

My Dear Parishioners,

Greetings and Praised be Jesus Christ! At any given moment in time, there's a lot going on in the world and in the Church. This is particularly evident in this time of year as the Fall routine is back in place and as time rushes on. A lot is happening and time pushes us into many things ... Have you seen Christmas Décorations as of vet? I have!

Because it's so easy to get pushed, lost and anxious in **all** that is happening, it's very important to keep in mind the essential things; Those things that matter most and to examine them from time to time. For the Church, there are three essential things: **WORSHIP**, **EVANGELIZATION** and **SERVICE** to the **POOR**. These are the three

major activities of the Church; if these are not happening then Church is not happening; If they are not happening well, than the Church is not well. As the brain, lungs and heart are to the Body, so too worship, evangelization and service to the poor are to the Church.

This week the Church celebrates Saints who manifest each of these activities in a beautiful way: The Archangels, St. Jerome and St. Vincent DePaul. Each of these feasts encourage us in what matters:

September 29: The Archangels Gabriel, Raphael and Michael: The Celebration of this Feast reminds us of God's Greatness and how we are called to be taken up into Him in *Worship*. In celebrating the angels, we are reminded of the invisible world that God created: Countless hosts of angels. Archangels Gabriel, Raphael and Michael – all of whom are found at work in the Scripture – demonstrate what WORSHIP of God looks like: An all-compassing, all-consuming affair! May we have the grace to so worship.

September 30: St. Jerome: This feast reminds us of the mission to *Evangelize*. Among many other great things, St. Jerome translated the Bible into the Language of the People. We call that Bible the VULGATE and the language of the people was Latin. He famously said, "Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ." Today amidst so much ignorance and the growing Babel in which we live, we are called to find ways to share the Good News. In St. Jerome, we have a marvelous example of New Evangelization

September 27: St. Vincent DePaul: Living in Paris, amidst much injustice and difficult times, Vincent DePaul <u>served the poor</u> with heroic generosity. He saw in a clear fashion that love of Christ means love of the poor. Faith without Charity is dead. The writings, legacy and life of Vincent DePaul continue to remind and encourage the Church in the work of Service to the Poor.

My friends, I encourage you this week to examine your life thru the lens of these three activities: Worship, Evangelization and Charity. Such an examen can center and free you from all the useless activity that in the end may not be doing us much good.

Peace,

Fr. Rogers

PRAY A PUBLIC ROSARY SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2023 AT 12:00 PM CORNER OF MEREDITH & CYPRESS STREETS

The Feast Day of Our Lady of Fatima "Miracle of the Sun" is coming up on October 13th and St. Patrick's Parish will be holding our annual Rosary Rally as we have been for over 10 years now! You are invited to pray the Rosary with us on Saturday, October 14 (which is the closest Saturday to the actual Feast Day) to commemorate the 106th Anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima. There is expected to be more than 20,000 other Rosary Rally groups throughout the United States who will be praying the Rosary on this same day/time. Praying the Rosary in public is a beautiful and powerful witness! Our Lady will pour forth graces on the entire world and bring peace. Everyone is welcome. Bring your children and invited your family and friends! FREE Rosaries will be provided. More information can be found on the America Needs Fatima website at www.americaneedsfatima.org. For questions, contact Susan at 610-355-6334.

