

From the Pastor's Desk:

In the Gospel today we see the blind man not being ashamed to ask for help from Jesus, and also continuing to ask even when others told him to be quiet - and in the end Jesus respond. We can forget that the Lord wants to assist us, wants to fulfill what we really need - we need to ask with faith. I ask all of you to pray for our parish that we continue to grow, we continue to prosper, and that the Lord uses us to bring his Kingdom to earth.

Our Bazaar was a success, thanks to all those who helped and participated. As each year goes by, I pray that events like this become more of a thing that all parishioners can see as their own. It is important that they become a place where we continue to forge bonds between members and create Annunciation Parish traditions born of the history of the four historical parishes. I have heard a few people mention that they are feeling that we are becoming more as one parish - and that is encouraging. I know that to some that has been a tough transition, but what a bright future we have together as one united Catholic parish!

Some parishioners have come forward and are restarting the Thanksgiving Dinner that was such a wonderful opportunity for the elderly, veterans, homeless, people who are alone, families, and shut-ins to share a common table together. Stories have been told to me of people meeting people, children and parents going to bring meals to elderly in their homes, and of a group working together to bring a sense of fellowship and joy to others. These stories tell the tale of a meal where people give back to others and meet together in a common task through the love of Jesus. The dinner is scheduled for November 11th, please look for more details about how you can participate and share in this great community feast.

We had Finance Council meeting this past week. In that meeting we reviewed and approved the final financial report for the 2017/2018 fiscal year, looked the status of our accounts, and discussed the preparation of a comprehensive report to be given to all parishioners. We plan to approve this report for publication at the next meeting and get it out to you. One great thing to note is that as of this past Tuesday we are DEBIT FREE! The council's attention to good financial management has allowed for the final payment to be made on the parish debit, and helped us to be financially above water this past year. More details will be in the yearly report.

I continue to be encouraged by the response to our adult education and faith formation activities. I have previously mentioned the good response to the "Walking Tour of the Mass." In addition, we continue regular biblical studies on Tuesday's, and I heard from Maura that we have over 40 women signed up for the "Sweet Life Cafe" day of reflection this weekend. There are a few more things going on before the first of the year (you can grab one of the yellow sheets at the back of the church or check the website - the list is accessible under the "of interest" section of the homepage). New activities will be listed soon for next year.

My prayers continue to be with you all as my parish family. May the love of God continue to be felt by you in your heart, may you prosper in all good works that you do, and may we continue to walk forward in the footsteps of Jesus.

God Bless,
Fr. Steve