

September, 2023

Blessings and Peace dear members of our Mother Perpetual Help Family!

I hope you are savoring the beautiful summer with its great outdoor gatherings and celebrations. We are now back to school and our regular work schedules. It was such a delight to welcome back all our children to our school this Monday as they began their new school year. We had a special opening Mass followed by a blessing for the children and teachers as they started their new school year. This year we have 165 students and we are hoping to get few more admissions in the coming weeks. Please continue to keep them in your prayers.

September is also a special month for our parish as we celebrate with gratitude the anniversary of our coming together as one parish. This year we will celebrate our anniversary on the weekend of 16/17. On the **16th of September we will have a Family Fun Fest** at the 116th Site from 2 pm to 7 pm with the **Mass of Thanksgiving at 4 pm**. We will welcome our new parishioners who have joined us this year. I am happy to share that 32 families joined us this year, including 17 children. Please come and celebrate our fellowship with one another as we give thanks to God for the gift of our faith and the communion we enjoy in the church.

I am very excited about the new energy and enthusiasm of our new parish council led by Chairperson Gary Jensen, and the direction they are taking to make our parish a more dynamic and caring community. One of their first tasks was to call every household and listen to you, listening to both your aspirations and frustrations. It will help us better respond to your needs and help to make our parish vibrant, dynamic, and caring. We are blessed to have a great collaborative team of leadership and staff helping to guide our parish as we fulfill the mission we are entrusted with as a church.

In the preparation of the parish directory, I came to realize the richness of our parish with so many of our parishioners engaged in a variety of ministries, which reach out to those in need both in the wider community and our parish. This is a great sign of a living church when all of us are sharing our gifts and talents to make our church a beacon of light in the community. As good stewards of the gift of faith we have received, we share it with our time, talent, and treasure, making our church an instrument of salvation for all.

Finally, I want to also thank you for the generosity with which you are supporting the financial needs of the parish. We received our first portion of the Love One Another campaign to pay part of the refurbishing costs of the stain glass windows. We are also grateful for the Finance Council led by Bernie Hintzke for diligently guiding and managing our finances for the best use and growth of our parish community.

May our Mother of Perpetual Help continue to intercede for us. Commending you all under her protection and asking the Blessings from our Loving Lord,

Fr. Matthew Perumpil, MI
Pastor