



Drive-Thru Chicken Tender Dinner

Monday, April 26, 2021
Our Lady of Mercy Parish Center
44 Lake Street, LeRoy

Take Out Only
4:30 to 6:30pm
(or until sold-out)

Proceeds to benefit Love Bugs Preschool

DINNER INCLUDES:

CHICKEN TENDERS
(choice of baked or deep-fried)
FRENCH FRIES
FOUR BEAN SALAD
ROLL AND BUTTER
COOKIE

Order online at ourladyofmercyleroy.org, or

Email lovebugsleroy@gmail.com, or

Call or text 585-709-2764

Suggested Donation per dinner is \$10.00

FROM THE PASTOR'S HEART

Since my arrival in October of 2018, as in the lives of most people, my life has been filled with both challenges and joys. As any human being, I have strengths and shortcomings. Many of you have been supportive and patient, while at the same time challenging me and my confreres so we can be our best. The pandemic has certainly provided new and unforeseen challenges in the life of our parishes. My temperament leads me to often have strong emotional reactions that are short-lived; however, the last few weeks have been extremely challenging on a spiritual and emotional level. I do not wish to become bitter; therefore, I wish to address a few points for us to think about:

- The friars and the staff do not desire to make life miserable or push you away from God.
- When we share or receive information through “the grapevine”, let strive to ensure that we have all pertinent facts rather than rushing to judgment. If we are angry about something we heard about the parish, it is likely there is a misunderstanding. Dialogue, not gossip, is necessary.
- I, as pastor, take full responsibility, good or bad, for administrative decisions made since October 1, 2018. If you wish to blame me or hold me responsible for decisions or events before that time, that is between you and God. I have no control.
- Our faith is primarily a personal relationship with God. Our Catholic Faith provides us with the Fullness of Truth to help us attain the integral human fulfillment willed by the Creator. When we disagree with essential truths taught by the Body of Christ, the Church, on issues of faith and morals, the deficiency is with our understanding. Not understanding is NOT sinful, but a reality of human limitations. Refusing to humbly seek understanding and/or refusing to listen to God IS sinful.
- If you get to know me and do not like me, I understand. We are not called to like everyone, but we do have a moral responsibility to love them. If you do not like me yet have made no effort to get to know me or have never even met me, I do not understand.
- It would be wonderful if each of us could have our own personal or family chaplain who could be present to us on call 24/7, 365. Unfortunately, the clergy is shared among many. We do our best, but we also understand it will never be enough.
- Fr. Ken and I are willing to accommodate anyone sacramentally when we are aware of the need. We are not mind readers. We are not omnipotent. Our cellphone numbers are and have been printed in the bulletin since day one. There are VERY FEW parishes in the United States where the priests’ personal phone numbers are published. This is a great privilege, and something the Mercedarians see as important. If you are in dire need, but cannot reach us at the parish center, you can call our cell phones. We might not answer immediately, but you can leave a message. We will call back. There is no reason to verbally attack the staff if you are unable to reach us at the parish center.
- The more invested you are in the life of the parish, the more invested the parish will be in you. The parish is supposed to be a family. Let us not be content in being a dysfunctional family. We can and should grow together. There will be bumps along the way, but I promise you that **it is worth it!**