

## A Note from the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

This weekend is the unofficial start to Summer. The Spring season seemed very short this year primarily due to cold or at least a great deal of chilly weather. Let's hope and pray for calm weather in the coming months.

It is also Memorial Day weekend. It is an important time to remember especially those who have sacrificed their lives for our country. We owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to those who have died to defend our freedom. May the souls of the departed military men and women rest in God's peace.

Memorial Day is also a time to pray for all those who have ever served in the military and those who are still serving. There are great sacrifices involved for all those who serve no matter what the assignments they have received. In a certain sense, all those who serve are laying down their lives. We should continue to pray for their safety and that they will return to their families safe and sound.

While we are at it, we should also pray for peace and the protection of every person, born and unborn. The world is a sometimes scary place and there are acts of violence and threats of acts of violence all too often. We need to pray for all first responders of every type who also sacrifice much to protect us and keep us safe. We pray for everyone's safety.

It is only by trusting in God's help that we can remain without fear in these times. We hear frequently of those who wish to instill terror in the hearts and minds of people. As Catholic Christians, we believe true peace and freedom from fear comes from Christ himself. The greatest Memorial that we have is the sacrament of the Eucharist which brings the saving power of Jesus into our lives. May God bless us all, military and civilian alike.

Sincerely in Christ,

*Monsignor Giandurco*