

My Dear Parishioners,

Praised Be Jesus Christ! You're familiar with the fact that <u>April showers bring May flowers and May Flowers bring Pilgrims</u>. Well, as we enter into this last full week of April, the showers of grace, generosity, goodness and God that have been at work in all of us over these years, is about to bring a great flowering for our community which I believe will indeed bring many more pilgrim people to our Church, join-

ing us on the Pilgrimage to His Kingdom! Consider the following:

- 1) This Saturday, 24 of our young people will receive the Eucharist for the First time. What was begun in their Baptism through the faith of their parents, will flower forth so much that each of these young people will say "AMEN" (I Believe) to the reality of Jesus present for them in the Eucharist. It really is a magnificent reality and First Communion Day is one of my favorite days as a pastor. To see the children so excited, to hear their "Amen" and to witness their reception of Jesus for the First Time ... it all kindles in me, my AMEN and renews my FAITH. Pray for these young people and for their parents who are raising their children in a hostile world. With them, we are pilgrims on the Way with and to our Risen Lord. Let's be faithful pilgrims, of God, His Church and to one another!
- 2) This past week, work began at our parish cemetery on the trees that line Leslie Road. In recent years, we noticed that a number of the arborvitae trees were dying if not already dead. We learned that the trees were reaching their life-span. In response, I asked parishioner Joe Casavant —whose career has been in cemetery grounds, landscape and care to investigate our options. His work yielded several options and we decided to replace all the trees in the row this would give us the protection, privacy that our grounds deserve and would provide a long term solution for the problem. I'm grateful for Joe's good work and that of local arborist, Mert LaBare who was awarded the job. The young, healthy trees will be planted in the coming week.
- 3) Next week will bring us to the start of our Construction Project. There is a final approval meeting set for May 3 and that will allow for the May "flowering"—shovels in the ground—on May 8th! This Saturday, I will host an information session for our neighbors, to share with them the nature of the project and how they can best keep alert to the activity that will be unfolding. For parishioners, we are in the process of creating a communication plan so that we can keep you up to speed with the progress, happenings and ramifications of the construction. This is indeed a VERY exciting time for our parish, St. Patrick has not built a building in almost 100 years...so it'll be a new experience for us all. We are embarking on Phase II of an exciting adventure not unlike the pilgrims on the Mayflower!! And while I did not know those people, I do know the crew of people guiding this endeavor. And I have every confidence in them. In fact, I'm super-excited for this New Adventure!

Know of my continued to prayers for all of you. Do keep me in yours.

Peace, Fr Rogers



GOOD SAMARITAN SERVICES-Last week, St. Pat's was represented at the Official Ribbon Cutting of the new GOOD SAMARITAN HOUSE at 342 Birch Street. Good Samaritan Services is an excellent organization which responds to homelessness and poverty, helping neighbors journey from crisis to stability. They have homes in Lancaster

and Chester Counties. Their new home in Kennett Square serves men who are in need of housing. Its 24/7 supervision, management and care is a wonderful new manifestation of Christ's presence in our community. St. Patrick and our local Christian Churches have helped in the opening of this facility and I encourage you all to learn more about them.



St. Patrick Parish Rosary Sundays at 7:00 PM via Zoom

To join us online visit www.zoom.us. Select JOIN and enter Webinar ID: 878 5447 9881 / Passcode: stpatsksq

Please visit the parish website for additional login details and to submit your prayer requests.