

Father's Day

For all the men who are fathers for the first time, for all the battle-tested Fathers, for all Fathers-in-Law, Grandfathers and Great-Grand Father, and for our deceased fathers.

Happy Fathers Day to all of you, Fr. Clark, Fr. Heston, Fr. Ignatius Fr. Rick Malloy, Deacons, Joe, Jerry and myself, and all the parish staff!!!!

Today, it takes great courage and wisdom to be Fathers, and Mothers.
Raising children - in our "**World Today**" is not for the faint-hearted.

They, whoever "they are" say, "**It takes a village to raise a child,**" but now you all know it also takes a vineyard to home-school a child. One vineyard per child.

Readings

Yesterday was the equinox, the arrival of the summer solstice.
A much anticipated day each year. Summer's here, yea! Let's celebrate!

I honestly wanted to give you a homily that was uplifting and joyful, even though there is an elephant in the living room, which can't be ignored. Actually, it's seems to be more like a Woolly Mammoth. This mammoth isn't just what is happening in our country, but the fact that most of the bad things that are happening is intended and planned. And, we know that it will continue to be one thing after another.

Still I intended to give a positive homily:

Then I read today's readings:

First reading: **Jeremiah 20: 10.**

"I hear the whisperings of many: "Terror on every side! Denounce! Let us denounce him! All those who were my friends are on the watch for any misstep of mine." This reading has powerful Christological associations that belong to Holy Week:

betrayal, deception, plotting evil, the falsity of human nature and sin.

Then:

Second Reading: Paul's **Letter to the Romans** unpacks the enormous theological implication of the Fall and its subsequent redemption;

Then: In the Gospel...

Jesus warns His disciples about denying Him and its' consequences, it reads like a cold winter wind across the face (and it's the beginning of summer!) this is not exactly summer fare for a discussion at the parish picnic (which, of course, is cancelled)

Heavy readings at best, dark and threatening at their most intense!

Haven't we already been through Lent and celebrated the Paschal Mystery already; are we not now in Ordinary Time?

Yes, but we never leave behind the Paschal Mystery; we celebrate it, we enter into it and receive the blessings from it at each and every Mass, every day, through all seasons.

In the Gospel, Jesus tells **to be afraid** of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; , AND, be even more afraid of those who can destroy both soul and body.

(Divine Providence)

And then, Jesus reminds us of his Divine Providence,

He says that He watches over every little sparrow and every other creature and He knows every hair on our heads.

We all worry about the our world;

what's going to happen?

But, to God, the past, present and future are all the same moment.

God is telling us, **"I GOT THIS."** And, God knows everything.

He has known us from all eternity and He knows our past, present and future.

Just put yourselves in His Hands and be not afraid.

There are **7.8 billion people** presently alive in the world.

If all of us were a 7.8 billion piece puzzle, a puzzle that would take up almost 2 square miles.

Each of us is one small, but very unique, piece of this puzzle and

There is only one place where we fit.

Do we know where it is? No,

but God does; it's His puzzle!

Just put yourselves in His hands and He will put us exactly where we belong.

In all of time, approximately 14 billions years, and

In all of the universe, with its sextillion stars, that's a one with 21 zeros after it.

There is no better time or place to put yourself in God's hands than right here, right now, **at this Mass.**

In this Mass, Jesus puts the fruit of His whole life at our disposal;

His adoration, His thanksgiving,

His praise and His satisfaction,

His atonement is ours without limit,

so that we may **walk with Him** before God and be perfect.

The more we give ourselves to Him in the Mass,

the more He gives Himself to us in Holy Communion.

In giving Himself to us, Jesus gives us His Holy Spirit to dwell in our souls,

dwell in our souls as a permanent friend and source of strength and light,

to dwell in the very essence our soul,

so that we might be completely **one with Him,**

living in the unity of the same Holy Spirit.

He has made our whole spiritual life a partnership with Him,

making us part of Himself,

and He reduced our share in the work of the partnership to a minimum

Friday, we celebrated the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Today, Jesus gives us **His own Sacred Heart** that we may love Him

with the love that is in His burning heart
that living flame of love that cannot contain itself!

No wonder Jesus complains of the lukewarmness of our hearts!
We in our self-sufficiency. try to love Him **with our own strength and with our own heart.**

Jesus wants us to give Him a love, like His own Love for us.

So, He offers us Himself so that we may use His love to love Him.

His prayer for us, at the Last Supper, to His Father is

“That the love wherewith You have loved me - may be in them, and I in them” (*Jn 17:26*).

No matter what is happening in the “World,”

No matter what is happening in “your world,”

No matter how frightening and uncertain it is,

No matter how scary it is to lose control over **our world,**

Remember,

God sees it all, God knows all and He has everything within His Divine Providence.

God has our back!

And Jesus desires to go through everything that we will go through, with us and in us,

if we put ourselves in His Hands.

God Bless You!