

NOV 9-10, 2019



OUR LADY, QUEEN OF THE YOUGH CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Pennsylvania Charitable Trusts

*Our vision is to lead all whose lives we touch
into a living relationship with the person of
Jesus Christ through Word and Sacrament,
Service and Fellowship.*

www.youghcatholic.org



GRATEFUL TO ALL WHO SERVED

To our visitors... If you are just passing through, we are glad you chose to worship with us. If you are seeking a new church home, please know there is always room in our pews and a place in our hearts for you.

DEVIVO CENTRE

116 South 2nd Street
Connellsville, PA 15425

724.628.6840 (f) 724.628.0838

MON-THU 8:30am-noon / 1-4pm
FRI 8:30am-1pm

BRADY CENTRE

459 Ranch Road
Dunbar, PA 15431

724.277.4236 (f) 724.277.8954

MON, TUE, THU, FRI 9am-3pm

SATs 5:15-5:45pm at IC

Confession

and by appointment

We work with the Holy Trinity Conference of Saint Vincent DePaul to help our neighbors in need. Their number is 724.562.3341.

We are grateful for the advertisers on pages 4 and 9, who cover the cost of printing our bulletins.

Please frequent their businesses in support of them.

This week's featured advertiser is DEMUTH FLORIST.

Our Faith Community consists of the Parish Families of Immaculate Conception, Connellsville (1869), Saint Aloysius Gonzaga, Dunbar (1874), Saint John the Evangelist, Connellsville (1895), and Saint Rita of Cascia, Connellsville (1915).



We also embrace the former Parish Families of Saint Vincent de Paul, Leisenring (1888-2008), Sacred Heart, Dawson (1889-2007) Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Connellsville (1901-1913), Saint Emory, Connellsville (1903-1970), Holy Trinity, Connellsville (1903-2008), Saint Polycarp, West Leisenring (1917-1997).

OUR STAFF - WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

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SAT-SUN, NOV 2-3, 2019 STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Adult.....	\$6,087.00
Loose.....	550.00
Maintenance.....	352.00
Total:	\$6,989.00
Cemetery	\$67.00
Thanksgiving	\$52.00
Accent.....	\$10.00
Mission Sunday.....	\$10.00
Catholic Relief.....	\$12.00
Military	\$12.00
Retired Religious	\$524.00
All Saints	\$960.00



ST. ALOYSIUS

Adult.....	\$4,838.00
Loose.....	182.00
Children/Young Adults	24.50
Total:	\$5,044.50
Accent.....	\$217.00
Ascension Thursday.....	\$5.00
Retired Religious	\$478.00
All Saints	\$641.50
All Souls.....	\$473.00



ST. JOHN

Adult.....	\$2,455.00
Loose.....	347.00
Maintenance.....	381.00
Total:	\$3,183.00
Cemetery	\$3.00
Retired Religious	\$355.00
All Saints	\$755.00



ST. RITA

Adult.....	\$4,913.00
Loose.....	454.00
Maintenance.....	371.00
Total:	\$5,738.00
Cemetery	\$52.00
Mission Sunday.....	\$15.00
Retired Religious	\$434.00
All Saints	\$748.00



Each of you must give as you have made up your mind,
not reluctantly or under compulsion,
for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:7



2 Thessalonians 2:16-3:5 ROCK SOLID PAUL

St. Paul seems invincible. He authored a series of letters of towering importance for Christianity. He devoted his entire life to the gospel. He traveled amid great hardship, endured shipwreck and imprisonment, and debated the truth with friend and foe alike. Throughout it all, it seemed as though nothing could stop him.

We all know people like that. They are great leaders, committed to a cause, who persevere in the midst of natural and human obstacles to obtain the prize they seek. Solid as a rock, they invite admiration.

St. Paul was like that. But once in a while, we see a different Paul, a more human Paul, one who needed

help to stay the course. The Second Letter to the Thessalonians comes from Paul and some of his companions. They had success in Thessalonica, and they hoped it would repeat elsewhere. But there were obstacles. "Brothers and sisters, pray for us, so that the word of the Lord may speed forward and be glorified, as it did among you, and that we may be delivered from perverse and wicked people, for not all have faith."

"Not all have faith." In those few words hide a world of sorrow, disappointment, and pain. Not all have faith. Not everyone believes as we do, and it is sometimes hard to persevere. Paul seemed invincible, but only because he relied on the help of others, who prayed for him in his distress.

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Archdiocese
for the Military
Services, USA

Our diocese will take up the NATIONAL COLLECTION FOR THE ARCHDIOCESE FOR MILITARY SERVICES, USA (AMS) at all Masses NEXT weekend. The AMS provides pastoral care for people serving in the US Armed Services, enrolled in US military academies, undergoing treatment at any of the Department

of Veterans Affairs Medical Centers, working in civilian jobs for the federal government beyond US borders, and also for their families.

There is an envelope in your packet for this collection.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THIS WEEK:

MON: Wis 1:1-7; Ps 139:1b-10; Lk 17:1-6

TUE: Wis 2:23 - 3:9; Ps 34:2-3, 16-19; Lk 17:7-10

WED: Wis 6:1-11; Ps 82:3-4, 6-7; Lk 17:11-19

THU: Wis 7:22b - 8:1; Ps 119:89-91, 130, 135, 175; Lk 17:20-25

FRI: Wis 13:1-9; Ps 19:2-5ab; Lk 17:26-37

SAT: Wis 18:14-16; 19:6-9; Ps 105:2-3, 36-37, 42-43; Lk 18:1-8

SUN: Mal 3:19-20a; Ps 98:5-9; 2 Thes 3:7-12; Lk 21:5-19

What's Happening at home

St. John's Fundraising Committee will be making pirohi on TUE, NOV 12 at 8:30am in Moravek Hall for their upcoming sale. Any help is greatly appreciated, whether it be your time or making a monetary donation to help defray food costs. Cash or

checks (payable to St. John and marked St. John Fundraising donation) may be placed in the collection basket or dropped off at the DeVivo Centre.

St. Rita Christian Mothers need volunteers on TUE and WED, NOV 12 and 13, and possibly again on THU, NOV 14 to make knots for their upcoming Christmas Cookie Sale. Icers should come at 9am.



Our next session will be WED, NOV 13 at Geibel, 5:45-8pm. Elisa Esasky, Director of Youth/Young Adult Ministry at St. Barbara's, Harrison City, will be speaking to our adults. Please remember to bring your child's textbook. Our theme for the evening is

Preparing for the Coming Messiah: Inviting Christ into Our Lives. Keedy's will be providing our meal of pasta, antipasti salad and dessert.

Tom Severin's Bible study on Job will continue on WED, NOV 13 in IC's Sciberras Hall, from 6:30-8pm.

RCIA Inquiry continues THUs at 6:30pm in the IC Sciberras Hall.

The study "*Mary A Biblical Walk With the Blessed Mother*" continues FRI mornings for the next 6 weeks at St Al's, after 8:30am Mass, about 9:15am in the social hall. Call Molli at 366-9552 with any questions.

Our Children's Choir will rehearse on SAT, NOV 16 in the IC choir loft at 11:15am (note time change). The Choir will also sing for the SAT, NOV 16 4pm Mass at St. Rita. Students in grades 3-6 in all 4 parishes are eligible for membership. In addition, junior/senior high students are invited to serve as leaders and cantors for the Children's Choir.

St. Rita Holy Name will meet on SUN, NOV 17 in Bucci Hall after 8am Mass. New members are always welcome. Coffee and donuts will be served.

Our next mandatory 2nd grade parent/child meeting in preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation is SUN, NOV 17 beginning with 9:30am Mass at IC and ending around 12pm.

St. Al's Altar Rosary Society will meet on MON, NOV 18 at 6:30pm in the social hall. Refreshments will be served. All women of the parish are welcome.

IC Christian Mothers will be making their nut, apricot and poppyseed rolls (\$12) and cinnamon rolls (\$5/half dozen), and selling them on SAT, NOV 23, 11am-7pm and SUN, NOV 24, 8:30-11:30am. Anyone able to help make the rolls is asked to call Mary at 628-1764 (please leave a message if no answer). Donations to help defray the cost of supplies are greatly appreciated. Checks should be payable to IC Christian Mothers and may be put in the collection basket or dropped off at the DeVivo Centre.



There will be a dedication recital for IC's new organ NEXT SUN, NOV 17 at 3pm. The

recital is part of the parish's 150th anniversary celebration. A reception with light refreshments will be held in the church social hall after the recital.

The recital will be presented by J. Christopher Pardini, director of music and liturgy at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral in Greensburg and cathedral organist for the Diocese of Greensburg.

Prior to his current appointment, Pardini was organist and director of music at Shadyside Presbyterian Church, Pittsburgh, where he headed one of the nation's leading sacred music programs. Before his arrival in Pittsburgh, Pardini was the senior organist at the Crystal Cathedral (now Christ Cathedral) in Garden Grove, CA.

A New Jersey native, Pardini is also active as a composer of liturgical music. His music is published by G.I.A. (Chicago), Fred Bock Music (Los Angeles) and Morningstar Music (St. Louis). His "New Century Mass" was awarded 2nd place in the NPM New Mass Competition by National Pastoral Musicians at their convention in 2010. He also won 3rd place in the 2nd International Competition of Sacred Music Composition, established in honor of Pope Benedict XVI, in Rome, Italy.

Pardini lives in Greensburg with his wife, daughter and son. He is a Novice Oblate of Saint Benedict, associated with Saint Vincent Archabbey in Latrobe.

Our 4 Parishes will once again be teaming up with Saint Vincent de Paul for their Thanksgiving Basket Project!

If you would like to help defray the cost of the baskets/gift cards, you may drop an envelope in the collection basket marked "Thanksgiving Basket Project", attention Mary Sampey. Checks may be made payable to Saint Vincent de Paul.



Please bring your food donations with you to church no later than SUN, NOV 17.

The Christian Mothers' Advent/Christmas Party for all 4 parishes, hosted by St. Rita this year, will be held at Nino's Restaurant on **SUN, DEC 1** at 3:30 pm. Cost is \$28, payable in advance. Checks are payable to St. Rita Christian Mothers, marked Advent/Christmas Party, and may be dropped in the collection basket, or taken to the DeVivo Centre. Reservations are due by **FRI, NOV 25**, and can be made through Mary at 628-6832 or Betsy at 603-3872. Please bring an unwrapped baby item for Alternatives.Yes.

Order pick-up for St. John's Pre-Order Slovak Food sale will be SAT, DEC 7 in Moravek Hall, 9-11am. To order call Liz at 628-7259 by NOV 25. Cabbage rolls (halupki) \$3.50 each, frozen pirohi \$10/dozen.



St. Rita Christian Mothers' Christmas Cookie Sale will be on SAT, DEC 7 beginning at 9am in Bucci Hall. Donations of Robin Hood flour, Crisco, Imperial margarine, Domino granulated and powdered sugar and nuts would be appreciated. Also, monetary donations to help defray costs are being accepted by making checks payable to St. Rita Christian Mothers, and can be dropped in the collection basket, dropped off at the DeVivo Centre, or given directly to Rita Pratt.



Nar-Anon will meet on WED, NOV 13 in St. John's Moravek Hall, 7-8pm.

Come enjoy the beautiful music presented by the Choirs of the Roman Catholic Churches of Uniontown on **FRI, NOV 22, 6:30pm** at St. John the Evangelist Church, Uniontown. Non-perishable food items and monetary donations will be collected at the door to benefit the local St. Vincent DePaul Society. There will also be a basket raffle. Light refreshments will be served in the SJE Parish Center following the concert.

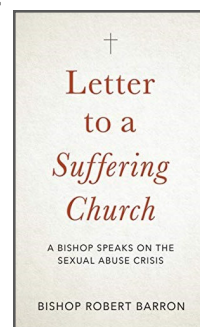
St. Vincent DePaul in Uniontown has an opening for a part-time Furniture Handler Assistant. The position is 24 hours/week, MON, TUE, THU, FRI, 9am-3pm. Messages of interest with resume should be emailed to director@svdpuniontown.org.



Ss. Cyril and Methodius (Fairchance) Christian Mothers will host a Slovak "Vigilia" on FRI, DEC 6 at 6pm in the church hall. The Vigilia, literally "vigil" in Slovakia, is the Christmas Eve Holy Supper and will include a meatless 12-item meal including baked fish, pirohi, bobalky, mushroom/sauerkraut soup, peas, prunes, pagach, nuts, oplatky, honey, wine, nut and poppy seed rolls, and Medovniky cookies. The meal commemorates Christ's birth and also represents the 12 apostles. The evening will also include entertainment by the Pittsburgh Area Slovak Folk Ensemble, one of the premier ethnic performing groups in Pittsburgh for more than 40 years. They will also be selling Slovak items. There will also be a Chinese auction and 50/50 raffle. Admission is \$25/person and \$7/age 14 and under. Reservations will be accepted with full payment, to "Ss. Cyril and Methodius Christian Mothers" and mailed to: Jean Thompson, 24 E. Church St., Fairchance, 15436. Questions may be directed to Jean at 564-2641.

If you are volunteering to help with the Thanksgiving Dinner at the Cvile Senior Center, City Church needs your completed **FOOD DONATION FORM** by **TUE, NOV 12.** You may take it/mail it to them at 206 N Pittsburgh Street. Call the church at 628-0700 with questions.

Copies of Bishop Robert Barron's book *Letter to a Suffering Church* regarding the sex abuse crisis are available at the DeVivo Centre. Among other things, he addresses the question: "Why stay Catholic with so much scandal?"



EARLY HOLIDAY BULLETIN DEADLINES



<u>SUBMIT INFO BY</u>	<u>BULLETIN DATE</u>
MON, NOV 18	NOV 30/DEC 1
MON, DEC 9	DEC 21-22
FRI, DEC 13	DEC 28-29
TUE, DEC 17	JAN 4-5



THE WOMAN AT THE WELL: THIRSTING FOR TRUTH

endurance - noun

1. the ability to withstand hardship or adversity
especially: the ability to sustain a prolonged stressful effort or activity
2. the act or an instance of enduring or suffering

In his letter to the Thessalonians, Saint Paul urges the faithful to direct their hearts “to the love of God and to the endurance of Christ.” The ENDURANCE of Christ. At first, that seems extremely daunting. How can we be expected to endure sufferings, persecutions, and wrongdoings to the extent that our Lord did? And yet, we look at stories like that of our first reading today from Micah and see examples of those who have “regarded” their “sufferings as nothing” for the sake of Christ! We read about incredible acts of endurance depicted in the lives of the martyrs/Saints. We hear news stories of individuals who have completely defied the odds stacked against them. We experience pain, loss, and hardships; often looking back to those moments that took away a piece of ourselves and wondering, *how on EARTH* we got through!

Without a doubt, fortitude is one of the most incredible gifts that the Holy Spirit gives us in order to endure!

Fortitude (or courage) enables a person to overcome difficulties and endure pain and suffering. Fortitude is the gift of the Holy Spirit that gives us the ability to CHARGE our pain with positive energy; enabling the person to suffer in joy. In this culture of fear, pain, and suffering in which we live in, we NEED endurance to recover and thrive! Endurance helps us to push through suffering and get back to life. Endurance helps us to keep going when we are fatigued, weak, exhausted, or facing discouragement! Partnered with fortitude, endurance helps us to undertake GREAT deeds while withstanding GREAT hardship.

HOW DO WE CULTIVATE FORTITUDE?

COMMUNITY. Keep in mind that fortitude thrives within a sacred community. When bad things happen, it’s common for people to withdraw from others. Sharing our experiences with others can be difficult. And yet, if we want to grow fortitude, we must instead seek out community. Our faith communities provide us with a way to think about, understand, and value suffering; helping us to find meaning IN suffering. Whether we like it or not, we all NEED community.

SPIRITUAL SURRENDER. In line with the writings of Thomas Aquinas, those who embody fortitude often embrace the idea that it is by God’s grace alone that we carry on despite our struggles. Wisdom comes from suffering when we learn what we DO and DO NOT have control over.

FINDING PURPOSE IN ONE’S SUFFERING. We need to learn from our pain

in order to redeem our pain. We may never GET the closure we are looking for, but we can create closure for ourselves. We may never know WHY something tragic happened, but we can allow God to use our pain to heal and bless other people.

LAMENTING. Sometimes we need to embrace the pain and allow ourselves to grieve! When we do not cope with a loss or hardship, we become bitter and completely overwhelmed. Grieving not only gets us in touch with our own personal loss, it also allows us to look outside ourselves in order to recognize the sufferings and pain of others.

PRACTICING GRATITUDE AMIDST STRUGGLE.

Gratitude reminds us that no matter how difficult life is or what we are going through; there is always something for which we can give thanks. It prompts us to remember that God is with us in times of deep sorrow.

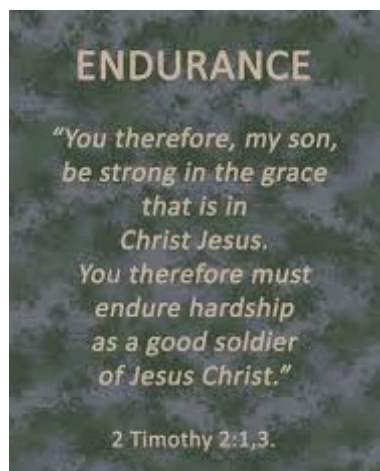
SEEKING REFUGE IN OUR BELIEFS. Several studies have found that faith can help provide a significant buffer against common negative psychological consequences following disasters and trauma. At times, God is the ONLY thing that can get us through another day, hour, or moment! Life is difficult enough WITH God, let alone WITHOUT Him. Personal transformation happens when we cling to the cross and allow ourselves to grow closer to Jesus through our sufferings.

Christ’s peace
and our Mother Mary’s love,
Mary Sampey

Complete
surrender is
fully accepting
whatever God
has planned—
no matter the
pain or cost.

THERE
IS
Always
SOMETHING
TO BE
Thankful
FOR

Please pray for the repose of the souls of DOROTHY KELLY, OLIVER WAYNE MARTIN and THOMAS TACCONI, who died recently. May their souls and the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in eternal peace.



Please remember AMY TUNGATE, the newest addition to our prayer list.

MINISTERS: Please call/email Chris Sparks with any dates you are UNable to serve in DEC. 628-7510 or crsparks1@zoominternet.net

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

MON, NOV 11		ST. MARTIN OF TOURS, BISHOP
8:00am	St. Rita	Josephine & Roger Shaw (Family)
8:30am	St. Al	James DeMarco (Bedy Lizza)
TUE, NOV 12		ST. JOSAPHAT, BISHOP/MARTYR
8:00am	St. John	Paul & Theresa Gilpin (Don & Sandy Davanzo)
8:30am	St. Al	Msgr. J. Edward McCullough (Susie & A.J. Seman & Daughters)
WED, NOV 13		ST. FRANCES XAVIER CABRINI, VIRGIN
8:00am	St. Rita	Peg & Jim O'Neill (Kathy Walsh)
8:30am	St. Rita	Adoration until 4:30pm
THU, NOV 14		WEEKDAY
8:00am	IC	Freddie B. Perez, Jr. (Randall, Gemma, Gabriella & Nico)
8:00am	St. Al	Prayers for Priests & Padre Pio Devotions
8:30am	St. Al	Catherine Lizza (The Torchio Family)
FRI, NOV 15		ST. ALBERT THE GREAT, BISHOP/DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH
8:00am	St. Rita	Stanley Helinsky (Wife, Myrna)
8:30am	St. Al	Brent Blake (Frank & Mary Maykuth)
9:30am	IC	Edna McDonald (Family)
Conn-Area		
SAT, NOV 16		ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND, ST. GERTRUDE, VIRGIN
4:00pm	St. Rita	Stephen J. Napoleon, Sr. & Richard Hepler (Daughter & Wife, Janet Hepler)
5:00pm	St. Al	Joseph & Anna Zerechak (Daughter, Audrey & Family)
6:00pm	IC	Pro Populo
SUN, NOV 17		33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
8:00am	St. Rita	Philip & Michelina Malone (Philip Malone)
9:00am	St. Al	William & Ruby Maddas (Carol & Randy Johnston & Family)
9:30am	IC	Joe Beucher (Family)
11:30am	St. John	Pauline Rose (Daughters, Paula & Patty & Families)

Altar flowers at St. Rita are in memory of Kimberly Taylor Harkins, given by Mom & Dad.

Flowers at IC are in loving memory of Anna Misconin, given by Family.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE - NOV 16				MINISTRY SCHEDULE - NOV 17			
	SR-4PM	ST. AL-5PM	IC-6PM	ST. RITA-8AM	ST. AL-9AM	IC-9:30AM	ST. JOHN-11:30AM
ACOLYTES/ SERVERS	Z Zimmerman S Harbaugh	C Tabaj A Sampey	G Galley M Sabatini	M Waggett E Armstrong	M Speeney M Speeney	L Bandemer A Bandemer	R Knizner L Colland
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	L Sparks M Pieczynski G McDermott	P Herron S Lincoln M Sampey	P Daniels D Calinao P Calinao	C Waggett G Lembo J Lembo	J Grover T Grover J Laurion	P Akers S Reagan B Molitor	J Speeney J Kosinski D Siecinski
CROSS BEARERS	J Domer	O Tabaj	L Geary	E Kozel	A Mongell	L Tomasko	L Thomas
LECTORS	C Sparks	T Shal	T Sabatini	R Kozel	N Gallis	L Galiardi	E Knizner
ROSARY		J Connell			T Grover		



Before returning to Rome last summer, I wrote a mini reflection on what life had been like as a priest to that point. I thought I would do the

same reflecting on my time as administrator now that I shall be returning to the “lowly” position of parochial vicar once again.

- ♦ I’ve learned a great deal during my time as administrator *pro tem*. Like what *pro tem* means. And why most priests have signatures that only take 0.5 seconds to write.
- ♦ Probably the biggest lesson I learned is to keep my eyes open and to ask questions about what I see. I tend not to be a very observant person, so I can miss a lot of helpful tidbits if I’m not paying attention.
- ♦ Despite seven years of seminary formation and study, there is a lot about the Church that I don’t know. And that is OK.
- ♦ As long as I’m in Connellsville, I doubt I’ll ever need to learn how to cook. Learning how to exercise is far more pressing.
- ♦ Prior to this summer I rarely prayed to the Holy Spirit. That has changed immensely. On the days when I’ve had to preach multiple homilies, I’ve never been adequately prepared and have asked the Holy Spirit to guide my thoughts and my words. Sure enough, when I have, I’ve received a response – often as I am standing at the ambo proclaiming the Gospel. If this surprises you, know that it surprises and delights me even more.
- ♦ Upon realizing this power of the Holy Spirit, the biggest temptation I’ve had is to presumptuousness. Relying on the Holy Spirit when I’ve had time to prepare and *didn’t* is called laziness, not trust.
- ♦ I don’t miss Italy at all. Being able to be with my family each weekend makes up for the lack of fresh pasta and gelato.
- ♦ Prayer seems to be the most obvious thing to cut when we get busy but is the most important thing for long-term health. Without a life of prayer, I will burn out. I haven’t been at this for very long, but just a few months have shown me this...not to mention hearing it from a number of other priests!
- ♦ I’m so grateful to be a part of the Catholic Church. Our Church hierarchy and structure may feel top-heavy at times, but the professional resources in Greensburg that were made available to me during my days as administrator more than make up for it. I would have been lost without their guidance. They help us much more than we realize.
- ♦ It pays to keep an alb and the ritual books (baptism, marriage, funeral, anointing) in your car when you have four parishes. Are back-seat bookends a thing?
- ♦ More often than I’d like to admit, I have been presented with seemingly unsolvable situations and asked for guidance. It’s sometimes easy to forget that they are not asking me for advice as a thirty-five year old man but as a priest and a representative of Christ. At times people have said they found wisdom and comfort in my words – if that is true, it must be from God since it’s certainly not my extensive experience.
- ♦ I’m a terrible gardener.
- ♦ I’m very excited to be the chaplain at Geibel. I’ve greatly enjoyed teaching and being with the students and faculty. It seems to be a perfect “next step” for me.
- ♦ The most important person is the person in front of me. Even when a confession goes long or a parishioner is distraught and causes me to be late for something, that person is worthy of my full attention. I suspect it will take a lifetime to learn how to do this well.
- ♦ This also means that at times the most effective ministry is the least efficient. Although my homilies and articles reach many people at once, my one-on-one conversations with people have seemed to have a greater impact and bear greater fruit.
- ♦ I have gotten used to being in charge – to running with an idea without needing permission. It will take some time to unlearn this and will probably frustrate me some days. But once I get used to the new normal, I know that I’ll be happier – and certainly less stressed out.
- ♦ There is nothing quite like being called upon to energize us and help us become. I have seen this not only in myself but in our staff and our volunteers. Amid the confusion and uncertainty, your steadfastness and resolve have been commendable. Thank you.
- ♦ I love being a priest.