

Mar. 25, 2018: Journey with Christ through Holy Week

Dear Parishioners,

As mentioned earlier the Pastoral Council has been studying ways to renew the parish based upon models that are currently used nationally and in our Archdiocese. These focus on discipleship and evangelization - meaning how we can become more committed and engaged followers of Christ, and share our faith with others. Presently the Pastoral Council is studying three parishes in our Archdiocese that have been focusing on discipleship and evangelization for some years and have experienced success. We want to learn and glean from these parishes as we develop our own parish plan and vision for the future. As we move forward with more substantive information we plan to share this with the community.

As most of you may know, Mary Hupf, after 45 years of dedicated service, will be retiring in June. She has served our Holy Rosary community in the faith formation of our children and sacramental preparation. I would like to thank her for her many years of dedicated service. We plan to have a retirement celebration in June to recognize all she has done for our parish. In light of her retirement we are taking the opportunity to expand the present position to include discipleship and evangelization. The new position is Director of Faith Formation and Evangelization. This means that not only would the position include what Mary has been doing but also have a broader role in coordinating the staff and parish in implementing a vision of discipleship and evangelization.

This expanded position has been posted and a few candidates were interviewed. We are happy to announce that Timothy Putnam has accepted the position of Director of Faith Formation and Evangelization. Timothy and his wife Kristin have a desire to move to the Northwest and see this as an excellent opportunity for their family and where God is leading him. Timothy and his family presently live in Tulsa, Oklahoma. We welcome Timothy and his family to our parish.

Today, Palm Sunday begins Holy Week. Holy Week is walking with Jesus through his passion and death to the glory of the Resurrection. Each day of this week has its own movement and focus that invites us to walk with Jesus through the events that lead up to his death and beyond. We make this journey with Christ liturgically. The liturgy enters the Paschal Mystery and makes it present.

Please plan to join us this Holy Week to journey with Christ. On Holy Thursday will be the Mass of the Lord's Supper, where we will watch the washing of the feet. At the end of Mass there will be the procession of the Blessed Sacrament into the Altar of Repose in the parish center, where we can spend time in adoration with Jesus in the garden. On Good Friday at 3pm we will have the reading of Passion and Adoration of the Holy Cross. This is a very ancient rite of the Church which solemnly remembers our Lord's death on the Cross. There will be Stations of the Cross and Rosary at 7PM. Holy Saturday reflects the silence of the tomb.

The Easter Vigil starts at the Easter Fire with the lighting of the Easter Candle and candle procession into the church. It is at this liturgy the Easter Alleluia will be sung for the first time since the beginning of Lent and we will baptize our five elect and receive our nine candidates

into the Church. Please join us for these sacred liturgies as we journey with Christ our friend and Savior.

In Christ,

Fr. Vincent