

My Dear Parishioners,

Praised Be Jesus Christ! With the arrival of February, Ash Wednesday and the Season of Lent are now on the horizon. While not next week, i.e. Super Bowl week, Lent begins the following week on Wednesday, February 22nd. Amidst the various activities planned for that Sacred Season, I am happy to announce that for the first time in many years, our parish will host a **PARISH MISSION** and I am delighted to welcome as our Director, Fr Emmerich Vogt, OP. A few words about that.

A Parish Mission is special time in a parish community when the community gathers together to gain further insight into a faith filled life. It's a time for grace and renewal of the parish through services and talks filled with stories, examples and meaning. Basically, it's a retreat for the whole parish, the pastor included! It's a time to receive and be renewed.

Our director will be Fr. Emmerich Vogt, OP. He is a priest of the Holy Name Province of the Dominican Order and is currently the Director of the Saint Jude Shrine at St. Dominic's Church, San Francisco, while also ministering with Western Dominican Preaching. Born and raised in New Britain, Connecticut, where he attended Central Connecticut State College, Father received a BA degree in Philosophy from St. Albert's College in Oakland, California, an MA degree in Theology from the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley and a graduate degree in Near Eastern Religions from the University of California. For the past forty years he has been involved in giving retreats and seminars to Mother Teresa's Priests and Sisters in Mexico, Poland, Guatemala, Uruguay, Calcutta, Madagascar, Russia, and Africa. He is a frequent guest on EWTN and has authored many works on Spirituality and the 12-Steps for Christians. His topic/theme for the Mission will be **Eu-charistic Principles for the Spiritual Life**.

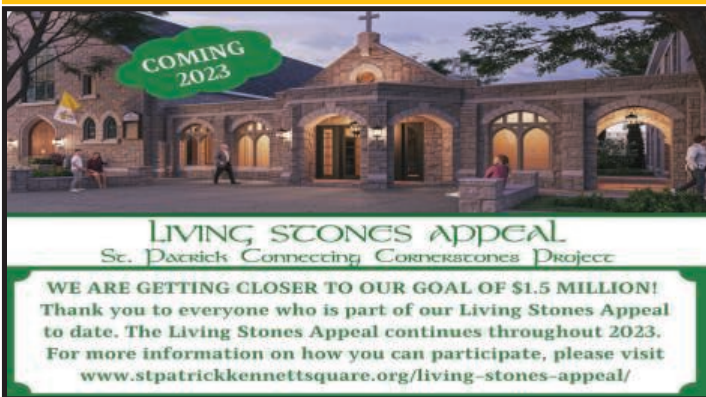
The Dates for the Mission are **Monday, March 6 to Thursday, March 9th**. On each of those days, Fr. Emmerich will celebrate Daily Mass, hear confessions and offer a Conference. The same daily conference will be offered twice, in the morning and in the evening. Throughout this time, our Church will be opened for Eucharistic Adoration on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from after the morning conference until the evening.

I ask you to make note of this special **PARISH MISSION** and consider inviting some friends. A flyer/ advertisement and more details will be forthcoming. But for now, reserve the week! I am very much looking forward to this experience. Years ago, I listened to a course that Fr. Emmerich gave on the SPIRITUAL LIFE and it had a profound effect on me. Never did I dream that I would be able to welcome him one day to my parish. But that day has come! Praise God!

This Friday, we are having a special "Family-tine", Valentine Gathering for couples with childcare included! Start your Super Bowl Weekend with a free date night. Special guests will be Damon and Melanie Owens.

Peace,

Fr. Rogers



Archbishop Pérez wants to text you!
Go Forth: Deepen Your Discipleship, Grow in Mission
 Join Archbishop Pérez in his mission to create a culture of missionary disciples

in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia! Through the *Go Forth* initiative, you can subscribe to receive a weekly text from the Archbishop with one action step you can take that week to deepen your friendship with Jesus or grow in your mission to bring Jesus to others. There are two ways to subscribe to receive the texts: (1) use your phone to text goforth to the number 84576 or (2) visit the website phillydisciples.org/goforth. Texts begin Ash Wednesday, Feb 22, 2023 and will continue weekly for one year.

**JOYFUL EVER AFTER:
 Celebrate Your Marriage!**

**Friday February 10, 2023
 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
 St. Joseph Room**



All Married Couples: Celebrate World Marriage Day 2023 right here at St. Patrick's with an evening of fun and friendship honoring the beauty of God's great gift of marriage. Fellow parishioners Damon & Melanie Owens, married 30 years and founders of *Joyful Ever After*, will lead us in a night of warm conversation and fellowship reflecting on God's plan for joy-filled marriage and the challenging realities of living that plan today. Get to know some of the many couples and families of our parish as we gather to celebrate World Marriage Day!

Calling All Parents! Would you like to attend but don't have child care? We got you covered! **FREE child care will be provided** in the Church Basement for ages 3-10 (please note that your child must be potty trained).

Advanced registration is required and space is limited for children. Therefore, don't delay and reserve your spot today! **Please RSVP by Tuesday, February 7.** To register, simply scan the QR Code found here or contact Jen Keller in the Parish Office at 610-444-4364. 236

