

August 2024

Blessings and Peace to you from our Parish and your Shepherd! Last weekend we heard about the Lord inviting us to come to Him and rest. We are so blessed in Wisconsin to enjoy the beautiful summer and rejuvenate our mind and body. The recently concluded Eucharistic Congress and our parish efforts of Eucharistic Revival, helped us to rejuvenate our soul, drawing us closer to the Eucharistic Lord. I pray that each one of us find comfort, rest, and nourishment with the Lord.

As I write this letter, I am looking at the image of the Holy Father visiting and comforting an elderly man. You will find it on the bulletin cover this weekend. Pope Francis is inviting us this weekend to focus our attention on the elderly as we celebrate the fourth world day for Grandparents and the Elderly. This year, the theme he chose is from Psalm 71:1, “**Do not cast me off in my old age.**” In his message, the Pope reminds us that “God never abandons His children, never.” He referred to the elderly as “**the firm foundation**” on which “**new**” stones can rest, in order to **join in erecting a spiritual edifice** (1Peter 2:5). I thank you dear grandparents and elderly of our parish, for your deep faith, commitment, and love for the church. I thank you for your generosity in investing and supporting our parish, not only financially, but with your time and talents, and above all with your prayers. God Bless you all abundantly.

Our program of senior ministry guided by Sr. Lincy and the wonderful team she is expanding, will reach out to you, especially those of you who are unable to come to church. When you cannot come to church, church has to come to you. Please make a phone call to the office or drop a line to us through email, text or regular mail. We will not abandon you; we want to be close to you.

I am excited to share with you that we have a new website and have hired a communication staff person, Rita Baumann, to help us connect with everyone more efficiently. We want to be a **communicative and engaged parish community**. I know different age groups will have their own preferred types of communication mediums. We hope to use these mediums to appropriately reach out while including your tastes. One primary church medium of communication that reaches our parishioners directly is **Flocknote**, a form of email and/or text. If you share either your cell phone number or your email with us, our parish team will then be able to reach you directly.

Speaking of communication, our postal rates are going up regularly. I would like to shift the practice of sending this monthly letter from regular snail mail to email or Flocknote. For all those who have emails, we would then send your monthly letters via email. We can send you the envelopes once a year, so that you may still send your monthly contributions that way. Even better would be to adopt the practice of online giving. Please consider shifting to online giving. Our office staff will help you with the process of changing if you call them. Postal rates alone per month are currently \$600. This does not include the cost of paper and envelope.

Thank you all for your love and support to the parish and me personally. Please pray for me to be your shepherd to care for you as the Divine Shepherd. May God bless you all.

Fr. Matthew Perumpil, MI
Pastor

The Christian Women's Organization is a dedicated group pursuing the unification of all the women of the parish in religious, educational, social, and service activity. We also generously assist our pastor in the spiritual and material undertakings of the Parish. We would like to invite you to join our organization. You will find an envelope included in this month's stewardship letter.

There are 2 types of members: Active and Inactive. The cost for both is \$10.00. All members, whether active or inactive, at the time of their passing, are provided with a Mass in their honor. At their Funeral Mass, the living members gather to say the rosary before the funeral. At the end of the Mass, we recognize our fellow member(s) in prayer and provide an honor guard candle procession as the deceased member(s) leave the church.

This membership also includes an opportunity to donate to the layette ministry. We ask for one dollar, but any amount can be donated. It helps the charities, who the Milwaukee Archdiocesan Council of Christian Women, chooses to receive both infant and toddler items, and monetary funds. This year the charities were: Women's Support Center of Milwaukee, Life Connection of Waukesha & Mukwonago, Seed of Hope of West Bend, and New Beginnings of Fond du Lac. Through your most generous donations we were able to donate \$65.50 to each of the above charities.

In closing, we thank you for reading this letter and deciding to be a part of Mother of Perpetual Help Christian Women. You can return the envelope in the collection basket or parish office. If you need help or have any questions, please call our Co-Presidents Debbie Peterson at (414) 510-6084 or Colleen Weber at (262) 617-7759.