

A Note from the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

Very often, in the history of the Church, holy men and women have come forward in difficult times to help bring healing and give strength and encouragement to those who are struggling or suffering. They are too many to name but some of the great Saints of the Church have exhibited heroic virtue in times of crisis. We need people like that to come forward now!

This week, on Wednesday evening and Thursday, we celebrate All Saints Day. We call upon all the declared Saints to intercede for all the members of the Church on earth. Those who are recognized as Saints were not perfect in every respect but they did live their faith with hope and trust in God. Like every person, they were in need of God's mercy and saving power, and they persevered in living the faith in good times as well as difficult moments. Especially in these difficult times, we need the prayers and examples of the Saints. In particular, we should think of the martyrs who faced death rather than renounce their faith. They knew that the Catholic faith is a precious gift which leads to eternal life with God in heaven and they would never stop believing. May the Saints help each of us with their intercession to hold fast to our faith and live according to God's ways every day. It is really God's help we rely on and with God's help, all things are possible.

On All Souls day this week, we also think of all those who have died. We will have nine days of Masses this year, and an extra special Mass on All Souls at 7:30pm. The names of our beloved dead who died this past year will be read at that Mass. We trust that our deceased loved ones are in heaven but because we are only certain that declared Saints are already in heaven, we pray, above all, at Mass for All Souls for the repose of our deceased loved ones.

May the Lord keep the communion of Saints united in His love.

Sincerely in Christ,

Monsignor Giandurco