

October 4, 2020

Dear Friends,

It is almost impossible to come to grips with the upheaval we have experienced, in many different ways, since the arrival of Covid-19. Businesses have been closed (some never to reopen), disruptions in education, and a truly painful experience of social isolation and of fear. We all continue to pray for each other and ask for the grace to be more and more sensitive to the safety and the concerns of others.

The virus has certainly impacted the ministry of your priests. We experienced a total lockdown in the middle of March and we were prohibited from visiting the sick and being with you. Gradually there was the opportunity to open the church and to again celebrate the sacraments publicly although in a restricted way. This is where we are now. We all struggle and strive to do the best we can for each other. Almost seven months now.

I am humbled whenever I am asked by you about how the priests are doing. We continue to hope and pray and to love. A pastor is appointed by the bishop to be a good shepherd and spiritual leader and also to be a good steward of the temporal goods given to the parish for the furtherance of the mission of Christ. To that end I have included in the bulletin this week what I include every year around this time – the annual financial statement. In a sense I hate to do this because compared to what many of you and your families and friends are experiencing, the needs of St. Leo pale.

Again, thank you for your prayers and let us all continue to grow together in charity.

In Christ,



Rev. David A. Whitestone  
Pastor