



***From the desk of the Pastor***

**April 23, 2021**

**Dear Parishioners,**

**I have always promised you that when significant things happen you would hear it from the “horse’s mouth.” However, last weekend my absence was so unexpected and serious that I was unable to directly communicate with you. But I am grateful that you heard my explanation from the “pony’s mouth.” Ellen spoke from her heart to relay the facts to you. I am most grateful.**

**This update is from the “horse’s mouth.”**

**I was diagnosed with an infected bone in my great toe on my left foot. It was amputated on Monday and I was monitored for any other infection (which there was none) and released to go home on Thursday.**

**My feet are now up (doctor’s orders) and I have begun to read your cards and messages. Your prayerful support is overwhelming and deeply cherished. My feet will remain up for the next two weeks. My doctor has supported my desire to return for the weekend liturgies of May 8 and 9. With the assistance of the joint pastoral staff prayer and service and**

**business will continue as usual. The staff always rises to the occasion and the Spirit keeps us moving forward.**

**I am adjusting to the reality of the amputation. The doctor has told me my days of playing tennis are over (what am I going to do in my retirement?)**

**Cats are said to have nine lives. In the church, nine is a novena, nine days of prayer. Nine is also the number of the fruits of the Holy Spirit. My number of toes has changed, as has my life. But for this priest I have not lost, like the cat, I still have more:**

**more time to pray,  
more time to share the many gifts of the Spirit.**

**There, you have heard it from the “horse’s mouth!”**

**I miss you all. Keep praying for me.**

**My Easter Greeting:**

**Peace be with you!**

**Alleluia!**

***Fr. Mike***