

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your support and congratulations on my appointment as pastor of All Saints. Fr. Brown and I were able to make this announcement at the end of Masses during the weekend of May 18/19, but publishing deadlines meant the announcement had to wait until this week to be printed in the bulletin. Church law requires a newly appointed pastor to make a Profession of Faith and Oath of Fidelity in the presence of a priest in good standing who ratifies it before it is sent back to the bishop. Of course, I chose Fr. Brown and I also chose to make this profession in the presence of the All Saints Academy students. What a wonderful witness for our students and it gave me an opportunity to preach on what it means to make and live with a promise. Afterwards we celebrated with an ice cream social!

I have still more exciting news to relay: our parish has been assigned a transitional deacon for the summer. He is Joseph Martuscello who many of us know is a Corning native from the Houghton Plot neighborhood. For ten weeks, Deacon Martuscello will be involved with several aspects of the parish before returning this August to St. John's Seminary in Boston for his final year. Please welcome him and support him with your prayers. It will be a thrill to welcome him home.

Next week, our parish will begin the first phase of a parish census. It has been at least twenty years since a census was last conducted. That was around the time the parish was formally consolidated as All Saints. It is time to initiate another census for several reasons:

We want to . . .

clarify any discrepancies in our records.

learn why some of the parishioners that we used to see no longer practice weekly Church with us.

better know the needs of our parishioners and community.

plan for the future. Since last July, many parishioners have returned after a period of absence and we have welcomed new parishioners who have found a home here. In addition many are joining us through initiation.

The form is VERY SIMPLE: we are only asking you to verify that your contact and family information is accurate. There is also a comment section should you wish to express ways that you would like to get involved or contribute in a new or different way in the parish.

The census will be conducted before and after each Mass on the weekends of June 8/9 and June 15/16. We hope to collect the majority of our verifications in-person these weekends. But if you miss those opportunities, we will mail the remaining forms on June 20th.

The envelope will include the census form, a letter of explanation, and a return envelope with postage prepaid so it will be easy to return. However, scanning and sending through email or placing your response in the collection basket will also be options for returning your response. After two weeks, if we have received no response, the Parish Council will follow-up with a phone call.

Lauretta Beale has been a true blessing to our parish. It is quite impossible to properly thank Lauretta for all she has done for our parish, in particular for the youth of All Saints. Our youth have become more engaged with the Catholic faith. They know in their minds and hearts the tenants of faith and they are attuned to service in the community. Her efforts were especially noted at the Mass of Confirmation a few weeks ago. Bishop Matano remarked on how well-prepared, well-presented, and serious our candidates were.

Fortunately, she is followed by another uniquely gifted individual who also has a knack for sharing the Catholic faith with passion and conviction. Mike Denz, our recently hired Faith Formation Director, introduces himself in this week's bulletin. In the coming days, I hope you will have an opportunity to introduce yourself to him and his wife, Sue.

In Christ,

Fr. Jones