

Daily Message from Msgr. Dennis...

Wednesday, May 6, 2020 ~ Fourth Week of Easter

Readings: Acts 12:24-13:5a; Psalm 67:2-3, 5-6, 8; Jn 12:44-50



Dear Parishioners:

Gossip can be such an ugly thing. Usually there is little foundation for what is clucked about like hens in a chicken yard and those who spread gossip do so to make themselves feel *soooo* superior to others. "I don't know anything, but ..." and the story spreads, true or not. Admittedly, everyone engages in gossip on occasion. It simply can't be helped but that doesn't mean it's right. In more ways than one Jesus tells us to keep our opinions to ourselves and be careful what we spread around when talking with others. In today's passage from the Gospel according to John, Jesus says He hasn't come to judge others so why do we think we can? The word "gospel" means "good news" and as disciples of Jesus Christ we have been commanded to spread the Good News. The accounts in the Acts of the Apostles illustrate the fantastic results of the gospel effectively preached. The question for us today is: When we talk with others, what is our motivation; is it to tear down, spread slander, make ourselves feel important with secret knowledge about another person or event – or is it to build up the People of God with GOOD NEWS? Remember, if we engage in gossip with others about others it's a sure bet others are doing the same about us.

SO MANY TIMES I've been asked: "Father, when can we get back to church again? I miss Mass and communion?" I wish I had an answer but I just don't know: And no, "drive up communion" handed out in Dixie Cups like a take out window at Jack-In-The-Box isn't the answer. We just have to be patient and we can use this time of separation from Holy Communion to put ourselves in solidarity with our Catholic Brothers and Sisters around the world who simply *can't* receive communion either because they have no access to a priest or are forbidden to do so by anti-Catholic or atheistic governments in today's world.

UNIVERSAL DAY OF PRAYER: Pope Francis announced at the end of the midday Regina Caeli on May 3 that Catholics will join in an initiative to DEDICATE MAY 14 TO FASTING, PRAYER AND CHARITY, to implore an end of the pandemic. He said: "Since prayer is a universal value, I have accepted the proposal of the Hight Committee for Human Fraternity that on this coming May 14, believers of all religions should unite spiritually for a day of prayer, fasting and works of charity, to implore god to help humanity overcome the coronavirus pandemic. Remember: May 14, all believers together, believers of different traditions, to pray, fast and perform works of charity.

A Little Humor: (Today, as related by Fr. Niru) Three people were arguing as to which profession was the most ancient in the world. The first person, a medical doctor, said "Doctors are the most ancient. After all, how could Eve have been taken from a rib of Adam without a doctor?" The second person, an engineer, said: "No, you're wrong. Engineers are the most ancient profession. Read the account of creation in the Bible. Everything created was systematic and orderly, obviously designed by an engineer." The third person, a politician, said: "Sorry. You're both wrong. The most ancient profession is a politician." The other two, bewildered, asked what *that* meant? "Think about it" the politician replied. "The bible says that before the universe was created there was nothing but chaos. Where do you think the chaos came from? Politicians!"

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