

September 29, 2019

From Fr. Jim . . .

A beautiful True Story: Once before Mass, one of the children from our parish who likes to help with the duties and chores was in the sacristy watching me get things ready. I asked him if he wanted to help me. He nodded his head affirmatively. Then he said, "I will always be by your side." I said to him, "Thank you very much. I will always try to be by your side too. Is that a deal?" And we gave each other a "high five" to seal the deal. Each time we celebrate the Eucharist, we gather to celebrate how the Lord has promised to be by our side and how we pledged to walk right next to him through this world into the eternal kingdom. I appreciate how our faith has grown and is growing and how we have pledged to be by each other's side always in the Lord's name and with the Lord's love. In the sacraments that we celebrate, the ministries and services we offer, the spiritual and corporal works of mercy from which we benefit and offer to others, our partner parishes who pray with us and share ministry, mission and resources with us, we will always be by each other's side and God is right with us. Thanks for your companionship. Blessed be God now and forever!



First Communion: Last week at our 10:30 am liturgy, Angel, Fin, and Paul came to the Lord's table to receive their First Communion. May this be their first of many, many times throughout their lives that they join the community of faith to receive the Body and Blood of the Lord and to become the Body of Christ, giving witness to the Lord's great love by sharing their lives so that others can have life. Not only is the Lord by their side but he lives in them, through them and with them. Our lives depend on living in communion with God and each other. The eucharist is food for our souls with which we are nourished and strengthened to live the mission of Jesus Christ and by which we glorify the Lord by our lives.

We give thanks to their parents for being the best of teachers in the ways of faith. Also, we give thanks to Judy Kuhlmann, our Youth Minister, for instructing and preparing them for first communion and to Angela Anno, our Pastoral Minister, and Sr. Mary for their support and encouragement in their spiritual formation in the past years. The faith is passed on from generation to generation by believers who know how much the Lord wants to stand by our side and who our always present to us in good times and in bad with the grace and goodness of God's love and mercy. Thanks to everyone for being the Body of Christ and welcoming everyone to our prayer.

A big expression of gratitude goes to our parishioners who generously shared their time and talents to beautify Centennial Hall with a fresh coat of paint and a new dropped ceiling. It looks beautiful. Thank you so much for your great kindness.