



My Dear Parishioners,

Praised Be Jesus Christ!

In addition to the construction taking place on our Church property, we also have construction taking place at our parish cemetery. (To those who may not be aware, our parish has its own cemetery, located on Route 82 just south of the Route 1 Bypass.) Here, many of our deceased parishioners are buried – which is a great blessing. Families do not have to travel far to visit their deceased loved ones and we have a close reminder of where we are all headed! Remember to pray for them each time you drive by!

In 2019, we had a Columbarium built at our cemetery which holds the cremated remains of deceased parishioners. This was the first of its kind in our cemetery and has proven quite valuable to us. On the one hand, it provides good stewardship of our land. In addition, it provides families another option in regards to burial. In the 4+ years since the columbarium was built, we have had numerous inurnments and currently just a 3 large niches remain. With this in mind, in 2023, our parish cemetery committee engaged the builders again and commissioned them to begin the final phase of the columbarium area. That is, the install of two additional columbaria walls. These new walls will match the original columbarium in granite and have 120 niches which will provide us well for the long-term future. I'm grateful for the work of our cemetery committee which includes Doug Singo, Marie Elliott, Kurt Smith and Joe Casavant. Grateful too for the work of North-east Mausoleom which designed and built our columbaria. If you are interested in more information, please call our parish office.

Finally, in light of the annual remembrances this of Martin Luther King Jr., Roe-vs-Wade Decision and the Week of Christian Unity, a brief word. Is it not striking/ironic that all these dates all come together within the same time? On Monday, we remember the birth of MLK Jr; next Monday, the anniversary of Roe-vs-Wade which gave legal permission to deny birth to children in the womb; and in the mix of all this, Christian Unity as we celebrate the Conversion of St. Paul on January 25, one month after Christmas. The realities of Respect for Human Life and Unity come together in these concrete ways and continue to be the source of great division. What might this mean for us? What is the challenge?

Without over-simplifying matters, when it comes to LIFE, it is all very simple: No Matter Who or What ... every Life matters and is worthy of justice and respect. Any intentional harm to human life is sinful and an offense to God. As simple as this is, it is a tremendous challenge, cause Life is challenging. But God is Life and recognizing Him still so close to this Christmas Season, remembering Emmanuel, God-With-Us, we pray for the for the grace to be With Him, For Him in every manner of Human Life.

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: stpatsksq

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

Monday, January 15, 2024, Martin Luther King Jr. Day

The Parish Office will be closed

SPREAD THE WARMTH THIS WINTER!

St. Patrick Winter Coat Drive for the Children at Birthright

ONE COAT-ONE KIND ACT-ONE BIG IMPACT!

St. Patrick will be collecting **new or gently used children's jackets sizes 12 month-3T** for Birthright. **Coats will be collected on Sundays during the hours of 9AM-12PM.** Please bring your donation to the front doors of the Parish Religious Education Center.

Collection Dates:

- Sunday, January 21
- Sunday, January 28
- Sunday, February 4

For questions, contact Jen Keller or Maria Miller at 610-444-4364. Together, we can warm a child and warm a heart!