

May 25<sup>th</sup> 2020

**My dear parishioners!**

**The feast of Pentecost marks the moment for which we have been preparing ever since the Holy Night of the Easter Vigil. God's love, poured into our hearts, allows us to live united to the Risen Jesus. This life is a person, the Holy Spirit, Third person of the Blessed Trinity. This person's love inspires our activity in the Body of Christ, the Church.**

**Deepest thanks for your cooperation for all the successful undertakings we have accomplished until now. May any further actions be led by the Holy Spirit. One of the titles of the Holy Spirit is "Father of the Poor". That means that we need to depend on His efforts not on our poor Human Resources but in Him.**

**The Bishop's Annual Appeal now known as Because We Are Catholic Appeal helps in this apostolate of fostering vocations and caring for aged and infirm priests. Consider a monetary gift in gratitude for the good shepherds who touched your lives. As we continue our Easter celebration, let me thank you sincerely for making this Easter a time of faith and devotion for you and your families as you continue to support your parish, although we are not together at this time. As your pastor, in addition to my primary responsibility for the spiritual welfare of the parish community, I am also responsible for the temporal welfare of the parish. As I am sure you can imagine, our parish revenue has dropped considerably, that being the case, I ask that, to the extent that you are not adversely affected materially by the pandemic, you not forget the needs of your parish as we continue to fulfill our obligations. I ask you to consider mailing or dropping off your offerings at the Rectory using the enclosed envelope or utilizing our ONLINE GIVING by going to the Parish Web Page and clicking the link for "ONLINE GIVING".**

**Also, donations of Hand Sanitizer and Clorox wipes are also needed at this time. I ask you if you see fit to please drop these items off anytime from 10am – 4pm Daily in the Front Vestibule of the rectory, as the door is open to receive mail & packages. Thank you.**

**Our Parish will complete one hundred fifty years of existence next year on Pentecost Sunday 2021 and, God willing, what a joy to celebrate a sesquicentennial of new life in Jesus Christ. A parish is a community of people called together by God through the Holy Spirit. If looking back at any year in our parish history should make us marvel at His faithfulness to us, then how much deeper should be our gratitude and appreciation as we add up a 150 years of blessings, love, conversions, healings, forgiveness and spiritual consolation and the millions of other gifts Jesus lavishes on us? Truly, we can give thanks to God as we praise His Glorious Name.**

**The circumstances of the early founding of this parish are similar to all the other ethnic speaking parishes. Founded by the noble victims of oppression, this parish proved to be a haven for those who bore the torch of liberty guided by the light of faith. Its sanctuary provided innumerable blessings upon thousands of souls for these long and many years and from our former school have gone forth thousands of children imbued with the principles of a Catholic Education.**

**This Pentecost 2020 IS NOT the Pentecost we expected. Due to the current pandemic, it has curtailed our activities. Our Solemn Live Streamed Mass will air on This Sunday May 31<sup>st</sup> at 10am. . Please watch us on the Holy Ghost Facebook page. The Activities Scheduled for the first six months are also in question at this time. Maybe the next time we can get together as a Parish Family might be at the Scheduled Parish Picnic. We will play that by ear.**

**The Sesquicentennial drawing til the present has only sold 30 tickets. I urge you if you can see fit to purchase or sell ticket. We need to sell 170 or we will refund you back your purchases Please make a special effort to do so. Another order form is enclosed. In addition, if all goes well we will have the drawing at the Parish Picnic Scheduled for Sunday August 30<sup>th</sup>, and if not then, at Octoberfest should it take place.**

**When we are somewhat back to normal Brothers and Sisters WE ALL need to sit down at the drawing board and brainstorm our Fundraising efforts. I ask ALL parishioners to get involved if we are to survive, please. Places and times of meetings will be forthcoming. Get involved – “Be a part of it”. Please!**

**Once again, we are reminded by Saint Paul not to “receive the grace of God in vain”. God will bring about some good through this experience. I hope that we will come through the crisis with a renewed faith in Jesus, who taught us that “fear is useless; what is needed is trust”. Let us pray for each other.**

**Another mailing will be forthcoming with the opening procedures for how we will worship in another week. Things will be a lot different. We will continue to live stream weekend Mass on the Parish Facebook page on Sundays from our own church. Check these pages for time and place. My sincere thanks to Msgr. Robert F. Kozel, Dom Behe, our Organist and Cantor, and Frank Matta for making this possible at this time. This is the season of faith and hope. Let us continue to pray for health care workers, civic and health care leaders who are coordinating responses to the crisis, those infected and those who have passed from the coronavirus. In addition, especially those who face economic uncertainty because of this pandemic. May God graciously look upon their needs and bring us all relief and peace. Without a firm faith in Jesus’ Resurrection, we would have no hope. The time is here for us to testify to the truth of His triumph over sin and death. We can give an example of hope to our brothers and sisters by remaining close to Jesus. Be sure that I will feel you close during this time.**

**Many thanks for your support in the work of doing His will together.**

**Praying and looking forward to the day we can soon ALL worship together at the Altar of the Lord as a Parish Family,**

**Sincerely,  
Fr. David J. Kozak**