

Pastor's Letter

October 6, 2024—27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dear Church Family,

In our Gospel reading for today, Jesus holds up the sanctity and indissolubility of marriage as part of God's plan for humanity from the beginning of the human species. Marriage and family are not just good in themselves. As beautiful as the mutual giving of husband and wife to each other is, and as deep as the love of parent and child is, they both point to something even deeper and more beautiful. They point to the inner life of the Holy Trinity. And they are a means by which we can grow in our participation in that life.

St. Augustine described the Trinity as a community of love: the Father beholds his own perfection and loves it; the object of God's love is the Son. The Son returns the Father's love, and the Holy Spirit is the love that flows between them. The power of the love that is God is at the edge of our ability to understand. But God has given us a faint image of that love in our own flesh. When man and woman come together in marriage and give themselves to each other without holding anything back physically, emotionally, or spiritually, and welcome children joyfully as the fruit of their love, God is revealed in them.

This is why the church is so concerned with issues of family life. Not only has God instituted the family structure of husband, wife, and children for the full flourishing of the human person and the structuring of society, he has also imprinted his own image on it. In his image, male and female, he created us. Being the flawed sinners we are, we don't always present God's image as clearly as we should. Our families are not always perfect reflections of God's love. Sometimes relationships are broken, but that does not change God's intention for the family. And even our brokenness can reflect the goodness of God if we allow him to heal it. The sacramental life of the church is how God brings that healing into our lives. We receive the grace of God and become channels of that grace to others in our families and beyond.

May God strengthen our commitment to marriage and family life that honors God's image in the family, a sign of the community of love that is God himself.

Blessings,

Fr. Scott

“Journey of Faith”

Unfortunately, there was not enough interest so there will **NOT** be any classes this fall.

“Catholic Funeral— What you might not know!”

Mark your calendars for October 28 at 7 p.m. at St. Edward Catholic Church. Fr. Scott will be explaining the ins and outs of the Catholic funeral Rite.