

Dear friends,

I apologize that the content of this week's newsletter will be quite light. I have had a very difficult week. My AC went out last Friday and it's been in the 90's inside my house. (That's because the windows catch the sun for most of the day and really heat things up.) I have not been able to sleep much at all. The good news is that I now have a new central air system and things are finally back to normal! I just need to catch up on quality sleep.

Please refer to our outstanding weekly eBlast for any dates, times and other information you may require. Meanwhile, I do want to let you know about a couple of changes and some prayer concerns...

- We are singing again! Presently, we are exclusively using the 1982 Hymnal but as I am able to work with Dolores on the bulletin, I hope to add Gather, Lift Every Voice and Sing and other music over time. The Diocese strongly recommends that unvaccinated persons who wish to sing please wear masks.
- Beginning this week, communion will be in both kinds. You do not have to receive the wine in order to receive the full spiritual benefit of communion. But it will be there if you want it. We do ask that all who receive the wine intinct (dip) rather than sip from the chalice.
- At the Peace, you are more than welcome to shake hands, hug and do whatever feels right to you. Anyone reluctant to do so should be respected and honored. A peace sign, a bow, an elbow bump is still perfectly fine.
- Michelle will be singing a solo on Sunday. This is good news indeed. She has a beautiful voice!
- We are hoping to schedule the Rev. Courtney Reid for "Fierce Conversations" training in September. Please plan to participate! If you have questions about Fierce Conversations, see Deacon Dan. This training has made a big difference in many parishes.

Prayer concerns....

- If you haven't already, add Roberta Butler to your prayers. Roberta is the mother of Ida – one of our newer members. She's not in the best of health and is in need of strength and healing.
- Give thanks for the amazing and generous work done by the Allord, Kampert and Knowles-Livingston families on our newly-remodeled office! And please keep praying that God will bring just the right office manager to us!
- Continue to pray for Kim McDonald. Last I heard, she was awaiting results of an MRI. Kim has been in the hospital for a week or so and needs to gain strength.
- Pray for the repose of the soul of Bob Hoffman, a friend of the Morrill's. And remember to pray for his widow, Suzy. May God give her peace and comfort. Peggy and Gary, we are so sorry for your loss.
- Give thanks that we got to see – in person – two of our very dear members this past Sunday. It's been 15 months or more! What a blessing to see and welcome Ann Fischer and Carrol Hercules! We love you ladies and are so glad to have you back!
- Continue to pray for the victims of the building collapse in Florida and the heat wave and wildfires out west.
- And please hold in your heart and prayers all those at St. Philip's with ongoing needs. They include: Jill Hill; Bob and JoAnn Miller; Andreas Kistner; Lillian Conway; Ken and Janie Jossen; Linda Purcell; Molly and her parents – Laura and David; Christina Guzman; Kelly Scolnick; Levi Tsu and his parents; Sarah McCready; Joe and Toni Saladino; Fr. Tom Janiec; Fr. Henry Randolph; Kurth Horner; Tim Zierer; Bishop-Elect Paula Clark; Faye; Marge; Aury and Peggy & Don.

“The effectual, fervent prayer of a righteous person availeth much!” James 5:16b (KJV)

Thank you all for your prayers and for your patience. I have a lot of personal stuff to get caught up on today and I appreciate being able to abbreviate the newsletter. Next week's will have all the usual features!

God bless and keep you all!

Fr. Jim