

From Pontiff to Pew (continued):

mankind to Himself, associating it with His own singing of this canticle of divine praise" (SC, 83). In this way, day by day, we are ever more united with the Paschal Mystery and conformed to him.

Saint Augustine affirms that "When we speak to God in prayer for mercy, we do not separate the Son from Him; and when the Body of the Son prays, it separates not its Head from itself: and it is one Saviour of His Body, our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who both prays for us, and prays in us, and is prayed to by us. He prays for us, as our Priest; He prays in us, as our Head; He is prayed to by us, as our God. Let us therefore recognize in Him our words, and His words in us" (Enarr. in psalmum LXXXVI: PL 37, 1081).

Bound to the Eucharist, whose light it prolongs, the Liturgy of the Hours sanctifies the time of our daily lives: in the morning, we begin the day with faith and gratitude; at midday, we ask for the strength to remain faithful amidst our labors; in the evening, once our work is done, Vespers accompany the moment of sunset; at night, we fall asleep entrusting ourselves to God's peace. Each Hour is an act of hope: during our earthly pilgrimage, we keep watch, awaiting with the whole Church the glorious return of the Lord.

From the Pastor's Desk

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank the parish for my wonderful 30th anniversary celebration: The Mass was beautiful; the dinner was delicious; the company was outstanding!!! I want to thank also all those who made preparations for the event: those who spent hours cleaning the Church, as well as those who made preparations for the dinner and those who helped out at the dinner in any way. I found this to be a great testimony to your love for me and for my priesthood. As I said that evening, I have loved all 30 years of my ministry and my 11+ years at Visitation have been especially rewarding for me. As always, thank you for your support and I look forward to serving you for as many more years as God wills for me to be pastor of this true community of faith.

I also wanted to take this opportunity to thank all those who gave so generously to our spontaneous request for donations for Catholic Charities, the Saint Vincent de Paul Society, and our own poor box. That day we took in \$970 and to date, with additional donations we received we have a grand total of \$1010. I think that this is an AMAZING amount without any notice!!! I am so proud that all of you truly heard the gospel message to share with those who are poor and hungry (which I can assure you, some of the people who will benefit from your generosity – they are POOR and HUNGRY). May God bless all of you – a community of cheerful givers (cf. 2 Corinthians 9:7)!!

There have been some people who have purchased gas ticket numbers # 514 and 791, who returned the wrong half of their tickets, so if they would be able to call the rectory and let Catherine, our secretary know, we would appreciate it. She can schedule a time for them to bring the other half of the ticket with their information on it over and take the half they need. If we do not receive the correct side of the ticket, we have no idea who it belongs to.