



We're still here for you!

Dear Parishioners & Friends,

"In my Father's house there are many dwelling places . . ."

That is the beginning of this Sunday's Gospel. Each of us "dwells" in a different place. It is not the physical space we occupy but rather the spiritual place where we live that is important. In this time of uncertainty and illness we have come to know our limitations as never before. Perhaps we have come to know more of our purpose and place through these limitations.

This idea of learning from our limitations reminded me of an article in American Magazine about 2 years ago from Gus Hardy a Jesuit Volunteer at the Poverello Center, Montana's largest homeless shelter. Gus, who struggles with a form of high-functioning autism, spends his day helping the poor, the hungry, the homeless, the addicted, the mentally ill and those just released from prison. It's a job that requires a lot of "people skills" that do not come naturally to Gus. But in college Gus discovered in the writings of St. Ignatius of Loyola that his life could be "something more."

Gus wrote, "I cannot tell you why God created me this way. I cannot say what purpose autism is meant to serve. All I can say is that God pulled me out of a very dark time and gave me hope and a great gift - a sense of something beyond myself. In doing so, I was shown that the world is full of God's people who also cry out in their own ways, and I am called to serve them.

Later in our Sunday Gospel we hear, "Whoever believes in me will do the works that I do, and will do greater ones than these . . ."

Gus "dwells" in a very different place than most of us. He reminds all of us that we are called no matter what our dwelling to know that we are in the "father's house". In this time, we need to reach out to all in the "household" of God, to hear those who are in darkness who need our words, our presence and our care. All of us "dwell" with God together.

THIS WEEKS UPDATES

· Opening Up

We are facing a new chapter in our journey through this pandemic. We find our state beginning to "open up". Yet as we face this time of opening, we have more questions than answers: how will we worship together and remain apart, how will we come together and still not be overwhelmed by numbers, how will we worship with limits? All of these and so many other

questions will have to be addressed before we can gather once again but we will gather again! I will keep you aware of how we will confront these and other challenges as we move forward to a time of “opening”.

- Staff Reflections

Each week on our website different members of our parish staff will offer a reflection for the week. Check it out.

- Month of Mary

Beginning this weekend we will post on our website ways to honor Mary. Look for those prayer resources later this weekend.

- Mother’s Day

Your mother’s day celebration may be different but we maintain some of our traditions; we will offer a blessing for all mothers after our mass on Sunday, enrollment in our Mother’s spiritual remembrance at masses is available through our website and our youth group will host their annual mother’s day plant sale by offering a “drive in” sale *this Saturday from noon to 3pm*. No need to leave your car... they will come to you.

- Outdoor Stations

Consider just driving onto the parking lot and staying in your car if you choose, to pray our outdoor stations of the cross at the edge of our parking lot.

Blessings,

Father Don