



From the Pastor's Desk:

[Correction: In the May 30th Bulletin the "Preamble" I quoted was from the Declaration of Independence, not the Constitution. Thanks to a parishioner for catching the error.]

I want to begin by thanking all of the parishioners who have been supporting Annual Catholic Ministries Appeal. Even though our goal was reduced by 50% you have reached out to the needs of the Diocese with pledges amounting to over \$85,000. At this point we will share in the amount over our revised goal of \$61,000 and now will receive 100% of any pledges over the \$85,000. This will be a great help to our financial needs. You are ALL a true blessing to the Church on Long Island and to our great parish of OLPH.

I know that some parishioners are concerned about the decision to restrict the Air-Conditioning, but it must be done. Right now the 4 AC Zones are set to turn the AC "on" when the inside temperature reaches 80 degrees. With all the windows and doors open and the AC unit blowers activated we should be comfortable with a pleasant breeze. Once the church becomes generally overwhelming the AC will be turned on automatically or we will override the system and turn it on. Our intention is to do some "serious" conservation of energy regarding the use of Air Conditioning. We have already decrease wattage in the Chandeliers and Ceiling Lights by 75% by using more efficient light bulbs.

Even if we do increase our weekly collections through the better contributions of the many who give poorly or nothing, it is important for us to use technology in our favor to decrease the use of electrical energy. I hope, one day, to see us using other forms of power, such as Solar Energy to heat, cool and light our church, rectory, school and convent buildings. But that is a step yet to be taken and depending on the future of our financial picture.

I want to thank the parishioners who have worked on our grounds, planting plants and flowers, and also saving us landscaping fees. In areas where we can safely and efficiently use volunteers we will continue to do so.

Last Sunday, The Mass and procession for Corpus Christi, the Feast of the Most Sacred Body and Blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, was a great experience and witness of faith for all who were able to join us. I want to thank all who planned the Liturgy and Music and all who participated in any way for the Mass and the procession. I would like to thank the Village of Lindenhurst Board for approving this procession and especially the Suffolk County Police for their cooperation in supplying Police to stop and control traffic during this hour long procession. I salute them!

The Feast of Our Lady of Perpetual Help is coming up the end of this month, June 27th. Our parish will, once again, host the Diocese of Rockville Centre Haitian-American Apostolate Ministry on Saturday evening, June 26th for a special Mass, in Creole, French and some English, in honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, the Patroness of Haiti. Bishop Peter Libaci will preside and Fr. Wismick Jean Charles, SMM will be the Celebrant and the Homilist. The Mass will be followed by a candlelight procession on the streets surrounding the Church, carrying the image of Our Lady of Perpetual Help and joining in hymns and prayers. All of the Masses for the weekend will be the Mass and Readings for the Feast of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Patroness of our Parish family. All parishioners are welcome to attend this Mass and join with the Haitian Community in the candlelight procession.

As we continue to grow as a community of faith, grounded in the Eucharist and under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and the protection of Our Lady it is the collective wisdom of the priests of OLPH to see every organization become a witness to the community of the joy of coming to know, love and live in Christ. This week your priests and deacons will be meeting with the leadership of all the parish societies and organizations to set some goal, based on our parish Mission Statement, open up lines of communication and do so collective thinking that will lead us to bringing more people back to the Church by bring Christ into the families. I ask everyone to pray for your priest and deacons and for these leaders asking God to send His Holy Spirit upon us so that jointly and with great dignity and respect we may renew the parish and all its families drawing more and more people to love and serve the Lord.

May God +bless you and yours now and forever.

Father Anthony