

Daily Message from Msgr. Dennis...

Tuesday, May 5, 2020 ~ Fourth Week of Easter

Readings: Acts 11:19-26; Ps 87:1b-7; Jn 10:22-30



Dear Parishioners:

This is up a little late today due to an appointment and a ZOOM Staff Meeting earlier this morning.

When a person begins a new subject in school there is a natural learning curve to become proficient. You can't do advanced Math if you don't know basic arithmetic (and I am a mathematical dunce, believe me, so "advanced" math was never part of my education). If you want to learn a new language you have to know basic vocabulary and grammar if you're going to be understood. Languages were easier for me than Math and it wasn't until I started to learn foreign languages that I actually began to understand English grammar! Our Faith life isn't all that different. First we hear the Good News and accept it. The seed is planted, it sprouts, takes root and grows over time. Our Faith life today is not limited to what it was when we made our First Communion or Confirmation (at least it shouldn't be). As we mature we develop a deeper understanding of our Faith. Christianity is a forward looking religion. We have solid roots but we constantly grow and change if we hope to bear fruit for the Lord. There are those who wish that the Church would stay as a little seed in the ground all warm and comfortable and being nurtured without having to sprout and change. That's not Faith. Faith means that we grow and move out of our comfort zone to bring the gospel to a weary, anxious world. For example, those who oppose what the Church teaches through Vatican II or reject what the Church says through the teaching authority of the Pope can't really call themselves faithful Catholics much less Christians. To be Christian means that we need to stretch and grow in deeper understanding of Christ and the Church. We must listen to the voice of the Shepherd and follow HIM, not ourselves, if we wish to find the peace and comfort that Christ offers. Some are afraid to let go of the past and move forward into the future but, as Jesus told us, "Fear is useless. What is needed is trust." Listen to the voice of the Shepherd and stay with the flock if you want peace and security in this topsy-turvy world.

MOTHER'S DAY is this coming Sunday. Mother's Day cards are available in the vestibule of the church. Please feel free to stop by and pick one up – and then make a brief visit to the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. You may either send in the envelope with your mother's name or drop it in the mail box next to the flag pole that flies the Papal Flag in front of the parish pastoral center.

A Little Humor: (You might be seeing this again in an upcoming Sunday bulletin.)

A letter written by a "mountain" mom to her son who recently joined the military.

"Dear Son, I am writing this slow 'cause I know you can't read fast. We don't live where we did when you left. Your dad read in the paper that most accidents happen within twenty miles of home, so we moved. We won't be able to send you the address as the last family that lived here took the numbers with them for their house, so they wouldn't have to change their address. This place is real nice but its gonna take some gettin' used to. It has a washing machine. The first day I put four shirts in it, pulled the chain and haven't seen 'em since. It only rained twice this week, three days the first time and four days the second time. The coat you wanted me to send you, Ant Sue said it would be a little too heavy to send in the mail with them heavy buttons, so we cut 'em off and put 'em in the pockets. We got a bill from the funeral home, and it said if we didn't make the final payment on Granny's funeral bill, up she comes. About your sister, she had a baby this morning. I haven't found out whether if its a boy or girl so don't know if you're a Ant or a Uncle. Speakin' of witch, your Uncle John fell in the whiskey vat down to the stillery. Some men tried to get him out but he fought 'em off playfully, so he drowned. We cremated him and he burned for three days. Three of your friends went off the bridge in a pickup. One was driving and to the other two were in the back. The driver got out. He rolled down the winnder and swam to safety. The other 2 drowned. They couldn't get the tailgate down. Not much more news at this time. Nothin' much happened. If you don't git this letter, please let me know and I will send another one. Love, Mama.

Very Rev. Msgr. Dennis L. Mikulanis, S.T.D.
Pastor

San Rafael Parish
17252 Bernardo Center Drive, San Diego, CA 92128 Phone: (858)487-4314 Fax: (858)487-1498
www.sanrafaelparish.org Facebook: @SanRafaelCatholicChurch