



My Dear Parishioners,

Praised Be Jesus Christ! A happy Mushroom Festival Weekend to everyone and a warm welcome to any visitors who were with us this weekend, worshipping Jesus at St. Patrick's. Good to have you here.

Among the various happenings in September, this week, the Church celebrates Our Lady of Sorrows. In fact, the whole month is dedicated to her and the specific image of Mary standing so faithfully by the Cross of Her Son. She more than any Christian, trusted most fully in God's plan, even when all reason for trust seemed to be gone! She is indeed a woman of tremendous Faith, Certain Hope and Perfect Love. How much strength and wisdom we can gain from

the image of her standing by the foot of the cross.

In recent years, the month of September has been marked by tremendous crosses. We can remember September 2001, the terrorism; or September 2005, the release of the First Grand Jury Report in Philadelphia. September 2012, the Benghazi Attack and even now, 2021: Afghanistan. The hurts of these past events are not limited to the past. And perhaps, the biggest harm, beyond the harm done directly to the victims, is the lack of trust that such failures have sown in the human heart. We live in an increasingly DISTRUSTFUL WORLD.

Pope Saint Paul VI knew this and he highlighted the need for WITNESSES. In 1975, he said: "Modern man listens more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if he does listen to teachers, it is because they are witnesses." In other words, for modern man, hurt by many things, words and authority are cheap. Even the right words and proper authority do not convince people today. Modern Man will only trust or believe witnesses; men and women who are worthy of trust.

This makes sense and it bestows a task on each one of us: The task of being trustworthy and the way to that is faithful Christian Witness. No better model for this than Mary, who never wavered in witnessing Her Son. In time of need, the people at the Wedding turned to Mary; they trusted her who trusted her Son. Peter and the early Apostles weighed down by their own sin and the scandal of the cross trusted Mary who encouraged them with tender love.

In a world wounded by failure, seeping with scandal and fear, who do you trust? Not a bad question. And even better, the opportunity to be an answer: Lord help us like Mary to be a living witness who brings trust into this world.

Peace,

Fr. Rogers

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST. PATRICK PARISH

Oremus: A Guide to Catholic Prayer

Beginning Tuesday, September 14, 2021, 7:00-8:30PM

Hybrid of in person and via zoom

Contact Ann Marie Gillinger via email-amgmag03@gmail.com

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Do you want to deepen your relationship with God? Have you ever been baptized? Were you baptized Catholic but have not yet received the Sacraments of Holy Eucharist & Confirmation? Were you baptized into another faith and now would like to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church? If your answer is yes to any of the above questions contact Marianne Kane, Director of Religious Education at 610-444-4364 to learn about new classes forming this Fall.

A PRAYER FOR EVERYDAY

Dear Lord, help me to listen, to

understand the feelings of my

friends in their moments of joy or pain,

happiness or sorrow.

Help me to hear the thoughts of friends and

relatives in good times and in bad, as we face life

together.

Help me to hear Your voice, God, as You walk with me

and guide me each day.

Amen