

From the Pastor's Desktop

A Message from Father Charles Puthota

July 9, 2023



Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

Parish Consultors Meeting (PCM): Over 50 Club: In this meeting held on June 27, various organizations of the parish reported their history and activities. Over 50 Club has been in our parish for a long time, for over 100 years or so. Initially, there were over 400 members in this organization. Currently, there are about 50 active members. If anyone would like to join, please you are most welcome. They meet on Thursdays for Bingo and fellowship. Once a month they have luncheon. It's always a joy for people to come together and enjoy social life. They also inform the members about the scams and robberies going on and alert them about how to avoid being victims.

Word of God: In the Gospel this Sunday, Jesus speaks some of the most consoling words: "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light." We may recall another message printed on the base of the Statue of Liberty: "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, The wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me, I lift my lamp beside the golden door!" There are so many of us who are tired and burdened. We may feel fragmented and distressed. Some of us might feel trapped by circumstances with no way to escape. Life may be at times too burdensome. If we are with Jesus, there is peace and rest, despite storms and high seas. When we remain in Jesus, we can learn from him and grow to be like him, meek and humble. As a carpenter, he made the yokes easy for the animals to pull the load. If we yoke ourselves with him, then any burden we can pull in life. Burdens will still be there, but we'll be given the grace to face them with courage and imagination, with strength and serenity.

A Slice of Parish History: On June 7, 1914, old St. Elizabeth Church was formally dedicated by Archbishop Edward Hanna. On Valentines Day in 1972, the old church on the corner of Brussels and Wayland Streets was demolished and replaced by housing.

Parish Faith Formation: Come September, the Faith Formation class every Saturday will begin with Mass at 8:30 a.m. We need students and teachers. Please contact the parish office for any assistance you can offer.

Devotions: On Wednesdays, after the 8:30 a.m. Mass, we have the Devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Help and Benediction. Please do join, if you are able. Part of these devotional prayers is the Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet. Legion of Mary meets each Monday at 5:00 p.m. in the Church. 1000 Hail Marys are help on third Saturdays of the month after the 8:30 a.m. Mass.

Pilgrimage to Fatima & Lourdes: Please see the last page of the bulletin for more details. October 29 through November 11, I'll be serving as a spiritual director for a pilgrimage to Portugal, Spain, and France. If you are interested, please call the 206 Tours company.

Humorous Catholic Dictionary: AMEN - The only part of a prayer that everyone knows. BULLETIN - Your receipt for attending Mass. CHOIR - A group of people whose singing allows the rest of the congregation to lip -sync. HYMN - A song of praise usually sung in a key two octaves higher than that of the congregation's range. RECESSIONAL HYMN - The last song at Mass often sung a little more quietly, since most of the people have already left. INCENSE - Holy Smoke! JUSTICE - When kids have kids of their own. RECESSIONAL - The ceremonial procession at the conclusion of Mass led by parishioners trying to beat the crowd to the parking lot. RELICS - People who have been going to Mass for so long, they actually know when to sit, kneel, and stand. TEN COMMANDMENTS - The most important Top Ten list not given by David Letterman.

Food for Thought: What is success in life? "To laugh often and much; To win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children; To earn the appreciation of honest critics and endure the betrayal of false friends; To appreciate beauty, to find the best in others; To leave the world a bit better, whether by a healthy child, a garden patch, or a redeemed social condition; To know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is to have succeeded." - Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803 - 1882), American Transcendentalist Philosopher, Essayist, & Poet

Religious Joke: A pious man, who had reached the age of 105, suddenly stopped going to synagogue. Alarmed by the old fellow's absence after so many years of faithful attendance, the Rabbi went to see him. He found him in excellent health, so the Rabbi asked, "How come after all these years we don't see you at services anymore?" The old man lowered his voice. "I'll tell you, Rabbi," he whispered. "When I got to be 90, I expected God to take me any day. But then I got to be 95, then 100, then 105. So, I figured that God is very busy and must've forgotten about me, and I don't want to remind Him!"

Enjoy the blessings of the summer season!

Your Friend and Pastor,

Father Charles Puthota