

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

This weekend's readings remind us of what is to come when we focus on Jesus. For what is to come will be new life, peace, strength, and joy to name a few. That is what feeds us and gives us strength as it comes from Jesus. That is also why he gives us these challenging words to take a place at the table that we may not have expected to take. For it is in true humility (which is a virtue) that leads to HIS will and nourishment as stated above in our life. What is humility? It is a total dependence on God while recognizing his will in our inherent worth in him. Further, it takes the sacraments, gratitude, and the suffering along the way that helps us to not only be humble but to be fed in his love that sustains us. Take time this week to be open to humility in our lives as it will guide us closer to his eternal table!

I hope that our school families have been settling back into the "normal" of the school year. Unfortunately, at the time of this writing we were just finding out about the horrific situation out of Annunciation Catholic Church and School in Minneapolis, Minnesota. We continue to pray for the dead, injured, families, first responders, police, and all affected. Being full-time in a school for over 12 years; and in each stage of the Lord's Priesthood that I am blessed to share in thus far, I have always been blessed with a school as part of my assignment. My heart breaks as they were gathering for their first Holy Mass of the school year. This also reminds us that not only is the church persecuted but we must always take steps in precaution for our school, children, parishioners, and property while being available to our community and one another. We hope that on Thursday's you can join us for our weekly school Mass as all are welcome from our larger parish family. With that being said, it was announced this past week to our school families that effective immediately our Church will be locked during the School Mass on Thursdays to help keep our children safe. Please note the following procedure for School Mass Days:

1. As with any other weekday, the church can be accessed via the unlocked main entrance doors to the right (closet to the Sacristy). The left side doors of the main entrance and the doors that lead out to the front lot of the school by the fountain area remain locked.
2. Upon the beginning of school mass the Main Entrance Doors will be locked to outside visitors for the duration of Mass. Even though the doors are locked we do have the ability to leave from any/all entrances in an emergency.



3. If you are running late to attend the Mass, we will do our best to have a member of the school personnel available to allow you in but cannot guarantee that entrance.
4. Upon the conclusion of Mass, the church will be unlocked for personal prayer as is our custom during the weekdays.

As I continue to settle in, I am grateful for your continued prayers and patience. Again, don't be afraid to remind me of your name and don't be afraid to stop me to say hi or invite me to spend some time with you. I also am grateful for your understanding as I navigate commitments such as weddings on Saturdays and other events planned previous to August 12. One such event planned is beginning this Wednesday for me. I had the blessing of studying abroad in Rome in 2006. When I was there, I had the honor of meeting members of Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassatti's family. Since then, I developed a deep devotion for him and he is going to be Canonized (made a saint) on Sunday September 7. My father and I are going for the event. We also will be visiting Assisi and (hopefully) getting the chance to go through all four holy doors of Rome. I would like to invite you spiritually along with me. Please, if you have any prayers that you would like me to take, email me at [jrfeigh@eriercd.org](mailto:jrfeigh@eriercd.org) as I will definitely remember you on this pilgrimage in this Jubilee year of hope. I will return on Thursday, September 11.

It is hard to believe that it is already Labor Day weekend! I hope that you have been able to enjoy and savor the summer! Continue to enjoy the remaining days of summer. Although I love summer, I am a "seasons guy" (who especially loves winter and Christmas) and enjoy the transitions that the Lord offers us. This holiday weekend finds its root in that reality to celebrate the gifts of our labor as a people and nation. Continue to celebrate and enjoy this weekend and know of my prayers.