

From the Desk Of Fr. John

Progress continues on our new 'Johnson St.' parking. New sidewalks...with none of the cracks and trip hazards...and wide! Plenty of new parking close to church, gym and Morris Hall...(some new spots in the alleyway north of Morris Hall). It is exciting to see how much has been done already. We still have some delays due to movement of utilities...poles...transformers...supplying the gym and Morris Hall. However, we can be patient...to a degree.

Feast of Saints Peter & Paul is a Solemnity throughout the world and for most of the world, it is a Holyday. Since it is such a solemn feast and our Patron Saints...we can transfer the Feast to the nearest Sunday so we all can celebrate it.

The Feast falls on the 28-29 of June...so we will have our celebration on Saturday evening June 30 and Sunday July ! After the 10:30 Mass there will be the 'Food Fest' reception and BBQ lunch!! This will be a date very near to our Dedication Ceremony last year with Bishop Paprocki. We have much to be thankful for in how the Lord has truly blest us!

Thank you Fr. Peter...for bringing the Good News to us last weekend. You helped us to hear the Gospel message of the 'seed that was sown' within our own hearts and lives. But you also helped us to realize that it must continue to grow so it can bear fruit.

We have heard the words and read those same words on the banner that hangs on the wall of the Sanctuary... 'Be...Grow...Make Disciples' which is our parish mission statement. The Gospel helped us to see that we must do our part in this whole process...and know that God will do His.

Fr. Peter also helped us to see the vision of a missionary...bring the Gospel to others... especially those in great poverty or isolation. His stories took us on a journey, which traveled through deep jungles, and forests infested with many venomous snakes and having to cross alligator-infested rivers. The dangers he faced and the food he had to eat brought home the point of his faith and dedication. It takes commitment to

become a missionary disciple. We may not have to travel to such places...but there are still dangers that we face right here at home. There are many things that can dissuade us from living our faith and distracting us from sharing it with others. We pray for Fr. Peter and for one another to continue to grow as faith-filled disciples ready to witness our faith to others.

Feast of St. John the Baptist happens to fall on this Sunday and the Church invites us all to celebrate his nativity. It is not meant to be like a birthday celebration or remembering an anniversary. It is really the celebration of the birth, mission and the great witness of his martyrdom all wrapped up into one.

John's birth and special mission was planned far in advance in God's providence. We can recall the humble and holy couple of Zechariah and Elizabeth and the message they received from the Lord's angel who promised them a child and named him before he was conceived. John would play such a crucial role in the unfolding of the coming of the Messiah and Savior...Jesus. John would respond to God's call...and faithfully prepare the way of the Lord. His life was of a serious prophet. His message was one of challenge and of hope and expectation. He would face challenge and opposition but never flinch from his appointed task. We continue to hear his voice calling out in the desert every Advent season... 'Prepare the way of the Lord'.

We also must reflect on how God has prepared a mission for each of us. His provident care for our world includes each one of us...right where we are. We may ask ourselves if we are taking that plan and His call seriously, and we help each other to respond to the mission God has for us.

TOTUS TUUS... (St. John Paul II used this motto – Totally Yours) is a summer camp for youth and children. It will be presented the week of July 7-14...see the information in the bulletin.