

A Letter from Fr. Roger

Dear Friends,

This letter is more informative than reflective. It is important that I keep you informed with regard to the changes that take place in our parish and my staff.

The Pastoral Council is making arrangements to add new membership to replace the outgoing members. William Keller, Ben Gille and Lowell Brekke have completed their four year terms on the Pastoral Council. However, William Keller will continue as a member of our pastoral council as long as he is the representative of the Vicariate Pastoral Council in the Archdiocesan Pastoral Council (this is a special appointment). The newly appointed members of our Pastoral Council will be installed at mass during this fall.

Regarding the parish Finance Council, I have asked Margaret Oliphant and Bob Cornell to join our Finance Council, and they have accepted. We will take some time to educate them as to the procedures of the council. They will eventually replace two longtime council members, Sue Buhr and Marko Susnjara, who will remain on the council till next year to help train the new members.

St. Therese Women's' Association has already elected new leadership. The outgoing officers are Virginia Durrin, president, Charlotte CdeBaca, vice president, Del Keller, treasurer, Georgi Gren, secretary. The newly elected officers are Gail Hebert, president, Penny Montani, co-chair, Georgi Green vice president, Charlotte CdeBaca and Sharon Fink, secretaries.

Nate Hoke will continue as the Grand Knight in the Knight of Columbus Council.

Barbara Wilwers served as the secretary of the Liturgy Committee last year, and this year, Sue Anker will take up this responsibility.

We as a parish family are grateful to those who served in their leadership positions and say a "Big Thank You" for their services. We welcome the new leadership and offer our fullest support in building up a faith-filled and God-loving community.

Our school has great need for a full time bookkeeper. Linda Hale, our current bookkeeper, has been responsible for both parish bookkeeping duties and school bookkeeping duties. So I offered Linda the full time bookkeeping position in the school, which she accepted. Mike Bell, our business manager, will take up the bookkeeping duties for the Parish. He will spend less time in facility management and maintenance so he can devote more time to office work. All of this helps us generate more savings for the parish budget.

During the year, Friday is the quietest day of the work week in our parish office. Even before the current economic downturn, some suggested to have the parish office closed on Fridays, as some parishes do. Doing this would help us create more savings to the parish budget. Before I make the final decision to close the parish office on Fridays, I

have to consider services to you, our parishioners. If you have any special needs to be attended to on Fridays, kindly let me or my business manager know about them.

Summer is a quiet time, but not for us. The parish offers all of the services throughout the year. There is no rest time for our spiritual life and all the spiritual needs are provided.

We love our school. All of the school buildings are given free of charge for the school to use. We also do much of the maintenance work on these buildings. St. Therese property consists of about eleven acres of land, and quite a number of buildings. Major parts of the property are dedicated to school use. We also give twenty percent of what you contribute during weekend masses to our school to help support this mission. A good part of our summer work is given to our school. The flat roofs of the breezeway and the MPC needed some repairs. Much of the school needed paint as well. We did not hire a company to do this work because of our poor economy this year. We do appreciate and thank my business manager and maintenance person, Matt Shelton, for all the good work they have done this summer on the school buildings and other projects.

You can find a lot of updates on our parish website. It is well maintained and updated every week. The day I prepared this letter, I checked the number of hits on our website for the last year. It is 7830, The Knights of Columbus have their website linked to our parish website, maintained by the same webmaster. Let us thank the webmaster for such dedicated and artistic work. There are some pages still "under construction". I invite the parties concerned to provide the necessary information to fill in these gaps.

The procedures for our bulletin are now on our website. If you do not have internet access, you are welcome to pick up a copy of the bulletin procedure guidelines at the parish office. If your group or council wants anything to appear in the bulletin, you will know how to proceed.

If I have missed any of the information of any parish organization, kindly let me know. I am more than happy to share your services and news with our parish community. If you need your council's or group's information to appear in our bulletin and on our website inform me or the business manager, or email them to me rogerfernando@comacast.net.

I will take my annual vacation to be with my family in Sri Lanka from the 30th of August till the 30th of September 2010. The Priests' annual convocation will be during the first week of October. This year, the convocation will be on the New Roman Missal. I will speak more about it after our next liturgy meeting.

I thank all who serve our community.

May God bless you.

*Fr. Roger
August 7, 2010*