



From The Pastor's Desk

Salt And Light

In today's Gospel from Saint Matthew we hear:

"You are the salt of the earth. But if salt loses its taste, with what can it be seasoned? It is no longer good for anything but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lampstand, where it gives light to all in the house. Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father. MATTHEW 5:13-16

Jesus calls his disciples salt. Why? Father Thomas Rosica, CSB, describes the meaning of "salt" in the gospel: "Disciples are those who can season what is tasteless, preserve what could deteriorate and express mutual covenant and loyalty. Disciples of Jesus are those who speak well: "Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer everyone." COLOSSIANS 4:6 To be salt for the earth-oven is to have that fire within: to set things on fire around us, to keep the light burning brightly."

Salt was such a precious commodity at the time of Jesus. Salt, a common household condiment for us, yet it makes a world of difference to the taste. At Jesus' time it had a number of uses in the family and for medicinal purposes as well. We are the salt of the earth. We are human beings, creatures created by God our Creator. We grow toward Jesus Christ, our example, our Savior, to not lose that which has been given to us. The light we can be is the best that we can be. We are living creatures using our great gifts following the God-man, Jesus.

The Community Center

So much has transpired in our renovation of the Community Center from Christmas week through the month of January. After the ceiling was removed, it was determined that little if any insulation had been used during the 1956 construction of the Center. So we added new insulation, sheet rock and other materials to the construction phase. New fixtures with new LED lighting were purchased and have now been installed. This involved a great deal of coordination with contractors including our security, electrical and other experts to help bring all together on a timely basis. I appreciate everyone's patience especially those who regularly use the Center. They have been using other parish facilities so we can update the Center for all of us!



The March For Life

Parishioners from St Rosalie's joined with Our Lady of the Hamptons Students, McGann-Mercy Catholic HS Students, and Immaculate Conception Parishes. Some 40 pilgrims for Life boarded our East End Washington-bound bus at St Rosalie's at 4:45 a.m. After Mass at St Rosalie's Church, we departed Hampton Bays with a stop in Westhampton Beach. Because of bus trouble, we switched buses taking it in stride, although it necessitated a delay. We arrived in Our Nation's Capital at about 1:45 p.m. We joined near the beginning of the March, marched to the Supreme Court with at least 250,000 people, many young parents with baby carriages. We also visited Congressman Lee Zeldin's office. He is our representative in Washington. We prayed a Rosary upon leaving Washington. Later we watched a movie, slept, read and prayed. We had a Newsday reporter with us from early a.m. and were thankful that the newspaper was interested in reporting the story. Although we didn't arrive early enough, many were speaking of Vice President Pence's talk to the marchers. He and his wife have been participating in March for Life for about 16 years. Vice President Pence is a great witness for our parishioners and young people! It is also good to see the working of peaceful means of freedom of speech in action in these United States. Let us pray that we all in our nation may reverence the sanctity of life from the womb to the tomb.



Winter blessings,
Father Ed