

May 19, 2020

Very generous members of our parish sent me a check last week for \$1000, to use in anyway that I see fit and I immediately thought of the Food Pantry which is distributing food by appointment almost every day.

I am happy to report that our parish as always is stepping up and keeping the Pantry stocked and providing the funds to buy what our friends who use it need.

I am using the money to but seeds and flowers.

So, we are going to plant easy care flowers all over the place, lots and lots of marigolds, sunflowers from seeds provided by Ace Hardware, and the family of Eric Flens will plant his corn field.

Our grounds, whether we are able to use them as we would like to or not, will still be a testament to our appetites for living beauty that we seek in ourselves, one another, and in this world that we share.

We will put out a few benches widely distanced from one another so that you can visit the church, maybe only from the outside, but it is still the church wherever we are, I am sure you know that.

Hopefully, the weather will get better and our maintenance team can keep up with the weeds and get the seeds planted in soils that are not saturated with water.

I have a feeling that tougher days are ahead, I hope that I am wrong, but we will just have to wait and see.

So many of us understand ourselves in terms of what we do and not just in the big identifiers but the ordinary unthought of things and so much of that is changed in countless little ways.

As the summer unfolds take some time to find your own beauty, plants some new seeds in your mind, seeds that will grow and develop fruits and flowers in the garden of your hearts.

Don't let the negative thoughts get the best of you, try and see the anger in others and understand it and know that somewhere in their hearts and minds and in many bodies there are hurts and wounds, just like we all have, that haven't healed well and that the fear of losing so much overwhelms them with anger and vengeance.

Limit your exposure to fearful and violent images, and avoid mean and harsh words that come with fear fueled anger seek the beauty of your own home, your yard, your memories.

We all need to be mindful so that we do not reach that tipping point where the bonds that hold any people together are stretched beyond repair, our country needs to be a sign of hope to the nations as it once was, the world expects us to rise above the fray of pettiness and small thinking as we have demonstrated so many times before that we can.

It is very, very hard to accept vulnerability and helplessness but that is about all we can do for sure, if we want to stay reasonably happy!!!!