

Message from the Rector

Dear People of God,

August has arrived! Yet, many people have shared with me “this summer has not felt like summer.” It certainly feels like summer by way of heat, daylight hours and humidity. However, for many of us COVID-19 has created a “new normal” and change of behavior. Yet, God is with us and God will get us through. Each day is a gift from God and we need (through eyes of faith) to see the rainbow after the rain.

We should certainly also listen to the wisdom of children.

A second grade teacher in a Catholic grammar school asked her students to write a note to God. Here are some of their actual messages!

Messages

- Dear God: I didn't think orange went with purple until I saw the sunset You made on Tuesday. Awesome!
- Dear God: Maybe Cain and Abel would not have killed each other if they had their own rooms. That's what my Mom did for me and my brother.
- Dear God: If You watch me in church on Sunday, I'll show You my new shoes.
- Dear God: I bet it is very hard to love everyone in the whole world. There are only 4 people in our family and I'm having a hard time loving all of them.
- Dear God: In school they told us what You do. Who does it when You are on vacation?
- Dear God: Is it true my father won't get to heaven if he uses his bowling words in the house?

- Dear God: Did you mean for the giraffe to look like that or was it an accident?
- Dear God: Did You really mean “do unto others as they do unto you?” Because if You did, then I’m going to get my brother good.
- Dear God: Thank you for the baby brother, but I think You got confused because what I prayed for was a puppy.
- Dear God: I think about You sometimes, even when I’m not praying.
- Dear God: We read that Thomas Edison made light. But in school they said You did it. So, I bet he stole your idea.

We should take a moment to write God a note. What would you say? What do you see?

Speaking of seeing keep reading and pass it on

The Window

Two men shared a hospital room. One man needed to sit up more frequently to help his fluid-filled lungs drain. The other man had issues that required him to lie flat on his back throughout the whole day. These two men became friends, talking every day, sharing about their lives, families, service experience and jobs.

Undoubtedly, the highlight of their day was when the man would sit up. Being by the only window in the room, he would then describe for his roommate all the things he could see outside. The man on the other side of the room lived for that time. Those glimpses into the world kept him going.

The man sitting up described a park with a lovely lake. He went into details about the ducks and swans that would visit the lake. He talked about children playing, young lovers walking arm-in-arm. He described in colorful detail the various hues of the flowers, trees, and majestic sunsets.

As the man by the window described these, the man on the other side of the room closed his eyes and imagined it all. Days and weeks passed like this. Then one day, the man who would sit by the window died peacefully in his sleep.

The man on the other side of the room missed his roommate. After an appropriate amount of time had passed, he asked if his bed could be moved next to that window in the room. The nurse was happy to help him by moving his bed and adjusting his equipment.

As soon as the nurse left, the man slowly and painfully propped himself up to take a look at the world he'd been hearing so much about. He strained his neck to look out that coveted window. But what he saw confused him. It faced a blank wall.

He called for the nurse and told her about the many beautiful sights his roommate had shared with him. The nurse nodded and explained. "Your roommate was an amazing man. He had been blind for many years."

The man shook his head, "Why didn't he tell me?"

"Maybe in his blindness," the nurse offered, "he wanted to help you see more clearly."

Despite COVID-19 and civil unrest may we encourage one another and help each other see more clearly. With the help and grace of God may we love this world back into life.

Enjoy this day,

Fr. Greg

Cartoon on next page

Humor from the Rector



“I’ve got salad for dinner. Actually fruit salad.
Maybe all grapes. Fermented grapes.
Ok, I’ve got wine for dinner!”