

A Note from the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

With all the storms recently, there have been many disruptions for so many people in our area. I hope that everyone has full power back, but I'm afraid that some may still not be up to full force. Please God that the weather will be pleasant and Spring-like from here on in. Of course, weather changes from day to day, but hope springs eternal.

On a different note, hopefully Lent is progressing in a good way for everyone. Like the weather, our Lenten resolutions can run hot and cold; good and bad. It is really never too late to start again. The Season of Lent is something the Church "gives us" to help us focus again on what is important in terms of living our faith and rid ourselves of tendencies or behaviors that can harm us spiritually. Even if Lent has not been going well for you there is always time to make a new effort. God will give us the grace we need.

Another great thing about our Church is that there are times we are allowed to relax our Lenten observance. We don't have to but we can. Sundays, for example, should be days of rejoicing and not sorrow. We can always spend more time in prayer but penitential practices can be relaxed.

Two special days coming soon are also typical days for celebration and not penance. St. Patrick's Day on March 17th, our Patron Saint. Likewise, St. Joseph's Day, March 19th, Patron of the Universal Church.

Of course, St. Patrick is Patron of the Archdiocese and of Ireland as well, and many New York Catholics have a great devotion to him. We will celebrate the 9:00AM Mass in honor of St. Patrick next Saturday followed by a reception in the Parish Center. All are welcome!

St. Joseph is also beloved by many Catholics around the world and so we ask for the intercession of our two special Saint friends. May they help keep us close to Christ.

Happy St. Patrick's Day! Happy St. Joseph's Day!

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Monsignor Giandurco". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.