

From the Pastor's Desk:

Our example is important. Jesus today cautions that anyone who leads an innocent one (symbolized by a child) into sin. We must realize that how we live our lives, how we observe our faith, what we do in terms of words and action - all these have the potential to lead others to Jesus or away. We all fail in this at times (yours truly included), yet it is serious business to continue to perfect ourselves - if not for ourselves alone, but for those we will influence by our words and actions.

The Mass itself has the great ability to lead others to Jesus and let ourselves be led. We have worked to have our liturgy become more and more an experience that points to what is the mystery of what is going on under the scenes and servers a source of weekly refreshment. We are also providing ways in the next few months to gain a deeper understanding of the Mass. Books are available at the back of the church to help you to more prayerfully engage the Mass, Fr. Ramos and I will be adding brief explanations of parts of the Mass in homilies, and we will have a few opportunities to delve deeper into the meanings of the Mass. The first of these is opportunities is Monday October 1st at Holy Spirit (6:30pm). The Mass can become more than an obligation, or a chance to reflect, but also an experience of encounter with God. There is much that we fail to teach about this great act of worship. So I encourage you to attend either the "Guided Tour of the Mass" this Monday, or the "Questions and Answers About the Mass" that will be held in the Spring. Another way that we can help to spread the reality and truth about our God is to invite others to join us at Mass - please do so.

Finance Council met this past week, and due to a few members being unable to make it, we have postponed the review of the past fiscal year's reports until next meeting. We have been in contact with the architect, and had the first of the needed engineering studies done for the convent this week. This paves the way to develop the plan to go out to bid to companies to complete the needed renovations. I have also been speaking with the architect and working to move forward on the handicap access issue - we have a meeting on this on Monday. To those who are still confused about what happened with the solar project, and how the parish was abruptly cut out of this, please feel free to speak to the individuals who will be available after various Masses.

There has been some forward motion in the Prison Ministry and any who would like to participate can contact Dave Bourgeois at 978-502-3833. We are also working to move our ministry to the homebound and hospital ministry to the next level. These are important parts of the ways in which we care for those who are unable to join us for the Mass and the way we extend the power of that Mass to them.

God is indeed good and holds out to us all the expectation that we follow as disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ and help to spread that word to others. It is amazing the benefits that come to one who is living in this way. Problems of life, questions, and pressures become more manageable when Jesus is by our side. Praise be our God!

Peace,

Fr. Steve