

Dear Parishioners,

I do not know about you but I am so ready to sing “Alleluia”! I think it is fair to say that due to the disruption in our lives due largely by the Coronavirus Pandemic, we are longing for messages of hope, something tangible to wrap ourselves around signaling a new start, a new beginning. We want to get “back on track”.

But let’s just pause for a moment and ask ourselves...”What do we mean when we say...”I just want to get back on track? On a positive note we can say we are looking for some stability in our routines, a lessening of the anxiety of contracting a frightening virus, getting back to celebrating the sacraments in the life of the Church, reconnecting with family and friends and so forth, all that is good. But, if we are thinking we want everything to be the same as it was before all this pandemic stuff hit us that is not likely to happen.

So it is with our Lenten journey. The disciplines of Lent: prayer, almsgiving and fasting are meant to bring about a transformation, a change of heart. We can not remain in “park” in our spiritual lives. The Spirit of the Lord is always calling us to yearn more deeply for what God has in mind for us, to trust not in the ways of the world, but rather in His ways.

This Pandemic has significantly disrupted our lives and the lives of millions of others around the world. The impact of this pandemic will be felt for a very long time. At the same time we should honestly look into our spiritual lives and ask ...”Is there anything about this experience that has challenged me to look at the priorities in my life? What is Our Lord trying to say to me, our nation and world?

May the journey through the Holy Week Liturgies and Services draw us closer to the Day of Resurrection...”He is Alive!” Alleluia!

Fr. Don Wagner