From the Desk of the Pastor ....

We are very much influenced by what others think and say about us. We all like to be well thought of by others. We may end up making popularity the goal of our lives. And we might forget the only thing that matters is the reality of who and what I am. No matter what others may think of me, God thinks well of me, because I am his loving child. Each of us can say that. However, as his child, I am expected to do his will:

Our First reading today talks about the sufferings of the just man whose task is to teach people the ways of God. He is sustained in all his trials by the firm belief that God is with him.

Even though St. Peter declared his belief in Jesus as the Messiah, he perhaps had no idea what that implied. Peter obviously believed the popular ideas about the Messiah. But Jesus had no intention of living up to that political popular expectation. If he had done so, he could have enjoyed immense popularity, fame and acclaim. But he would not have been true to his calling. He would have betrayed the mission his Father had given him.

The single-mindedness of Jesus, his fidelity, defeats all attempts to give in to temptation, even that of St. Peter. Nothing deters him from doing the will of God the Father, even though that will disappoint a lot of people, lead him into trouble and even death on the Cross.

This loosing of one’s own life, dying to one’s false self built on the esteem of others who lure us into playing a false role, leads one into “saving one’s life”... finding one’s true self, to do the Will of God the Father.

PARISH COMMUNITY NEWS

We are pleased to announce that Online Giving is available for you to make contributions to the parish. This option makes use of current technologies and security standards and allows you the option of setting up recurring contributions. It also enables our parish to take advantage of new tools to become more efficient.

Online Giving Benefits: The process is
- Secure and confidential: No need to share payment information with the parish office.
- Efficient: Set up direct withdrawals from your checking or savings account.
- Simple: Start, stop and change your contributions at any time.
- Convenient: No need to write a check or have cash available.

Online Giving is intended to be a convenient tool for you to use, and we strongly support both Online Giving and offering envelopes for contributions to the parish. “Online Giving is the electronic way to participate in the weekly offertory and in special collections.”

You may start giving online today! So please:
1) Visit our parish website at www.saintjohnevangelist.org and click on the online giving link.
2) Create your own account.
3) Schedule your gift, at your convenience.

Please prayerfully consider giving online. If you have any questions, you may contact the parish office. Michael Bennett, Christine Riley, and Juanita Aguilar of our Parish Finance Council among many others utilize the “Online Giving” Program and are available and happy to answer any questions regarding the program or assist you in the initial set-up.

Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone’s Parish Visit

The Pastoral visit of the Archbishop is scheduled for Sunday, October 7, 2018. On his visits to Parishes, he presides at two masses on a given weekend visit. In our Parish he will offer the 9:30 am and 12:30 pm masses. He will meet the people after masses, the Religious Education Staff and the Parish Councils in between masses. He has been scheduled to visit St. John’s School on Friday, October 5, where he will meet the students and the faculty of the school.

Novena masses in honor of St. Lorenzo Ruiz run from Thursday, September 20th through Friday, September 28th after the 9:00 mass. See you there.

Thank you brother knights of Columbus Council 615

Our heartfelt thanks for the wonderful arrangement and social “meet and greet” reception after the Saturday, September 8, afternoon Mass, celebrating the Quasquicentennial anniversary. The food choices were versatile and pleased everyone. It was great to see our brother knights present to welcome, and serve the food. It was a lot of work and a great labor of love to bring this event to completion. Every single event of the Quasquicentennial celebration has become an opportunity for outreach to our community, which makes our community more vibrant. Thank you again brother knights!