

June 2024

Greetings and Blessings of the Risen Lord! May the gifts of the Holy Spirit renew us with new enthusiasm to live and witness our Christian faith courageously to draw all to Christ as the first Christian community did.

As I look around nature at the end of this spring season, I see green all over, a sign of new life thriving and growing. Most of you are preparing your garden to plant seeds and saplings for flowers and vegetables during this Memorial Day weekend and start caring for them with a goal of seeing a bountiful harvest and beautiful flowers. In the same way, let us cultivate our spiritual lives to bring forth the fruits of the Holy Spirit in the coming weeks and months.

The ongoing Eucharistic revival efforts are meant to reaffirm our faith in the real presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist which is how we become a **Eucharistic community**. It was so touching to see 20 young children in our parish receiving first communion on May 4th and how joyful they were and their families. The first weekend of June we celebrate the Feast of Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. Let us be truly nourished by the Eucharist and become **Eucharistic missionaries**.

The upcoming Parish Festival is a great opportunity for us to come together and celebrate our faith as a parish community. On Pentecost we heard from the letter of St. Paul, how each one of us are given different kinds of spiritual gifts and how we are called to use them for the good of the community. Let us come together and use our gifts for the building up of the church as we volunteer and work together for the success of the festival. I am so happy to see the excitement of our members with the return of a festival to our parish.

Talking about the building up of the church, we are now finalizing our budget for next year. I shared with our finance council that we are shifting our focus **from maintenance to mission**. For the past few years, we focused on the much needed repairs and maintenance of our church buildings. Having completed most of the immediate maintenance projects, I feel now we are ready to focus on our mission as a church, reaching out and caring for one another and spreading the gospel. Two key areas we need to focus on are our ministry to the seniors, especially those who are homebound, and the young families. You have always been generous with your sacrifices and contributions. I humbly ask you to think of the church needs and continue to be generous, enabling us to become a thriving and growing parish community.

I thank God for all the blessings He is bestowing upon us and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon us as we strive to be a courageous and witnessing community of believers. May our Mother of Perpetual Help always intercede for us as our patroness.

May God Bless us all and wish you all an enjoyable summer season.

With Prayers and Blessings,

Fr. Matthew Perumpil, MI
Pastor

I am so excited to share with you a wonderful program we are beginning in our parish with a small grant we have been awarded by the State Department of Health Services to address the isolation and loneliness issues of seniors in our community. It will be a great opportunity for us to reach out and care for the seniors and improve their well-being. As believers we are called to identify the needs of our neighbor and help each other. I believe the greatest solution to loneliness and isolation is to build connections and relationships. Our recent Covid pandemic has made it worse and many of our seniors live alone. Sr. Lincy, our new pastoral ministry coordinator, is a great blessing to us to direct and develop this ministry in our parish. Please read her letter and reach out to her if you are a senior in need of support or if you are willing to be a neighbor to seniors living in your neighborhood. Thank you and God Bless you.

Fr. Matthew Perumpil, Pastor

Letter from Sr. Lincy SJT

As the new Pastoral Ministry Coordinator of our parish, following Margaret Rondeau, who has recently retired, I would like to reach out to you with Lots of Love and Peace of Christ from our Parish Community. With the help of some wonderful volunteers of our parish, I have been able to visit some of you in your homes, apartments/nursing homes. Every visit has been an enriching experience, listening to you, praying with you and sharing Jesus in the Holy Communion. I am so grateful that many volunteers are joining me in this wonderful ministry of becoming a neighbor to one another.

The aim of our ministry is to bring spiritual support, comfort, and guidance to individuals and families in their homes. This ministry serves as a direct extension of the church's mission, ensuring that this pastoral care reaches every one of you, especially those who may not be able to attend regular church services. I am developing a regular schedule for home visits, prioritizing those who are homebound, ill, or in need of immediate support. Another area I am focusing on is to assist families in planning and conducting funerals, providing comfort and guidance during their time of loss and thereafter, if need be.

We would also like to know if there is any other way you can think of that I would be able to help you or your family. You are a very important member of our Mother of Perpetual Help family. Please reach out to me or the office if you would like a visit from our team. Another way is to make a note in your monthly contribution slip that you would like a visit from me.

Our Charism as Sisters of St. Joseph of Tarbes is "***Building communion***". Embracing this charism and living it daily as Religious sisters in this parish is through our ministry of prayer. All the sisters come together at the end of the day with your prayers and take it to the Lord during our evening prayer. If you have any prayer request for you, your children, grandchildren, neighbors, or friends, please send it to me by text or email. My Mobile number is 414-204-2623. Email- pastoral@mphwa.org.

Looking forward hearing from you,
Yours in Service,

Sr. Lincy Augustine SJT
Pastoral Ministry Coordinator
MPH