

Fr. Charles Puthota's Blog

June 20, 2021

From the Pastor's Desktop



Dear Parishioners of St. Elizabeth,

Father's Day: To all the fathers, Happy Father's Day! For some of us, our fathers are with us and what a blessing it is for us to love and cherish them --- and take care of them! For some others, our fathers are gone to their eternal reward. My father Isaac returned to God end of December 2017. I'm still grieving, and I know you do too who have lost your fathers, no matter how long ago, still grieve and miss them. We celebrate our fathers and shall always keep their sacred memory, whether they are with us now or gone to God. In all our fathers, we cannot but see God Himself. Isn't it beautiful that God himself is our Father? Jesus called God his Abba (Father) and taught us to pray to "our Father" and relate to Him as His children. Our Father loves us with an everlasting love and unconditionally. He makes the rain fall on the good and the bad and lets the sun shine on the good and the bad. Such is his abiding and awesome love. Because we are all the children of the one Father, we become intimately connected with one another as sisters and brothers. How could we then not take care of one another in our need? How could we let anyone in this human family be deprived of basic needs and necessities? Let us make sure that the Father's blessings flow to the whole of human family abundantly and ceaselessly.

Word of God: The refrain from our responsorial psalm this Sunday is: "Give thanks to the Lord, his love is everlasting." How various and abundant God's blessings! His most amazing blessing is his love. It's everlasting and eternal. His love is absolute, radical, and unconditional. His love is constant and abundant. So let's give thanks to God. In giving thanks, we acknowledge God as God and ourselves as creatures dependent on God. In giving thanks, we learn not to take God's blessings for granted. In giving thanks, we grow in sharing his blessings with others generously. In giving thanks, we become positive and upbeat and cease to complain. So let's give thanks with all our hearts and minds. As in the first reading from Job, he is the one who has created everything and set their boundaries powerfully and providentially. In the second reading from Second Corinthians, we read that the love of Christ impels us. It's God's awesome love revealed in Jesus' love that led him to sacrifice himself. In our thanksgiving, let's be impelled by the love of Christ to be good and kind. In the gospel from Mark, Jesus calms our storms and winds so that we can feel the assurance of his presence with us always even to the end of time no matter what our troubles are. So let's give thanks to God in Christ who loves and graces us with blessings unimaginable.

NEW: Saturday 4:30 p.m. Mass Starting: June 19 onwards we are adding this Mass for your convenience. Please do come join the Saturday vigil Mass at 4:30 p.m. or Sunday 9:30 a.m. Mass, as convenient for you.

Change of Daily Mass Schedule: Starting Thursday July 01st, our 8:00 a.m. daily Mass will be at 8:30 a.m. The reason for this change is that before the Mass, around 8:10 a.m. or so, we are going to be praying the Liturgy of the Hours (Divine Office) for those interested. It's the prayer of the Church, prayed all over the world. It's a prayer that more and more lay people are praying everywhere. We are having training sessions leading up to July 01 after 8:00 a.m. Masses these days, conducted by Sr. Olga and Donna Durkee. Please do come join these prayers, if possible at all for you. Those who attend the daily Mass, please note that the Mass will be at 8:30 a.m. starting July 01.

Thank you: Around my 65th birthday on June 11, I was so privileged to receive much encouragement, prayers, affirmation, support, cards of wishes, and gifts from many of you. You have been so kind and thoughtful. I am deeply grateful and honored to have your friendship and collaboration. You help make my ministry at St. Elizabeth joyful, fruitful, and hope-filled. Thank you!

Father's Day Quotes: "It is a wise father that knows his own child." – William Shakespeare. "One father is more than a hundred schoolmasters." – George Herbert. "The older I get, the smarter my father seems to get." – Tim Russert. "A father doesn't tell you that he loves you. He shows you." – Dimitri the Stoneheart. "I cannot think of any need in childhood as strong as the need for a father's protection." – Sigmund Freud. "Every son quotes his father, in words and in deeds." – Terri Guillemets. "A man knows when he is growing old because he begins to look like his father." – Gabriel Garcia Marquez.

Father's Day Jokes: 1. "Dad, are bugs good to eat?" asked the boy. "Let's not talk about such things at the dinner table, son," his father replied. After dinner the father inquired, "Now, son, what did you want to ask me?" "Oh, nothing," the boy said. "There was a bug in your soup, but now it's gone." 2. **Science teacher:** When is the boiling point reached? **Science student:** When my father sees my report card! 3. **Dad:** You'll never amount to anything because you procrastinate. **Son:** Oh yeah? Just you wait!

Happy Father's Day!

Your Friend & Pastor,

Fr. Charles Puthota