



July 2, 2021

Dear Parishioners,

We bid farewell to our beloved nonagenarian, Fr. Edward Gallagher, Jr., who served this community with greatness of heart for over 20 years. That is longer than either pastor has served here. He was dearly loved by this parish and was a blessing to St. Gregory the Great.

Summertime this 2021 means travel. This July 4th we celebrate newfound freedoms and freedom to travel internationally. I anticipate spending time with family and friends, which I very much missed last year. One of the highlights is a family Mass each weekend. I encourage you to strive to make it a priority to attend Sunday Mass when away on vacation in another city, province, or foreign land.

Summer is a time of recreation and re-creation. We anticipate our free outdoor concert series, *Summer Nights*, on the Fridays of September. We give these nights to you in gratitude for the generosity of this faith community during the Pandemic. We invite you to come with the whole family and gather on the grass for concerts with a spiritual message and activities for children. Dinner and beverages will be available. These evening events will be a real opportunity to re-connect after vacations, enjoy late summer evenings, and foster community in each other's company.

I could see the joy on the faces of parishioners as they responded to the lifting of restrictions of face masks, social distancing, and capacity by Bishop McElroy. He also re-instated the Sunday Mass obligation. His letter to the people of the Diocese of San Diego can be found on the back of this page. When Jesus said "Talitha kum" meaning "Little girl, I say to you arise!" to the daughter of Jairus in Sunday's gospel, and told them "Give her something to eat" He did not mean mere physical food but to return her to the table of the Lord. Mk 6: 41-43 That is our prayer, that all God's people return to the table of the Lord; Sunday Mass.

We were very proud to have our own Faith Formation Coordinator, Erica Rossio, and her husband Chris featured in the Southern Cross as a couple who say NFP (Natural Family Planning) strengthens their marriage. Erica, and her sister Maddie, have shown wonderful creativity in presenting Faith Formation to children during the pandemic. They created over 120 personal videos used to teach the children virtually as well as providing instruction for the middle schoolers on zoom. This year they look forward to in person classroom teaching. Congratulations to Maddie on her marriage to parishioner Brian Hoeger on July 2nd!

We congratulate Julia, our youth minister, on the birth of her baby boy, Milo. I know she is looking forward to seeing the Confirmation students in person in the fall. We ask you to register early for Faith Formation and Confirmation as we anticipate robust programs this year.

Our school will continue in person instruction, and we pray that the increased numbers continue to hold firm. We will continue to have the Saturday Vigil Mass outdoors throughout the summer as the weather holds favorable. In September we will resume first Friday noon Masses and Anointing of the Sick. We will continue summer maintenance on the church exterior and will re-surface the parking lot.

I thank you for your generous ongoing support of the Sunday offertory, as reported in the weekly bulletin. Your sacrifice is very much appreciated and especially during the summer months when bills remain the same. I do hope you have a relaxing, refreshing vacation and return vibrant and full of spirit to face the rigors of the Fall. May that season find us returning to a more normal parish life.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Very Rev. Nicholas Clavin

Very Rev. Nicholas Clavin, Pastor