



Dear Parishioners,

This weekend we celebrate Father's Day, and I want to wish all fathers, grandfathers, stepfathers, foster fathers, fathers-in-law, and father figures a Happy Father's Day! Jesus taught us to call God "Our Father," and thus revealed the great importance of the relationship of fatherhood. Jesus taught that, just as fathers know how to give good things to their children, so also our heavenly Father will always bestow his good gifts upon those who pray to him. God the Father is the source of all fatherhood. All those who are called fathers derive their role and their title from God. In fact, Jesus taught his disciples, "Do not call anyone on earth 'father.' You have one Father, who is in heaven." We priests are also addressed as "Father." What a privileged title it is! May all who bear that title fulfill their role honorably so as to be worthy of it. God is the One Father of us all. That means that all people everywhere, of every race, language, and culture, are brothers and sisters: as the familiar song says, "Our brotherhood embraces all whose Father is the same." May God bless all fathers on this Father's Day!

I am happy to say that our little congregation continues to increase ever so slightly each week that we have returned to public masses. This past Sunday we had a total of 383 attending the four weekend masses – up 31 from the previous weekend. Obviously, most parishioners are being cautious and avoiding "mass gatherings," which is very wise, especially for those at higher risk. I am happy that those who are coming are wearing masks and practicing sensible social distancing. As more people venture out, it is all the more important to observe these precautions faithfully. It is how we care for ourselves and one another in the present circumstances.

These next two weeks were supposed to be my annual vacation. Due to important obligations that have encroached upon this coming week, I will probably only be away starting Friday, June 26 through Saturday, July 4. For the most part, I will be spending that time at my home in my hometown of Ada. I hope the weather is not too warm, as I don't have air-conditioning there! I hope to return refreshed and renewed.

In the meantime, I wish all of you happy and pleasant Summer days!

Your Pastor,
Msgr. Stephan Moloney