



From The Pastor's Desk

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Today, on the sixth Sunday of Easter, we hear in the Gospel: *“And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him.”* JOHN 14:21 Jesus will send us the Advocate, the Holy Spirit who will empower us to live in this new way, this life of Spirit and of Truth. If we love Christ and those things which Christ sanctifies by His life and his example, we also will be lead to the heavenly Father. After all Jesus' public ministry was all about revealing the love of the Father to each one of us. Jesus Christ, the son of God shared with us the beautiful relationship that he has with God the Father in heaven. That intimacy is a model for us in our relationship with God. In any relationship, there has to be time spent. That is how friendships develop. It is the same thing in friendship with God. Our prayer time, is time spent in deepening the relationship between our God and ourselves. It is about building a friendship. It is about establishing intimacy between God and ourselves. Our God invites us into a deeper relationship with Him. We have the choice in friendship and in our choice to strengthen that heavenly friendship with God, just like in human friendships, it requires work and time. Do not get discouraged. Even many of the saints sometimes struggle in their prayer relationship with God.

We do receive help from God in this developing prayer relationship with God. This assistance is illustrated in today's first reading. It is here in the Acts of the Apostles where the action of the Holy Spirit is highlighted. The Apostles who worked for people to accept the Gospel of Jesus Christ, *went down and prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Spirit, for it had not yet fallen upon any of them. They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.* ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 8: 14-17

During these weeks before the celebration of the Feast of Pentecost, pray to the Holy Spirit to help you in your heavenly prayer relationship with God!

Parish News

Father Steve Grozio CM, a Vincentian priest who has been working here on the East End of the diocese for the last 10 years has just been elected provincial of the Vincentians and will be moving to their headquarters in Philadelphia. I personally want to thank Father Steve for his generosity in serving the people of Saint Rosalie's as well as the many other parishes on the East End assisting us with the pastoral needs of the Hispanic Community. Please join us at the Spanish Mass on May 28 at 4 p.m. or at the party afterward in the Community Center to wish Father Steve well on his new assignment. I will miss Father Steve Grozio very much. He has been a wonderful priest and friend to me at to me at Saint Rosalie's parish.

Father Kevin Thompson will be celebrating the 5 p.m. Mass on May 27. We welcome seminarian Mathew Browne back for his summer internship.

Catholic Ministry Appeal

Thanks for all who are getting your pledges in against our goal of \$82,100. We are currently about \$22,000 under our goal. As you know the CMA benefits so many on Long Island including Bishop Ryan Village and the education of our Seminarians.

Altar Servers

Father Maddaloni has been doing a wonderful job inviting young people to consider being Altar Servers. Father will be conducting more Altar Server training. Any children in fourth grade or above who may be interested please call the Parish Center and leave your name.

Eucharistic Ministers and Homebound Ministers

Save the Date, June 18. We will have a re-commitment ceremony at the 11 a.m. Mass on the same day that we celebrate the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ.

Last weekend we celebrated our fourth weekend of First Holy Communion masses on May 13. Congratulations again to all our young people! Please pray for our First Communicants and their families. A big thank you goes to Eileen McPhelin, our Religious Formation Coordinator, her assistants, Katy and Liliana, and our wonderful catechists all who do so much for our children and all of us in educating these young people in the light of faith!

*With continued prayers for a Blessed Easter Season of Joy,
Father Ed*