

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PASTOR'S CORNER



Is the Roman Catholic Church in a crisis? Many tend to nod in agreement. But the last part of this question is very interesting. Recently, I have learned that the Chinese word for crisis is comprised of two characters. The first character translates as *danger*. *The second has loosely been translated as opportunity. More correctly it means “change point,” or “inflection point.” To my mind, these points are akin to a crossroads, and would indeed imply an opportunity. Semantics in a complex language I know nothing about aside, the idea that an entire culture sees the occurrence of a crisis as more than simply an opportunity to panic is very inspiring and thought provoking, because from our Christian point of view, the virtue of hope, for instance, is our sacred, spiritual weapon against negativity and despair, for as St. Paul reminds us in his letter to the Romans, “...hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us” (5:5).*

This is especially fitting this year, as Pope Francis has designated 2025 as a Jubilee Year with the theme, “Pilgrims of Hope.” The Holy Father has called us to be Christians who not only have hope, but actually “radiate hope.” We have the opportunity to let go of fearful, judgmental reactions, to trust God, and to respond to the seekers of the world with authentic inquisitiveness. When we do this, God can work through us, and the hope that is in us will radiate out to them. So the crisis in the Church is a “danger-opportunity”. The crisis in a soul falling away from Christian faith is a danger-opportunity. The crisis of fear and judgement rising in our own souls is a danger-opportunity. But when we choose to breathe, pray, and respond in trust and love, the truth that comes out of our mouths will serve to draw the soul in crisis towards God instead of alienating them further from Him. This in turn causes our own trust to grow. The opportunity never fails, regardless of whether or not the outcome is as simple as a prayer or as challenging as a loving but difficult conversation, for as St. John Bosco wrote, “*In serious matters it is better to beg God humbly than to send forth a flood of words that will only offend the listeners and have no effect on those who are guilty.*”

P.S. I think every crisis, to some degree, can bring us fulfillment, satisfaction, and inner peace if we are willing to look beyond “this momentary pain.” But if we are interfering with this heart-expanding paradigm, it is a delay tactic; it is certainly not trust, for as someone interestingly pointed out, “*In the beginner's mind, there are many possibilities; in the expert's mind there are few.*”

Fr. Slawek

February 23, 2025



Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

Turning concern into action

When we pray the “Our Father”, we ask God to give us “our daily” bread. Most of us are fortunate to receive sufficient food, but some do not. It is a struggle, especially for our neighbour-in-need.

Please remember the POOR BOX on your way out of the church after Mass.

TO ALL OUR PARISHIONERS
THANK YOU !

ANOTHER WAY TO DONATE TO OUR PARISH

Pre-Authorized Giving Plan—Pre-Authorized Giving is a very simple procedure. When you participate in Pre-Authorized Giving, your offering will be withdrawn from your account on or about the 20th of the month. This amount will then be deposited to the Parish’s account.

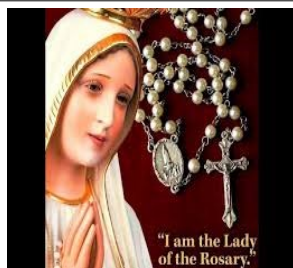
This amount will be receipted at the end of the year for tax purposes.

Application forms are on the table at the back of the church.

ATTENTION ALL PARISHIONERS 2025 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

To the parishioner who has not picked up their 2025 envelopes you have until the end of February. As of March 1 the number assigned to you will be removed from the system and assigned to someone else.

YOUR HEALTH : As cold and flu season approaches, to ensure the health of the entire community, parishioners are encouraged to stay home from Mass and parish functions if they are experiencing symptoms of the flu virus, colds, etc. Respect and concern for the common good takes precedence. Thank you for your cooperation! To minimize risks please use the hand sanitizers that are located at each entrance!



Come Pray 2000 Hail Mary

**Saturday, March 1, 2025
6 a.m.—3 p.m.**

In the Church

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, February 25

9 a.m. Repose of the soul of David Emer req. by the Emer family.

Wednesday, February 26

9 a.m. Repose of the soul of Patrica Amarasingha.

Thursday, February 27

9 a.m. Repose of the soul of Welson Wan req. by Norma Wan.

Friday, February 28

9 a.m. Private Intentions.

Saturday, March 1

4:30p.m Intentions of all Parishioners.

Sunday, March 2

9 a.m. Intentions of Rose & Eugene Li on there 56 Wedding Anniversary.

11 a.m. Intentions of Mercedes Camantigue req. by Carrie Salvador.



COFFEE & TEA & SNACKS SOCIAL

Wednesday, February 26 2025
After the 9 a.m. Mass
in the Parish Basement

2024 Tax Receipt

Attention all Parishioners: 2024 Tax receipts will be **mailed out the first week of March**. If you would like to pick up your receipt from the parish office before it is mailed out, the tax receipt will be **available for pick up February 24—27, 2025**.



ARE YOU MOVING? OR HAVE YOU MOVED ALREADY?

Please contact the parish office so your records can be updated.

