

June 11, 2020

Dear Parishioners,

As I travelled home from the Deanery Meeting last evening I felt a strong tug in my heart to set aside more time today in prayer. So, after Mass, I went to Assumption Chapel in Cold Spring and spent a Holy Hour in prayer praying for our families and Church in these difficult and trying times. I prayed for an end to violence and anarchy. I asked the intercession of St. Joseph and St. Michael the Archangel to protect us against the wickedness and snares of the devil. As I gazed upon the statue of the Blessed Mother Mary, I thought of the words from the Book of Revelation in Chapter 12 where the dragon, the ancient serpent, the devil, sought to devour the woman with child, but was defeated by St. Michael and cast down to earth. The devil was filled with anger as the woman was protected by God. Today Satan continues to wage war against her offspring, those who keep God's commandments and bear witness to Jesus. Do not be surprised by the lies and deceptions that have fueled the chaos in many cities and the anger in so many human hearts. Satan is working overtime for souls. There is a cry for genuine justice, for George Floyd and others, that deserve to be heard and addressed, but that cry is being undermined by those who seek revenge and violence or who are promulgating sinister plans to tear down law and order. Prayer is the most powerful antidote against evil in the world. We should not be surprised if the Holy Spirit calls us to do some deep soul searching to cast out that which keeps us from love God and neighbor. I end with the last verse from the Book of Revelation, 22:21, "The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all."

Fr. Don Wagner