



My Dear Parishioners,

Greetings and Praised be Jesus Christ! As we begin this week, we find ourselves at the mid-point of 2023! I'm not sure how that happened, but it's not a bad place to be. In fact, mid-points are a great time to **pause, praise and plan!** And I strongly encourage you to do all three: **1) Pause:** take a moment or two to enjoy these summer days. They will not be here forever. **2) Praise:** Look back and note the blessings over the past 6 months. God lives in a grateful heart, let Him live in you. **3) Plan:** Look ahead at the rest of 2023 and plan now for what might be!

As we come to this mid-point of the year as a parish, I share the following items for your planning:

- 1) On Saturday, September 30th, the Archdiocese of Philadelphia will have a Eucharistic Congress at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Doylestown. This will be a very special historic event with activities for all ages. Keynote speakers include Bishop Michael Burbidge and Antonia Acutis, the mother of Blessed Carlo Acutis! More information will be forthcoming, but mark your calendars now and plan on attending this event, perhaps with the whole family!
- 2) In July and August, our parish is offering two adult faith formation opportunities. I'm delighted and grateful that Deacon Alan and Kathy Reinhardt have made themselves available for this. In July, Deacon Alan will lead a 3 night series on the Eucharist. And in August, Kathy will be offering a 3 part discussion on a book entitled: The Prodigal You Love: Inviting Loved Ones Back to the Church by Sr. Theresa Aletheia Noble. Consider participating in either or both of these opportunities.
- 3) In advance of the Fall deluge of family activity, consider stepping up in a new role of service for our parish family. Did you ever think about being a Lector at Sunday Mass or an Extra-ordinary Minister of Holy Communion? How about learning more about our Parish Small Groups? In recent weeks, we have had 7 new parishioners become part of our Parish Pastoral Council and a few young people sign up to be Altar Servers. It would be terrific if we might have some parishioners become part of the ministries mentioned above! It's not too early to inquire about those roles of service. It could be exactly what you need to boost your faith. If interested to learn more, contact Jen Keller in the Parish Office.
- 4) Finally, in July, our 2024 Mass Book will be open for intentions. This long standing tradition to offer Masses for particular intentions is a great act of faith, hope and charity. A terrific gift for souls. From Ancient Rome to Modern Day, this established practice has changed over the years. But is highly commended. This year, after consulting various parishes and our own parish staff, I've written a brief instruction about this practice and have set new Guidelines that are intended to provide clarity and good order for the practice of setting a Mass Intention. These Guidelines are now on our parish website. I encourage you to read them as you acquire Masses for loved ones for 2024.

Enjoy these Summer Days! Summer is officially now here!

Peace, Fr. Rogers

LIVING STONES APPEAL
St. Patrick Connecting Cornerstones Project

LIVING STONES APPEAL: PHASE II ~ MENDING THE GAP
Thank you to all who are part of our Connecting Cornerstones Project and to all those who continue to help us **MEND THE GAP!** As of 6/13/23:
MONEY RAISED: \$1,592,077
COST OF PROJECT: \$1,966,908
MONIES NEEDED: \$374,831
For more information or to make a donation, please visit our website.
www.stpatrickkenettssquare.org/living-stones-appeal/

NEW CEMETERY INFORMATION

St. Patrick's Cemetery is the home of many of our dearly departed loved ones. Just as we maintain our own homes to look nice, it is the same for our cemetery as we are always looking for new ways to improve the upkeep of these sacred grounds. As such, we will be implementing a new way for us to maintain our graves after a burial. Instead of our current practice of laying seed, which tends to be eaten by birds or blown away by the wind, we will be placing sod on the graves. This process will begin in the Fall as it is the best time of year to do so. In the interim, if you have just buried a loved one, the grave will be maintained with added soil as needed until the sod can be placed. We appreciate your understanding as we begin this new process. Should you have any questions, please contact the Parish Office. Thank you.