

Daily Message from Msgr. Dennis...

May 1, 2020 ~ Memorial of St. Joseph the Worker



Readings: Acts 9:1-20; Psalm 117:1bc,2; Jn 6:52-59

Dear Parishioners:

Today's Memorial of St. Joseph the Worker was established in the last century to counter the communist "May Day" celebrations that were said to honor the Workers in the "People's Paradise" of Communism. We look to St. Joseph as a model of hard work and necessary labor which raises the dignity of every human being. Sloth and dependence on others to do everything for us is not a Christian attitude. St. Paul himself says "... if anyone was unwilling to work, neither should that one eat" (2 Thess 3:10). That's a far cry from some politicians who say those who are unwilling to work should be paid by the government none the less, or by governments who treat workers like slaves by paying non-living wages. Of course, so many have become addicted to inexpensive (a.k.a. cheap) merchandise that they are willing to risk a healthy economy, not to mention the lives of sweat shop workers, in order to have them. St. Joseph the Worker is a model for all of us that honest labor and an honest wage is not only essential for a productive society but it is a moral obligation for the Christian person. The Document of Vatican II, *Gaudium et Spes*, No.'s 33-34, gives a beautiful lesson on the Church's teaching of the dignity of labor.

May begins the month that Catholics traditionally honor Mary in a special way. Today, May 1st, the bishops of Canada and the United States are consecrating our two countries to the Blessed Virgin Mary under the title of *Mary, Mother of the Church*. This is being done in this time of pandemic to ask the Blessed Mother for her personal protection and comfort for all who are suffering during this time, which includes all of us. During the month of May let's make an extra effort at prayer of intercession to Our Lady that she enfold us in the mantle of her love, help our scientists find a vaccine to fight COVID-19 quickly, comfort those who are ill, be present to those who are dying and calm our anxious and worried world.

A Little Humor: After two months at home, being homeschooled, not able to meet with her friends and having too much time on her hands to think a little girl asked: "Mom, am I adopted?" The stay-at-home mom replied: "No, not yet, but I only put the Ad out yesterday."

After almost a full month of having to stay at home a man said: "I saw a flying saucer today. It appeared right after the flying cup my wife threw at me."

And, to be fair: We know Osama bin Laden was holed up in his hideout for a couple of years with his several wives. After a month of having to stay home with the wife and kids and not go out, most men think that Osama called the Navy Seals himself.

GREAT UNRESOLVED CONFUSIONS:

- Why are goods sent by ship called CARGO, and those sent by truck called SHIPMENT?
- Why do we put cups in the dishwasher and dishes in the cupboard?
- Why is it called "Rush Hour" when traffic moves at its slowest then?

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