

From the Desk of Father Ed:

Dear Parishioners,

Isaiah the prophet had a vision and heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?" "Here I am, I said; "Send me!" "I saw the Lord seated on a high and lofty throne, with the train of His garment filling the Temple. Seraphim were stationed above. They cried one to the other, 'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts!'" Isaiah thought that he would die because no one can see God and live. Isaiah said, "I am a man of unclean lips, living among a people of unclean lips..."

In our Gospel this weekend, Peter while fishing, recognized that he was in the midst of the Lord. Peter, James, and John were out fishing all night and caught nothing. Jesus told them to lower their nets and they caught so many fish that the nets were tearing and the boats in danger of sinking. "When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at the knees of Jesus and said, "Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man."

Both Isaiah and Peter encountered the Lord and recognized their sinfulness in the presence of God who is all Good, Holy, and Perfect. Isaiah, through a vision saw God in His Temple and Peter recognized Jesus as Lord while He was sitting in the boat a symbol of the Church.

Our Lord is present in our Church especially in her sacraments. Jesus told Peter to "Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch." The deep waters are an image of the darkness and sin in our world. All of us are called to go out into the dark waters of sin and death with our nets. We do this by staying close to the sacraments of the Church, persevering in praying, and growing in holiness. We lower the nets by turning to our Blessed Mother and praying the Rosary. Our Rosaries together make a net so strong that will never tear. They lift our brothers and sisters out of the waters of sin and death and change the dark waters into streams of living water where our Lord will heal them and save them. The Lord asks us, "Whom shall I send?" Send us Lord, we will pray and sacrifice to change our culture of darkness and death and help our lost brothers and sisters.

Parish Life:

Progress continues to be made on our Parish Pavilion Enclosure Project. We have decided to have a St. Patrick's Day dinner party to celebrate our new parish hall space. Please consider joining us for a Corned Beef dinner on Saturday, March 16 at 6:00 pm in our new parish hall space to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Please support this parish fundraiser and evening of fun and good food. Come and join us this Sunday afternoon at 2:00 pm for our third movie in our 4-week Film Festival, "Of Gods and Men".

Our Lady Queen of Peace, pray for us,
Father Ed,
Pastor