Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Thank you to everyone who came to the linen workshop this week and thank you especially to Sr. Juanita for all the knowledge that you shared with everyone. As I mentioned last week, we are bringing back the Altar Society. Between those who came to the workshop and those who have been involved in linen purification and the Altar Society before, it looks like we will have a robust renewal. All current and new members of the Altar Society are encouraged to attend a meeting on Sunday, April 25th at 9:00am in the hall. As you can see, this meeting will take place between the 8:00am and 9:30am Masses. This seemed like a reasonable time to have the meeting to make it most convenient for as many people as possible to come. At this meeting new and returning members will be able to meet, to talk about different aspects of the Altar Society (and to talk about who would be interested in doing what) and to plan for the future. Anyone who came to the workshop, any returning members and any other ladies who are interested in joining or learning more are invited to attend.

We will be having a traditional Latin Mass next Friday (April 23rd, the feast of St. George, Martyr) at 7:00pm.

  I want to remind everyone that we will be beginning the preparation for the Marian consecration in two weeks (Thursday, April 29th).  At that time, we will begin to use the next portion of the Marian consecration book.  There will not be any special gathering at the church for this preparation; all of this will be done at home.  Next week I will send more detailed instructions on how to make the preparation using the Marian consecration book.  On the day of the consecration itself (Monday, May 31st) we will have a special Mass in the traditional rite with consecration at the church at 7:00pm.  In order to be best prepared to begin on April 29th, I recommended reading through page 144 of the book by then.  If you haven't done this yet, I hope you get some time over the next couple of weeks.  This is certainly not required for the consecration, but I think you will find St. Louis de Montfort's writings helpful and inspiring.

Our daily English Mass attendance in the chapel has been growing steadily. In order for everyone to feel comfortable regarding masks/no masks I think it would be helpful to make some arrangements, not unlike what we did in the church. As in the church, I want to make sure that there is a section for those who are not able to wear masks. The half of the chapel on the side of the statue of Mary will be for those who are not able to wear masks, as well as for anyone who is wearing a mask but who does not mind being near those who are not. Those who are wearing masks and want to keep distance from those who are not are encouraged to sit on the other side of the chapel (the side closest to the door). I think this arrangement should work out well for everybody.

In your charity, please remember Shelley Rayhawk, the keyboardist for our 8:00am choir in your prayers. She has battled lymphoma before but it has come back. She has already begun aggressive treatment and so we are hoping that she is able to beat this for good. There will be a card in the vestibule of the church for people to sign.

With Shelley being out for recovery, our choir will be without instrumental accompaniment, but only for a short while. Sarah Faux, the organist for the 9:30am Mass, will be joining us in mid-May. I am happy to say that in addition to Sarah we will be having some new members of the choir soon. Remember that if you are interested in singing in the choir, you are most welcome. Simply come talk to me or someone in the choir.

Speaking of music, our new baby grand piano has arrived! This was donated to us by St. Patrick’s Church and is replacing the old upright piano in the hall.

A number of people have already acquired copies of the book The Mass Explained. This great book explains the meaning of the Mass for those who attend the English (Novus Ordo) Mass. The book is $9. Please see Fr. Clifton after Mass if you’d like to see or purchase a copy.

For lots of great info about the upcoming Sacred Liturgy Conference, visit the webpage for the New Liturgical Movement at www.newliturgicalmovement.org/2021/04/sacred-liturgy-conference-june-1-4-in.html. This conference is organized by our very own Dr. Lynne Bissonnette-Pitre and Schola Cantus Angelorum. We are so blessed to have this conference so near to us.

I have coverage in Vernonia this Sunday so I will not need to leave after the Latin Mass. It will be nice to stay behind and visit with people, and I hope that we continue to enjoy this nice weather!

Have a great weekend and be well!

God bless,

Fr. Clifton