



My Dear Parishioners,

Greetings and Praised be Jesus Christ! This week, we welcome back to our parish Bishop McIntyre, Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia. He was with us just a few weeks ago to bless our new narthex and now this week – on Thursday—he returns to confirm 31 of our young people in the faith of Jesus Christ.

The timing, setting and celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation have had a varied history in the life of the Church and even in our own lives. Some of us were confirmed as infants, others as adults, still others as teenagers. For some, Confirmation may have included a big celebration, for others it took place in the course of the school day with an anonymous 8th grader standing as a sponsor! Whatever the experience, there's more to Confirmation (and every Sacrament) than just our experience. There is the bestowal of Grace – and Grace—the Life of God is an Awesome, a Great Reality.

Nevertheless, our experience colors the way we think. A lot of people think that because formal religious education often concludes at Confirmation, the Sacrament of Confirmation is a Catholic “Graduation”. And for many it is! After Confirmation, most of our young people won't receive another Sacrament until they get married and as we know even that might **not** happen.

A similar experience can happen even in our celebration of Easter. In some ways, Easter is the end of the story, right? Jesus is Risen, Alleluia! And after a beautiful Easter Day, Week or Season, we go back to our regular way of life. Sound familiar? Does this Resonant? Might there be more to it? YES.

At Easter, we see just how great the Life of God is: Greater than our sin, greater than even Death. And the opportunity to welcome that Life of God is ours. And it's the WELCOMING of that LIFE that is so important. His Life is eternal, His Life is Peace, His Life is true Life. And ours is not. We are finite, restless and at times fake. SO a few questions for consideration this week:

In Easter, How might we welcome His Life? How might we give Him not just a Sunday, a Season or a room in our house...but how might we give Him our ALL? Indeed our Very Life?

In Confirmation we received 7 Gifts of God's Life and those gifts correspond to our minds and hearts. Wisdom, Knowledge, Understanding and Counsel for our minds; Fortitude, Piety and Fear of the Lord for our hearts. As our young people are strengthened in these gifts this week, I invite you to ask the Holy Spirit to strengthen those gifts in you. For our minds and hearts only thrive in Him, they were meant for Him and what a Gift, His Gifts can be for us. Welcome the Holy Spirit into your life, mind and heart today!

Peace,

Fr. Rogers



**St. Patrick Parish
Rosary
Sunday Evenings
7:00 PM
via Zoom**

To join us online visit www.zoom.us. Select Join and enter
Webinar ID: 859 4073 5946
Passcode: stpatksq

Additional login details and to submit your prayer requests
can be found on the parish website.

Position available-St. Maximilian Kolbe School is seeking an individual to fill the part-time position of PreK3 Classroom Aide. Qualified candidates are asked to contact the school and to submit a cover letter and resume to Erin Shope, principal (eshope@stmax.org). This is an excellent opportunity to join a vibrant, Catholic community. Full job description can be found at <https://www.aop Catholicschools.org/careers>.

St. Augustine Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Breathe in me, O Holy Spirit,
That my thoughts may all be holy.
Act in me, O Holy Spirit,
That my work, too, may be holy.
Draw my heart, O Holy Spirit,
That I love but what is holy.
Strengthen me, O Holy Spirit,
To defend all that is holy.
Guard me, then, O Holy Spirit,
That I always may be holy.