviting those who have given 1% or more to a luncheon in the next few months as a way of thanking them. Those who are still considering donating, please do because whatever is the surplus amount will be returned to our parish. Let’s keep in mind that AAA is our way of supporting the Archdiocesan ministries and services, of which we and all the parishes are beneficiaries. In strengthening the Archdiocese, we are actually strengthening our own parish in accomplishing the mission of the Church.

Ukraine: Let’s continue to pray for peace in Ukraine unjustly ravaged by war, violence, death, and destruction. May there be the peace the Risen Christ gives as the Easter gift! May the whole world come together and oppose vehemently war and violence!

Church Bulletin Bloopers: Weight Watchers will meet at 7:00 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance. * Eight new choir robes are currently needed, due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones. * Bertha Belch, a missionary from Africa, will be speaking tonight at Calvary Methodist. Come hear Bertha Belch all the way from Africa. * Ladies Bible Study will be held Thursday morning at 10. All ladies are invited to lunch in the Fellowship Hall after the B.S. is done.

Wishing you the continued blessings of the Easter Season, which simply could mean a deep, abiding sense of the intimate presence of the Risen Christ in our lives, in the Church, and the world!

Your Friend and Pastor,

Fr. Charles Puthota