

My Dear Parishioners,

Praised be Jesus Christ and Happy Pentecost! This 50th Day of the Easter Season is sometimes referred to as the Birthday of the Church. The Day on which the Holy Spirit fell on the Apostles and the Blessed Mother in a New Way and sent them forth into the world. This "sending forth" is so very important and is built into the nature of our very substance. An ocean without an ebb and flow becomes sick; A heart without a receiving and giving is a dead heart; and a Church that never goes forth is selfish. So Pentecost is a critical moment, a happy moment in the Life of the Church ... a great COMING FORTH/SENDING.

Such themes surround us at this time of year. We celebrate graduations, ordinations and the completion of the school years: all sending forths! While happy moments for sure, don't be surprised if you find anxiety attached to them. The remedy? **Calling to mind all that came before. Being always grateful for the gifts, talents, knowledge and love which you have received. Not burning the bridges from where you came from. And then stepping out in Faith.** My favorite definition of Faith comes from Mother Angelica. She said, **"Faith is one foot on the ground; the other foot in the air; and a queasy feeling in the stomach!"** The foot on the ground is our groundedness in Christ; the foot in the air is our going forth; the queasy feeling in the stomach is the confirmation that you are growing, expanding, alive!!

Now that our new Narthex is complete, a number of people have been asking me, "Father, what's the next project!" I look at them and smile. I LOVE the life and energy of this parish and the desire for more. So, as announced 2 weeks ago, here's the next immediate project: SHARING CATHOLIC JOY!

This project doesn't need a feasibility study, money, permits or engineers. But it does need YOU and YOUR WITNESS. Quite simply, your stepping out and sharing with others: WHY YOU ARE CATHOLIC. Sometimes that type of sharing can be awkward and tough. Sometimes it's done in inappropriate ways. But if that sharing has NEVER been done, then there's a problem. And by the way, there are many problems!

So this parish project will help us avoid the pitfalls and will set us up to WITNESS, to step out, to share the gift that we have received. We are excited to hear and learn from all that you will give us. Our pastoral council has created a questionnaire to be filled out and will follow up with each individual, couple and family. As you were part of our Connecting the Cornerstones Project, I encourage you to be a part of this Sharing the Catholic Joy Project. Through it, we will connect and build not a building but The KINGDOM OF GOD. And that is an exciting Project!

Happy Pentecost!


Peace,


Fr. Rogers



This Saturday, May 25, Deacon Augustine Reimers will be ordained a priest in Lincoln, NE. You may watch his ordination on live stream at Catholic Diocese of Lincoln YOUTUBE PAGE. 12 Noon EST.

St. Patrick Church is
SPREADING
CATHOLIC

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TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THIS PARISH PRIORITY, SCAN THE QR CODE. → 

BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR MORE IN THE COMING WEEKS.

