

April 2019

Our clocks and calendars tell us its springtime. We all hope that Mother Nature will also cooperate and finally confirm that Spring is here! Every year as we encounter the season of Lent, it's easy to find ourselves dwelling in that in-between place. It's not too cold, but it's not warm enough to turn off the furnace. It's not too dreary, but we celebrate the few moments, and if we're lucky enough, the few hours of sunlight that brighten our day. We hope for the best, but it just doesn't feel like it's all coming together in the right way.

Into the midst of all this change and transition, the yearly message of an eternal Easter unfolds through the season of Lent. The new life of Springtime, a symbol of the Resurrection, also reminds us of the great price that is paid every year. Something must die before the new life can rise. Our own lives also reflect this experience, this tension. We want so much to experience the joy of eternal life which is promised to us all as we look upon an empty tomb. Yet we cannot forget the sacrifice and pain that were involved in getting us all to that great day.

These past months, we have felt the same as a new parish. We have been called to sacrifice times and places that were familiar to achieve a greater good. We have been challenged to move ahead, or in some instances to 'move over' so that others could join us on the journey. The hardest lesson in life, that something must die before it can rise anew, is right here with us. It is so often a part of our daily lives and relationships and it cannot be avoided.

During this last half of Lent, let us all acknowledge the call we have received to embrace the journey to Jerusalem, the reality of the cross, the struggles with our own personal climb up Calvary's hill. If we are willing to walk with Him, He is willing to lead us, guide us and show us just what it means to experience the same triumph that is His!

A Blessed and Happy Easter to ALL!