

Dear parishioners,

Recently I was able to take a few private retreat days here in Connecticut. It was such a welcome opportunity to go deeper on the inside, do some spiritual reading, offer holy hours, and pray about all the challenges and graces of this period. All the intentions of our parish family were with me on the days of retreat.

There is so much for which to pray. There are so many reasons for which to turn with trust and faith to Our Lord Jesus. It also an enriching experience to meet new people, even from a distance, and engage in good spiritual conversations. While on retreat, I was able to meet and converse with a college-aged student who was also doing a private retreat. He is discerning the priesthood. It is always uplifting to talk with someone who is really seeking the gifts of the Holy Spirit in following God's will. We make so many choices, and often we do not discern the big choices enough. A retreat, or even a day of recollection, is a blessed opportunity to connect with God who knows our hearts and desires to help us on the journey of life.

Even when we think so much around us is changing, or is up-ended, we also need to remember that what is unchanging is God's saving presence in our lives -- the sacrificial love manifest on the Cross of Calvary, the glory of New Life made known in the Empty Tomb of Easter Sunday, the endearing grace of the sacraments.

Thank you again to all our parishioners for your ongoing cooperation with the health and safety guidelines from the Archdiocese that we have implemented. These are necessary precautions for the good of all. Please remember that the moral obligation to attend Sunday Mass has been lifted by the Archbishop until November 28th, the conclusion of our current liturgical year. If you are not feeling well, please refrain from coming to Mass in the church. You can always participate through television and the internet.

Thank you also for your continued generosity to the parish during these difficult times and for your faithful witness. It is so meaningful. We do go forward together.

All the way – to God's embrace.

Sincerely, Father Lavorgna