

A Note from the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

I begin these notes by writing that I am thrilled that Easter was such a blessed time for our parish. Of course, it should be a blessed time for the whole Church, but I truly sensed the beauty and strength of this parish during Holy Week. As I said at all the Easter Masses, I thank God for everyone's prayerfulness and their support of this parish family. I think of all our staff, beginning with our priests, and how they do so much to help people come together to participate in the Masses and live their faith. I think of all the people, young and not so young, who were here at Easter, all of the beautiful music and all of the prayers. Even though at times the Church was over crowded and the streets around the church jammed with cars, it was simply a joyful day. Even the weather cooperated to bring our parish family together. The Easter collection will be open for another couple of weeks, but the collection is already quite substantial. The other collections over the days of the Tridium were also healthy. I simply thank God for all of the goodness here at St. Patrick's.

I believe the parish is a reflection of God's goodness and mercy. On the topic of mercy, today is Divine Mercy Sunday. Pope Francis speaks a great deal about God's mercy, but we should recall that Pope Saint John Paul II also spoke and wrote a great deal about mercy. In fact, it was Pope John Paul II who instituted the Feast of Divine Mercy for the whole Church. He encouraged prayers of the Divine Mercy Chaplet and relying on God's forgiveness of sins as our best way to know God's compassion and love for us. There is also an indulgence associated with Divine Mercy Sunday prayers. More divine assistance!

Let us thank the Lord for the many ways he helps us live our divine calling to be followers of the Risen Christ.

Sincerely in Christ,

Monsignor Giandurco