

From Pontiff to Pew (continued):

Speak with God, not to communicate to him what He already knows, but to reveal ourselves to ourselves.

Hence the need for prayer, in which we are called to live and to cultivate friendship with the Lord. This is achieved first of all in liturgical and community prayer, in which we do not decide what to hear from the Word of God, but it is He Himself who speaks to us through the Church; it is then achieved in personal prayer, which takes place in the interiority of the heart and mind. Time dedicated to prayer, meditation and reflection cannot be lacking in the Christian's day and week. Only when we speak with God can we also speak about Him.

Our experience tells us that friendships can come to an end through a dramatic gesture of rupture, or because of a series of daily acts of neglect that erode the relationship until it is lost. If Jesus calls us to be friends, let us not leave this call unheeded. Let us welcome it, let us take care of this relationship, and we will discover that friendship with God is our salvation.

IMPORTANT NOTICE - Parishioners in Nursing Care or other Long Term Care facilities: We would like to reach out to all of our parishioners who are in the hospital, in nursing care or other long-term care facilities. We cannot do so; however, if we are not made aware that individuals have been admitted to such facilities. We kindly ask if you or a relative have been relocated or admitted to such facilities that you place a call the rectory, so that you can be placed on our First Friday communion call list. We would like to update our records for 2026. Also, if you are aware of anyone in one of these facilities, please call the rectory to let us know. Thank you.

Masses: While we are never at a loss for Masses for Sundays (indeed as you may recall I had to place a limit on the number of Masses that individuals could request for Sundays), we find ourselves in need of Masses for weekday intentions. In years gone by, we would receive many Mass requests for individuals after they were buried from our parish; however, that has not been the case in recent years. Mass for a deceased relative or friend is one of the greatest gifts that you can give for them. A Mass intention is geared toward praying for a soul that may be experiencing purgation after death (a soul "in purgatory"). As we all know, we depend upon the love and mercy of God after death, and at Mass we ask for that mercy in a powerful way when we pray for the intention of a dearly departed loved one or friend. PLEASE consider submitting an intention for someone you love. Also, please remember that Masses can be offered for the living such as when we pray for the spiritual and temporal welfare of an individual.