

A Note from the Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners,

I think you can see what I was referring to in last week's bulletin about the weather going back and forth from Spring to Winter to Spring, etc. Before long, it will be more like Spring to Summer. (Hopefully soon!)

For now though, one of the challenges of the more wintry weather is what took place last Sunday. Remember it was a snowy and icy day and it made getting around difficult if not hazardous for some. Of course, our attendance was low and our collection total was low as well. Actually, some parishes would be extremely happy with a collection total like ours from last week, but because of our tremendous expenses, even with a total such as last week's, we are in the same situation as all other parishes in terms of the shortfall. Thank goodness, there are not too many snowy Sundays. Every parish has to deal with the vicissitudes of the weather and other kinds of setbacks, but all parishes, including ours, count on your continued generosity all throughout the year and I am extremely grateful for all of your support. In particular, I am grateful when you are able to make up for missed Sundays.

Basically, we are all asked to do whatever we can to keep our parish strong. Whether or not you can contribute at all, and whether or not you can make up for missed donations, the most important thing is that we all try to keep up our prayer life and our life of faith as a family gathered in Jesus' name. Private prayer is important but it is equally important to gather as a parish family. Jesus established the Church to unite us to Himself and one another in the bond of faith, hope, and charity, and this parish does that so well. Our community is strongest when we gather for Mass because Jesus brings us together and gives us His grace. Our gatherings are truly an inspiration to me and so to many people. Sometimes you hear that religious adherence and practice is fading, but you would never guess that judging by this parish. That being said, none of us lives our faith perfectly, and some people are drifting away from the practice of the faith, but that means we have to pray more and try harder to bring Christ's light and truth to all around us. Christ wants His light to shine through us.

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Monsignor Giandurco". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.