

## Fr. Martin's Reflection – June 9, 2024

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I'm not quite sure what week I'm in at the moment, so many great things have taken place over the last number of weeks. We have celebrated First Holy Communion, Confirmation, our Feast Day, and welcomed and celebrated with the Eucharistic Revival pilgrims. I hope you had the opportunity to be involved in one or more of the celebrations. The photos and videos are wonderful, they give you a flavor of the blessings that have been bestowed on us by our loving God.

One of the tragedies that many of us experience in life is when we are showered with blessings, we don't recognize them for what they are. First Holy Communion and Confirmation are an annual thing, right? It's just a bunch of kids receiving the sacraments, and another bunch will receive them next year. Our Feast Day – hmm, didn't realize we had a feast day, I might go next year. Sorry, Eucharistic what? If we fail to see the visual presence of God, do we run the danger of not seeing or experiencing God at all?

A few questions to reflect on:

- How do I begin my day? What are my first thoughts? Am I thinking of all that I need to do today? Who can I call on to help?
- When the day becomes more stressful than I expected, who can I call on?
- At the end of the day, who helps me to unwind? Who can I present my day to?

This may all sound so simple, but sometimes simplicity is all that it takes. Why don't we try:

- Good morning, Jesus, I have a lot on today, will you help me with it?
- Jesus I'm finding this all so difficult, please, will you send me a Simon of Syrene to help me?
- Jesus, thank you for being with me today. Thank you for helping me with the difficulties I had to face, and for sending me help when I needed it.

Friends, remember the words of Jesus: "I have come to serve, not to be served." What Jesus is saying to us is, I'm here to help you, all you need to do is call on me.

As I mentioned above all the wonderful events that have taken place in our parish, I also want to say a 'Big Thank You' to all those who helped in any way to make the celebrations wonderful and memorable. To name a few, Margaret Zola, Mary Smith, Alfonso Gonzalez, and Patty Baylog, without their leadership and hard work it just wouldn't happen. I know the danger of mentioning some is to leave so many others out, but please know I truly appreciate each and every one of you for all that you do.

### **Welcome Tommy Gorman**

We are honored to welcome Tommy Gorman. Tommy is a seminarian who is studying for the Trenton Diocese. He will be with us for 6 weeks during the summer, so if you get the chance, please say hello.

Have a blessed and holy week.

*Fr. Martin*