

A Note from the Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners,

I had a little break for almost 10 days but these have been unsettling days for the country and the world. Sometimes, its hard to keep up with the changing news.

I'm not even sure if anyone really knew who was protesting what in Charlottesville, Virginia. In essence, it came down to people peacefully protesting against people who advocate racism. We all know that things turned deadly and a young woman was killed with many others injured. After days of debate and criticism, another tragedy occurred in Barcelona. Someone drove into a pedestrian mall and killed and injured many people. Different circumstances, similar results. Senseless violence!

It is no wonder so many people feel numb when thinking about these horrors. First of all, the terrible suffering of innocent people is frightening. The realization that such violence is possible anytime, anywhere with no warning. The truth that there are injustices which perdure but the equally valid truth that violence, especially against innocent people, is never justified. It can also make us ask is there any answer to the madness?

The only answer is to trust in God! To some people, it may sound too simple, or even naïve, but as Catholic Christians, we have to place our hope in Jesus.

The Savior of the World, the Son of God, came to bring new life, but he conquered death precisely by his suffering and death. He promised that if we believe in Him, we will live forever because of His love for us.

Ours is not just a teaching that makes us feel better. In fact, we still have fears and we still hurt when suffering comes our way. However, Jesus tells us not to be afraid and to follow Him. Sin abounds but grace abounds even more!

All things are possible with God's help so we should keep praying and seeking to do all the good we can in Jesus' name. Nothing on earth can separate us from the love of God in Jesus. May God bless those who suffer. May God watch over us all and keep us close to Himself.

Sincerely in Christ,

Monsignor Giandurco