



My Dear Parishioners,

Praised be Jesus Christ! Over the past several years, our parish has been blessed to have a number of our young men become Eagle Scouts. Eagle is the highest ranking that a Boy Scout can achieve and recently another parishioner did just that. We congratulate our newest Eagle, Nick Luckangelo! In addition, we salute and recognize the work of another new Eagle, Kai Finn. Kai is member of Troop #24 and a recent Kennett High Grad. In the Fall, Kai approached our parish looking for an Eagle Scout Project. Together, we identified a worthy project and just last week, it was completed! Thanks to Kai's work, we now have an Information Board at our parish cemetery, (See Below). I thank him for this great project, for thinking of our parish and look forward to his *Court of Honor Ceremony* in the time to come.

Looking at coming times, this Fall, the Archdiocese of Philadelphia will launch a new initiative entitled: *Nothing Compares To Being There*. According to the website and press-release, "this initiative is meant to issue a heartfelt invitation to parishioners to return to the in-person celebration of the Mass after the many long months of the pandemic. It draws upon the central truth of our Christian faith that Jesus Christ encounters and saves us in the flesh through in-person presence."

While drawing on that central truth, this theme names a truth that we have all experienced in recent weeks, since the re-opening: that indeed, *Nothing Compares To Being There!* Whether that there is with family and friends, at a restaurant, a movie theater or even in Church. It is true: Nothing Compares to Being There.

In light of this theme and experience, this Fall, we as a parish will reflect more fully on What it means *to be here...* to be here at St. Patrick. For some of our parishioners, here is where they have been for their whole lives and St. Patrick's is home. For myself, "being here" just marked six years and St. Pat's has become home. For still others, the reality of "being here" is just beginning to unfold and grow. But for all, how beautiful it is to be here.

Despite all the *not being here* in 2020, our parish has continued to operate, plan and grow. Our parish Mission of strengthening our Catholic Community has continued and our Vision of receiving and giving the Love of God has become clear. In the coming year, the theme of "being here" will take on even greater pride and meaning as we share future plans for our parish properties, work together to bolster our parish ministries and help one another to live the Gospel well.

Know of my gratitude for all your kindness, generosity and goodness. Be assured of my prayers for you each day.

Peace,

Fr. Rogers