



My Dear Parishioners,

Praised be Jesus Christ! This week, as we turn the calendar into February, we mark both Catholic Schools Week and the Feast of our Lord's Presentation, the 40<sup>th</sup> Day of Christmas. The theme of Catholic Schools Week this year is: FAITH, EXCELLENCE, SERVICE. And the theme of Our Lord's Presentation is: LIGHT, SALVATION, JOY. More than a theme, these words are realities that our Lord Jesus provides and we can grow into.

This unique time of year, 40 days after Christmas and just prior to the 40 days of Lent, offers all of us a chance to examine our growth in relationship with the Lord Jesus. In the coming weeks, there will be available various ways to advance that growth here in the parish. Small Groups, 40 Hours, participating in an Adult Formation Class or in the Chosen Series, described below. We all need vehicles that further the growth of God in us. And now is the time to schedule such things. I encourage you to do just that.

Peace,

Fr. Rogers

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The Chosen ..... With Seminarian Ryan Nguyen

Last summer, I saw the eight-episode first season of a spectacular mini-series on the life of Jesus, called *The Chosen*—the #1 crowd-funded media project in entertainment history and the first multi-season show about the life of Jesus Christ and His disciples. Surprisingly I was blown away by the heartfelt acting, humor, music, and impressive storytelling. *The Chosen* weaves the Gospel accounts together and brings the characters to life in a delightful and fun way. I especially love Peter, Mary Magdalen, Matthew, Nicodemus, and how they **embrace their God-given mission** to proclaim the Good News. Above all, Jonathan Roumie, a 46-year-old actor from Los Angeles, portrays Jesus beautifully. Roumie was struggling to find a job in Hollywood when he was *chosen* by God to partner with evangelical filmmaker Dallas Jenkins. His Catholic faith was even strengthened during the filming experience.

“When we’re filming, **I always have rosary beads with me,**” Roumie said. “I have a little leather satchel I carry as Jesus and I usually bring my sacramental “accouterments” and put them in there and keep them with me and when I need to be alone, I’ll just go pray and try to stay focused and secluded enough to be present and open to what God is allowing me to do in a given scene...” He continued, “Jesus wasn’t depicted as being funny in the Gospels, but we know he laughed, we know he loved children, and they probably would have made him laugh...”

*The Chosen* series will inspire you to **become a joyful missionary disciple**. The whole family can watch it together. *The Chosen* Season 1 is free to watch on your smartphone app in which you can stream to your TV: Visit [www.thechosen.tv/app](http://www.thechosen.tv/app) or search “The Chosen” in your Apple or Android app store. The Parish Office has a few copies of the series available on DVD that may be borrowed.

All are welcome to join me via Zoom beginning Thursday, February 4 at 7:00 PM to view the first episode together and share in discussion. Thereafter, I encourage you to watch the additional episodes independently and then join me on Thursday nights via Zoom to share in prayerful discussion. Additional details and how to register for the Zoom link can be found in today’s bulletin, the Parish website and Flocknote. You may also contact Jen Keller at 610-444-4364, ext. 6 or email at [jenkellersp@gmail.com](mailto:jenkellersp@gmail.com). I hope that you will join me.

In Christ,

Ryan Nguyen  
Seminarian, Theology III