



My Dear Parishioners,

Praised be Jesus Christ and Happy Week 3 of Lent! Last week proved to be a terrific week for our parish and I want to express my sincere thanks to our Parish Knights of Columbus for the awesome ST. PATRICK GALA. It was a great affair and a reminder of how good it is to be together! From the people to the program, the venue to the vendors represented in all the auction items, it was top-notch! Special thanks to Grand Knight Pete Mellone and Master of the Gala, Ray Gamble. WELL DONE!

Last week also brought us happy news that Archbishop Perez has called our parishioner Alan Haley, to the Diaconate! This means that on June 11, 2022, Alan will be ordained a Catholic Deacon for our Archdiocese. This "Call" that is referenced is an important and beautiful reality. For as much as a seminarian or man in deacon formation declares his intent to study, discern and choose his vocation, there is another reality that makes it happen, namely, the Church! And at the end of the day, it is the Church, Jesus, who calls people to Holy Orders. "It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you." How mysterious, beautiful and true that word is. To know that in our lives, that God chooses and wants us. That is the Good News and it is manifested in the Call to Orders and in each of our Vocations.

This week, we will see this Call manifested in a most beautiful way as the bearer of Good News-Gabriel-comes to a Virgin named Mary. On Friday, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Annunciation, the Feast of the Incarnation. This is the day when the WORD became flesh, God became Man, in the womb of Mary. The day on which God made manifest His eternal plan and Mary said "YES"! It's the moment that changed human history forever, a day worth celebrating for sure!

I leave you with a quote from St. Bernard and encourage you to pray it along with Luke 1.26 and John 15, 16 this week. May God who calls, continue to strengthen us in obedience to His perfect will.

Peace

Fr. Rogers

O Virgin...The angel awaits an answer; it is time for him to return to God who sent him. We too are waiting, O Lady, for your word of compassion; the sentence of condemnation weighs heavily upon us. The price of our salvation is offered to you. We shall be set free at once if you consent. In the eternal Word of God we all came to be, and behold, we die. In your brief response we are to be remade in order to be recalled to life.

Answer quickly, O Virgin. Reply in haste to the angel, or rather through the angel to the Lord. Answer with a word, receive the Word of God. Speak your own word, conceive the divine Word. Breathe a passing word, embrace the eternal Word. Let humility be bold, let modesty be confident. Open your heart to faith, O blessed Virgin, your lips to praise, your womb to the Creator. See, the desired of all nations is at your door, knocking to enter. Arise, hasten, open. Arise in faith, hasten in devotion, open in praise and thanksgiving. Behold the handmaid of the Lord, she says, be it done to me according to your word. (Excerpt of St. Bernard)

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STATIONS OF THE CROSS
FRIDAYS OF LENT
7:00 PM
IN CHURCH



2ND ANNUAL PHILADELPHIA MARCH FOR LIFE
Let your voice be heard.
SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 2022

8:30 AM Mass - Cathedral Basilica of SS. Peter & Paul
 10:30 AM - March begins outside of the Cathedral
 12:00 PM - Freedom Rally at Independence Mall

For more information, visit www.prolifeunion.org