

Monday, May 25, 2020

Beloved Parishioners:

*For though the fig tree blossom not, nor fruit be on the vines, though the yield of the olive fail and the terraces produce no nourishment, though the flocks disappear from the fold and there be no herd in the stalls, **yet will I rejoice in the Lord and exalt in my saving God.***" (Hab. 3:17-18)

Or, as some say: Praise the Lord Anyway!

We've seen our equivalent of depleted terraces and disappeared flocks these past two months but haven't we seen blessings as well? We have worshipped at live streamed local Masses, perhaps we have drawn closer to family members, or learned to better appreciate the little things in life, with the slower pace imposed on us during the shut-down. We have reason to exalt in our saving God.

Fr. Jay and I have prayed for all of you in our Masses, rosaries and daily prayers, confident that you, in turn, are interceding for us in our work of providing spiritual "essential service" in His Name. We thank you for your prayers and support.

And what a wonderful time to begin this limited re-opening of our church to worshippers on May 30-31: The Feast of Pentecost! I am confident that the fire of the Holy Spirit will descend upon our faith community as well, guiding us through this happy transition to restored (if somewhat restricted) public worship.

Enclosed in this mailing are instructions on how we will do this. Please forgive the lengthiness and occasional redundancy, which is for the sake of emphasis. We wanted to cover all bases. Remember that the continued restrictions, such as required face masks and roped-off pews, are in place out of charity toward others; that we not spread infection, even inadvertently, thereby helping to establish health among us, not the opposite. Of course, the sick and those in compromised groups, should remain home, remembering that all are dispensed by our bishop from the Sunday Mass obligation indefinitely.

Charity and patience prevail over all. Be kind and cooperative during this confusing time of uncertainty. Though the fig tree blossom not and the yield of the olive fail, Praise the Lord anyway!



In His Peace,

Rev. William M. Weary, Pastor