

25 June 2020

Hello once again.

A belated Happy Father's Day!

It is hard to grasp the fact that the COVID-19 pandemic shut-down has passed the 100 days mark on June 23rd to be exact. As we are aware, the economy is starting to re-open along with the churches.

It is wonderful to welcome people back into the church building itself and see faces in the pews however limited it has to be. In reading the paper and following the news, the pandemic is still very much "alive and well" as the state and country both see new cases everyday. I can reassure one that the protocols set by the diocese will stay in place and we are a long way from "normal." To use a cliché, we have to do what we have to do.

In the gospel for this 13th Sunday, Jesus stresses that to be a disciple one must take up one's cross and follow Him. Living in these strange times is definitely a cross as our whole lives have been turned upside down. People have lost wages, jobs, cancelled vacation plans, etc. It is not the summer we are used to or look forward to as in years past. And, we continue to pray for those most affected by the coronavirus.

On the parish front, it is with great joy that Friday June 19 at MOLOP we brought several people into the Church. We welcome Don Morris, Kristopher Bowers, Rachael Bowers, Will Bowers, and Abby DeBaillie. Congratulations! First Communion has been scheduled for both MOLOP and SMG the week following the 4th of July. They will be very limited and low key celebrations.

I also want to thank all those who continue to support the parish financially during this time. Please keep up the good work and generosity. We are running about 10%-15% short but thankfully our expenses are less. As in the past, please consider electronic giving. Thanks to all who do drop off or mail in their offering. Most importantly, thanks for hanging with us. Living one's faith in difficult times is a real testimony in putting one's faith and discipleship into action. It is most inspiring. We are continuing to live stream our Masses and distributing Holy Communion following Mass in the parking lot.

I hope this finds everyone well....stay healthy, stay safe.

Fr. Tony