

July 15, 2018: The Blessings of God's Creation Seen in Summer

Dear Parishioners,

I hope everyone is enjoying the summer. The long summer days make the beauty of our area really come alive. Beauty is certainly a manifestation of the presence of God. When we encounter beauty we should try to make the connection between beauty and the Creator. The Psalms are an excellent example of praising God through the beauty, majesty and power of the universe and creation. I think with our very rational, analytical technological and scientific approach to the physical world we often forget or don't see and acknowledge the wonder, beauty and interconnectedness of all things, and praise the Creator. We are less prone to see the hand and handiwork of God through the lens of science.

Last week I had the joy of going out on Puget Sound with a parishioner to catch crab. I got to be a part of whole process, including eating the crab, which I enjoyed. Being out on the boat, pulling up the crab pots, and seeing the crab was a great experience and an opportunity to praise the Creator for the wonder of his Creation. At the end of June I had the opportunity to go camping with one of my sisters in northern Idaho. We found a beautiful spot along a mountain river, very much off the beaten path. It is great to be out of cell reception and cooking over a camp fire. It is a time to relax in a beautiful setting, yet another opportunity to experience the presence of God in creation.

We have passed July 1st, which is the close of the fiscal year and the beginning of a new one. A full financial report for this past fiscal year will be forthcoming. I am happy to announce that for this last financial year we have made our debt obligations to the Archdiocese and we are not running at a deficit. Deacon Craig, our Parish Administrator and Linda Marrese, our Finance Manager have worked very hard putting together our parish budget in an effort to be the best stewards of the gifts you entrust to our parish. The Finance Council has been invaluable in their review and offering their expertise and advice moving forward.

As you know, Holy Rosary is a sizable organization with support staff and a seven-acre facility with many buildings. The resources to run our organization and plant are significant, and come from its members. I want to once again thank all our parishioners who, in their generosity, support the work and mission of Catholic Church here in Edmonds. The mission of course is to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We could not grow and carry on our mission here without your support. Thank you.

Speaking of generosity, about a year and half ago we began an effort to put a statue of Our Lady of the Rosary in niche above the choir area. Presently an Italian wood carving company has begun the process of making the statue but needed the final go ahead. During this time several generous parishioners donated to this effort and got us a third of way toward the total cost. With production ready to begin I was just about ready to make an appeal, when a parishioner approached me a few weeks ago offering to pay for the remainder. I am overwhelmed by the generosity of this parishioner. We hope to have this new statue of Our Lady of Rosary sometime in the fall.

In Christ,

Father Vincent