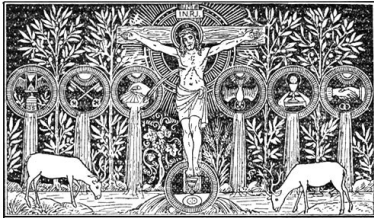


TO  
**LIVE**  
IS  
**CHRIST**  
PHILIPPIANS 1:21

# Saint Patrick's Catholic Church

115 Maple Avenue, Victor NY 14564  
(585) 924-7111 • www.stpatricksvictor.org  
Authentic faith, Welcoming and Engaging



### Think of Sacraments. Think of Divine Life.

#### Sacrament of Baptism.

The sacrament through which God, in Jesus Christ, makes us His sons and daughters. To prepare for

reception, email Father Edison @ fr.edison.tayag@dor.org.

**Sacrament of the Eucharist.** The sacrament through which God, like a loving parent, feeds us, with food from heaven: His Word, and the Body and Blood of Jesus.

- **Weekend Masses:** Saturday at 4:30 PM, Sunday at 8:30 and 10:30 AM. **The Sunday 5 PM Mass will resume on September 11. Be faithful to the Sunday obligation.**
- Weekday Masses: Monday-Wednesday, Friday at 8:30 AM. Thursday at 8:30 AM: Communion Service.
- For First Holy Communion, call Donna DeJoode at 924-2800 for more info.
- Family members may bring Holy Communion to other family members who are sick and homebound.

**Sacrament of Confirmation.** The sacrament through which God by the gift of the Holy Spirit strengthens us to give faithful witness to our Catholic Faith. To prepare for reception, call Donna DeJoode @ 924-2800.

- Children, older than 7 y/o, and adults who needs to be baptized, receive Communion and/or be Confirmed, call Deacon John @ 924-7111.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation.** The sacrament through which God's mercy and love, justice and truth heals the wound of human sin. *Generally offered an hour before each Mass.* Please give the priest fifteen minutes before Mass to prepare for Mass.

**Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.** The sacrament through which Jesus continues to heal the sick among us. Anointing is offered at each Mass on the first weekend of the month. Or call Fr. Edison @ 924-7111 to schedule an anointing.

**Sacrament of Marriage.** The sacrament through which God calls a man and woman to become visible signs of His Love. Call Fr. Edison or Deacon John @ 924-7111 for more info.

**Sacrament of Holy Orders.** The sacrament through which the mission Jesus entrusted to the apostles is continued in the Church. To learn more about vocations to the ordained ministry, please call Fr. Edison or Deacon John @ 924-7111.

*Never miss an opportunity to celebrate a sacrament.*



### Eucharistic Revival Pilgrim's Passport

#### Spiritual Exercise 5

Take quiet walks with Jesus.

The peace of Christ is the fruit of living the Gospel message. His peace is both embraced by the

love and the truth of God. His peace comes from our acceptance of the will of God, so that we stand courageously before the Word of God, without any fear of being found wanting: *"For the Word of God is living and active, and sharper than any two-edged sword, even penetrating as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart"* (Hebrews 4:12).

In a pilgrimage, a pilgrim seeks time with God and is blessed with time with God. With God and before God, one can truly examine his or her life, seek honest judgement from God, and receive valuable guidance from God.

For the fifth spiritual exercise, since we are on a Eucharistic pilgrimage, take quiet walks with Jesus.

- Invite Jesus to walk with you. Ask that He makes His presence felt to you. However you may or may not feel His presence, believe that Jesus is with you.
- If there is one thing in your life that you would like to share with Him, what is it? Bring it to His attention. What do you want from Jesus? Ask Him.
- Observe some silence. The silence will allow you to hear Him. What does Jesus tell you?

Thank you for going through these spiritual exercises. On the surface, the exercises are too simple. But when developed as habits, consistently done, these exercises can make us better and holier disciples.

During the Summer, if you may find yourself traveling but still want to remain in the loop about the use of the pilgrim's passport, a page on the parish website will be dedicated for the Eucharistic Revival—Pilgrim's Passport. Visit the page for updates. For easy access, scan the QR code with your smart phone.



Buen camino!


- Father Edison

# Liturgy & Sacramental Life

because Jesus taught us to pray

## HOLY MASSES FOR THE WEEK

- Saturday August 20**  
4:30pm - Tano Carbonaro by Camille Carbonaro
- Sunday August 21-Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
8:30am - Vu family  
10:30am - Health and peace by Tran family
- Monday August 22 -Queenship of the Blesse Virgin Mary**  
8:30am - Donald Rimlinger by Pat and Tina Crowley
- Tuesday August 23 - St. Rose of Lima**  
8:30am - Call the Parish Office for you Mass intention.
- Wednesday August 24 - St. Bartholomew**  
8:30am - Donna Necci by Kathleen Lipiec
- Thursday August 25 - St. Louis**  
8:30am - Call the Parish Office for you Mass intention.
- Friday August 26 -**  
8:30am - Call the Parish Office for you Mass intention.
- Saturday August 27 - St. Monica**  
4:30pm - Tano Carbonaro by Camille Carbonaro
- Sunday August 28-Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
8:30am - Robert Lechner by John and Kathleen Bell  
10:30am - Health and peace for all by Tran family

 For Mass Intentions or the Sanctuary Candle, contact us thru [catherine.fafone@dor.org](mailto:catherine.fafone@dor.org).

### We Lift Each Other in Prayer



Jim McMahan, Bev Henehan, Linda Gensiejewski, Duane Pancoast, Pat Cargnoni, Bob Foster, Mary Miller, Michael Hebert, Ann Amico, Bob Monaghan, Peggy Larocca, Linda Daggs, Joann Ruskowski, Derek Van Wyk, David Redding, DeeDee Tongue,

Joy Parker, Michael Amico, Jennifer Aquisi, and Leonard Parrino, Tom Steinjann, Louis Perticone, Joseph DiPrima.

Note: This list of parishioners who are ill appears once a month in the bulletin. Please help keep this list up-to-date by informing the Parish Office at the end of the month if you want your name to be kept.

### Daily 3 PM Prayer Intentions

Let us be connected through prayer daily. Set your alarm at 3 PM and when it goes off, pray a Hail Mary for the parish community. Please include any of these intentions:



- For our college-bound children,
- For the successful return of Christ Life in our parish,
- For end of the war in Ukraine,
- For peace in our families, our cities, and in the world,
- For those going through serious illness.

*Let us be known by our praying for each other.*

### First Saturday Eucharistic Adoration

The First Saturday Eucharistic Adoration continues on September 3, from 9 AM (Mass) until 3 PM, in church. Benediction will take place at 2:55 PM.

To ensure continuous presence of adorers before the Blessed Sacrament, participants must sign-up using the sheets on the Welcome Tables.

### Invitation to the Last Chance Choir

Now is the time for teens and adults to join the Last Chance Choir, which resumes leading the music at the Sunday 5 PM Mass, on September 11.

Come to our rehearsals on August 21 and September 4 at 11:30 AM after the 10:30 AM Sunday Mass, if you are available. We then rehearse at 4 PM before every Sunday 5 PM Mass starting September 11.

We are a fun group and we always welcome more singers, guitar players, and band/string instrumentalists to join us in prayerful song!! Consider sharing your God given gifts and contact Carl Galland at [carl.galland@dor.org](mailto:carl.galland@dor.org) for more information.



*Let us sing to the Lord!*

### Liturgical Ministers for the Weekend of August 27 - 28

Ministry	Saturday 4:30 PM	Sunday 8:30 AM	Sunday 10:30 AM	Sunday 5:00 PM
Sacristan (1)	Teresa Sheffer	Ena Gill	Aimee Pasion	Will resume on September 11.
Altar Server (1-2)				
Lector (1-2)	Deacon John Payne	Sarah Parsons	Marge Jacobs	
Communion Ministers (1-2)		Deacon John Payne, Ken Reasoner	Deacon John Payne, Amanda Didas	
Ushers (2-4)	Pat Bolger, Mike Manikowski	Dan Weigert, Mark Weigert, Dennis O'Dea, Bob Kolb	John Eilertsen, Joe LeMark, Dave O'Hare	
Cantor/s	Adult Choir	Adult Choir	Adult Choir	

If interested in serving as liturgical minister during the weekend Masses, please give the coordinators a call. See page 5 for contact info.

### Liturgical Ministers for the Sunday 5 PM Mass

As we prepare for the return of the Sunday 5 PM Mass, I am asking liturgical ministers to indicate if they can and wish to continue serving at the 5 PM Mass.

The Sunday 5 PM Mass can really use additional help. We need -

- 6-8 Greeters and Ushers
- 3-4 Sacristans
- 4-6 Lectors
- 1-2 Communion Ministers
- 3-4 Altar Servers

Please see or email Father Edison (fr.edison.tayag@dor.org) if you can help. New helpers are welcome!

## Membership & Parish Life because Jesus called a community

### In the Spirit of Accompaniment



*Peter said to him in reply, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." But when he saw how strong the wind was he became frightened; and, beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Immediately Jesus stretched out his hand and caught him, and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" After they got into the boat, the wind died down. Those who were in the boat did him homage, saying, "Truly, you are the Son of God." - Matthew 14:28-33*

- Because of this incident on the Sea of Galilee, the boat has been adopted by early Christian as a symbol for the Church. To this day, one may find 1st cent AD carved graffiti of boats on rocks along the shores of Galilee. Try to make some connection between the make-up of a boat and the architecture of churches.

- When were times when you felt the Church has been tossed by waves and winds? Where did you find God's presence/accompaniment during these times?

*Saint Patrick, pray for us!*

### Benefit Concert for An Eastman Graduate Student

September 11, Sunday, 2-3:30 PM

The concert is organized by the Filipino-American Association of Rochester for Rey Sunglao.

*Thank you for your presence and generosity.*

### PARISH EVENTS THIS WEEK

The parish calendar is accessible through the parish app. To download the app, text 'App' to 88202. Download myParish App.

#### Sunday - August 21

9:30am - Confirmation Information Meeting - Parish Center

#### Wednesday - August 24

6:00pm - Finance Council - Parish Center

7:00pm - Knights of Columbus - Parish Center

#### Sunday - August 28

8:10am - Rosary with Knights of Columbus - Church

11:30am - Confirmation Information Meeting - Parish Center

2:00pm - Ukraine Benefit Concert - Church

### We're glad you're here with us!

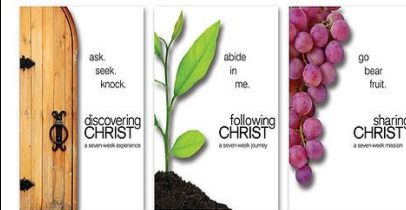
We warmly welcome new members to our parish: LaFemina, Necci, and Marino Families

*You bless us with your presence.*



### Changed by Christ Life

I've been a parishioner at St. Patrick's since 2005. I say "parishioner" because I was registered as a parishioner. I thought I was a "good Catholic". Went to Mass... sometimes. Christmas... check. Easter... check. Life was okay. Something felt missing. I was happy, but was I joyful? I was getting through life, but was I living life?



Then, five years ago, Christ life was offered in our parish. I was curious. Maybe there was more than what I had.

I'm not going to spoil the ending. Except now I am a different parishioner. I serve as sacristan. I attend Mass weekly, and pray at Eucharistic Adoration. Was this change instantaneous? No, but the Christ Life Program opened a new door for me. Christ Life helped me realize what I was missing. Christ Life helped me find joy.

God is good! Come join Christ Life, and rediscover joy in your life. We appreciate your prayers for the Core Team.

I look forward to hearing from you.

- Karen Grasso, (585) 314-9812



### Christ & Coffee Hours

- September 4: after the 8:30 AM and 10:30 AM Masses. Enjoy time with fellow parishioners over coffee, donuts, and other treats.

- September 18: after the 8:30 AM Mass. Topic for discussion to be determined by the Pastoral Council at their September 14th meeting. Through this platform, may we continue to accompany one another in our Synodal journey.

If you have any question, please contact Mary Beth Then at 924-7111.

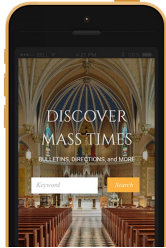
**Ukraine Benefit Concert for Peace**

August 28, Sunday at 2:00 PM

Saint Patrick's Church

*Free will donations are accepted and given to RocMaiden, a non-profit organization of the Ukrainian Cultural Center of Rochester.*

Musicians: Evelyn Lam, piano, Rebecca Boyd, violin, and Carl Galland, clarinet



**Discover Mass**

Traveling during the Summer months? Keep the Mass a priority on Sundays. To find out where Mass is celebrated, use Discover Mass icon on our parish app. To download parish app, text 'App' to 55321.



**Did you know that St. Patrick's Preschool uses a co-teaching model to ensure that every child gets individualized attention?**



*Call for more Information (515) 924-2100*



**St. Patrick's Preschool**  
A MINISTRY OF SAINT PATRICK'S CHURCH

**REGISTRATION OPEN**  
[stpatricksvictor.org/preschool](http://stpatricksvictor.org/preschool)

**Ongoing Christian Formation**  
because Jesus taught us his way of life

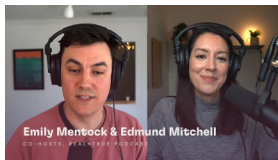
**Formed.org**

1. It is easy and free! Go to [Formed.org/register](http://Formed.org/register).
2. Use the parish code: 3KRJJK to create your account.
3. Enter your email and password (you need these to log in later). Enjoy and share the faith.

Featured Resource

**The Eucharist is Sacrifice & Communion.**

Why do we take pictures of our food for social media? This episode enters into the mystery of the Eucharist- as sacrifice and communion. Take a listen as Emily and Edmund explain the decisions behind using the story of St. Maximilian Kolbe, imagery from Frank Sheed, and the power of Eucharistic Adoration. Learn more about the power and practice of sitting with Jesus in silence.



**Social Ministry & Outreach**  
because Jesus called us to serve



We serve the **Community Dinner** on the third Saturday of every month. We need your help. Please see the sign-up sheet on the Welcome Table by the Alcove.

**Stewardship**  
because Jesus gave us gifts to share



**In Gratitude**

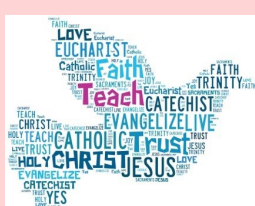
- To the Giving Garden volunteers, for the upkeep of the garden, for helping harvest and bring the produce to the Victor-Farmington Food Cupboard. To the parish gardeners, for the upkeep of the gardens around the church, parish office, parish center, and the Marian grotto.
- To the Knights of Columbus, Paul and Mary Beth Then, for serving the Coffee Hour this past Sunday, and to parishioners who stayed and met with fellow parishioners.
- To parishioners who supported the school supplies drive.
- To Helen Barnes, Marcie Hamilton, and Mary Sabin, for their presence at the Ministry Table in the Parish Center last Sunday. And to parishioners who visited the table.



- To our teens who are bound to college - Ethan Hearne, Lula Dalupang, Charles Nwugwo, Nolan Reh, and Julia Trann.
- To Wayne Sweet for re-upholstering the chairs used at the back of the church.

*We appreciate your help!*

**Christian Formation Registration Now Open**



Christian Formation Registration is now open online. Register for Parent-led Catechesis, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, Edge, Confirmation, & LifeTeen. Contact Donna DeJoode with any questions at 585-924-2800 or [donna.dejoode@dor.org](mailto:donna.dejoode@dor.org)

**Confirmation Information Meeting**

An informational meeting for all in 8th grade or older who have not yet been Confirmed is scheduled for 9:30 AM on Sunday, August 21, and 11:30 AM on Sunday, August 28, in the Parish Center. To contact Donna DeJoode, call 924-2800 or email [donna.dejoode@dor.org](mailto:donna.dejoode@dor.org).



**Sunday Collection Revenue**

July 2021 - June 2022

We are grateful for your financial generosity to our parish. This report does not include the expense side. In the quarterly report, we will provide both income and expenses.

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Regular Envelopes	\$265,737	\$270,000	\$(4,263)
Loose Plate	\$34,794	\$24,500	\$10,794
Electronic (EFT)	\$213,395	\$220,000	\$(6,605)
Holy Days	\$5,196	\$6,000	\$(804)
Christmas	\$15,167	\$15,000	\$167
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$534,289</b>	<b>\$535,000</b>	<b>\$(711)</b>



Your Gift of Presence August 13 - 14

4:30 98, 8:30 144, 10:30 167, 5:00

Your Gift of Treasure

August 13 - 14: \$5,486.00

Budgeted, without EFT: \$3,980.00

Second Collection: August 20-21

Diocese of Catarman - Philippines

Looking for second collection envelopes?

Please find them on the Welcome Tables

by the Alcove and the Front Vestibule of the Church

**Our Parish Ministries: Serving God and Neighbor**

*Call. Ask. Discern. Serve like Jesus.*

**I. Liturgy and Sacramental Life**

- Altar Linen Sue Stehling / 924-3409
- Altar Servers Pat Bolger / 857-3201
- Baptism Preparation Team Judy & James Miller / 924-8158
- Children's Liturgy of the Word Beth Lombard / 430-5372
- Church Cleaners Lei Dalupang / 224-6091
- Communion Ministers (EMHC) Amanda Didas / (508) 981-6668
- Funeral Liturgy Team Patty Hart / 924-7111
- Lectors Sandy Brannigan / 645-7904
- Liturgy Committee Nerina Bellinger / 742-8023
- Marriage Preparation Team Gayle & Brian Reh / 924-4804
- Music Ministry (choirs, cantors) Carl Galland / 924-7111
- Sacristans Ena Gill / 733-6650
- Ushers & Greeters Dave O'Hare / 924-5816
- Visitation Ministry Helen Barnes / 298-2247

**II. Membership and Parish Life**

- Coffee Hour Mary Beth Then / 924-7111
- Knights of Columbus Wayne Brotsch / 924-3855

**III. Ongoing Faith Formation**

- Adult Faith Formation Donna DeJoode / 924-2800
- Catechists Donna DeJoode / 924-2800
- Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Carolyn Robinson / 924-2800
- Christ Life Program Bob & Karen Grasso / 314-9812
- Parent-led Catechesis Donna DeJoode / 924-2800
- Preschool Donna DeJoode / 924-2800
- RCIA Team Deacon John Payne / 924-7111
- Youth Ministry **Coordinator Needed** / 924-2800

**IV. Social Ministry and Outreach**

- Assisi Ministry Marcie Hamilton / 924-1528
- Community Dinner Linda Marren / 739-0159
- Vegetable Garden Dan & Karen Lynch / 314-5098
- Prayer Shawl Ministry Mary E 742-2949 / Mary S 924-7724
- Prison Ministry Helen Barnes / 298-2247
- Social Ministry Committee Joan Muto / 924-2501
- Family Promise of Ontario County Joan Trost / 924-3092

**V. Stewardship**

- Buildings and Grounds Committee Joan Oliphant / 742-3452
- Cemetery Manager John Butler / 924-7111
- CASE Review Board Cathy Fafone / 924-7111
- Finance Council John Eilertsen / 924-7111
- Parish Gardens Becky Fountain / 281-8004
- Parish Magazine Father Edison / 924-7111
- Pastoral Council Paul Then / 742-2965
- Money Counters Marge Gawronski / 398-7802

**Ministries in Focus:**

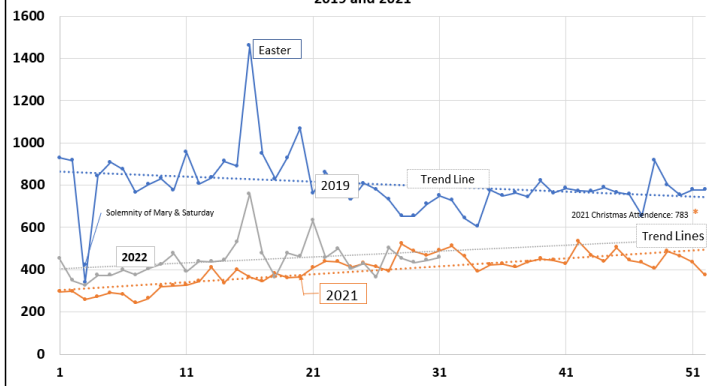
Assisi Ministry,  
Prayer Shawl Ministry,  
and Visitation Ministry



This month of August, you are invited to learn more about three of our parish ministries - the Assisi Ministry, the Prayer Shawl Ministry, and the Visitation Ministry. These ministries are concrete ways through which we reach out to parishioners who are either ill and homebound, and also to strengthen and personalize our connection with parishioners who are preparing for the celebration of sacraments and who are moving on through important milestones in life.

Meet parishioners who are involved in these ministries during the Coffee Hours, and learn from them how they serve through these ministries.

Sunday Weekly Total Mass Attendance  
2019 and 2021



**Sunday Mass Attendance Monthly Report**

We continue to monitor our attendance at Sunday Masses. Prior to and during COVID, the numbers across the nation are sadly on the decline.

Through the Eucharistic Revival, may we be able to effectively address pastoral concerns about the Mass so that wherever we are in our journey of faith our love for Jesus in the Eucharist is rediscovered and further deepened.

People's return to Mass may come from a simple invitation from you.

Thank you, Paul Then, for the monthly report!

Let there be light...

### Agonize now!

*Jesus passed through towns and villages,  
teaching as he went and making his way to Jerusalem.  
Someone asked him,  
“Lord, will only a few people be saved?”*

- Luke 13:22-23a

The movement of Jesus from Galilee to Jerusalem was a deliberate movement on His part. Moving from the periphery to the center was His way of gathering all nations - Gentiles and Jews alike - to the holy mountain of the Lord, Jerusalem. Doing so, Jesus was bringing to fulfillment the promise made by God through the prophet Isaiah 2:2ff, *In days to come, the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest mountain and raised above the hills. All nations shall stream toward it.*

With this in mind, when someone asked Jesus, “Lord, will only a few people be saved?” Jesus was asked an important question. It is a question that further asks, “Is Jesus’ saving work universal, that is, both for the Jews and the Gentiles?” and “What does it entail to receive His offer of salvation?”

*He answered them,  
“Strive to enter through the narrow gate,  
for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter  
but will not be strong enough.”*

- Luke 13:23b-24

In response, Jesus gave a specific command, “agonize or strive,” which carries the meaning of “engage in a (athletic) contest, contend or fight for a prize”. To receive His gift of salvation demands from the recipient active work.

Why? Because the gate that leads to salvation is narrow - it requires serious effort. Whatever does not fit must be shed. The goal is to pass through and not to carry extra baggage.

What does this mean? Salvation does not come easy. Anyone who desires salvation must experience the hard work of becoming like Christ - hence, Christian.

*After the master of the house has arisen and locked the door,  
then will you stand outside knocking and saying,  
‘Lord, open the door for us.’  
He will say to you in reply,  
‘I do not know where you are from.’*

- Luke 13:25

Then, Jesus shifts from the image of the narrow gate to the image of the locked door. It is not just about the serious effort, it is also about the timing of one’s serious effort. One must strive to enter before it is too late - that is, when the door is finally locked. Here, it would be helpful if one thought of today as his or her last day. Avoid complacency that comes from thinking that there would be tomorrow and another.

*And you will say,  
‘We ate and drank in your company and you taught in our streets.’  
Then he will say to you,  
‘I do not know where you are from.  
Depart from me, all you evildoers!’*

- Luke 13:26-27

It is not enough to remain in Jesus’ company and to listen to His teachings. One must have a personal relationship with Jesus, live as His body, the Church - in other words, be good doers!

### Parish & Preschool Information

Hours: Monday - Thursday: 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM

(lunch time: 12:30 PM - 1 PM)

Friday: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Parish / Cemetery Phone: (585) 924-7111

Parish Fax: (585) 742-3296

Faith Formation & Preschool: (585) 924-2800

### Stay Connected

- Parish Website: [www.stpatricksvictor.org](http://www.stpatricksvictor.org)
- Parish Facebook Pages:  
St. Patrick’s Church /  
Saint Patrick’s Victor - Preschool
- Parish Youtube Channel:  
St Patricks of Victor NY
- Parish App: Text ‘App’ to 55321



### Our Parish Staff

<b>Father Edison Tayag, Pastor</b>	<a href="mailto:fr.edison.tayag@dor.org">fr.edison.tayag@dor.org</a>
<b>Deacon John Payne, Deacon</b>	<a href="mailto:john.payne@dor.org">john.payne@dor.org</a>
<b>John Butler</b>	<a href="mailto:john.butler@dor.org">john.butler@dor.org</a>
<b>Cemetery Manager</b>	
<b>Cathy Fafone</b>	<a href="mailto:catherine.fafone@dor.org">catherine.fafone@dor.org</a>
<b>Parish Secretary</b>	
<b>Dr. Carl Galland</b>	<a href="mailto:carl.galland@dor.org">carl.galland@dor.org</a>
<b>Director of Sacred Music</b>	
<b>Donna DeJoode</b>	<a href="mailto:donna.dejoode@dor.org">donna.dejoode@dor.org</a>
<b>Director of Christian Formation and Preschool</b>	
<b>Nancy Kolb</b>	<a href="mailto:nancy.kolb@dor.org">nancy.kolb@dor.org</a>
<b>Christian Formation &amp; Preschool Secretary</b>	
<b>Benny Malijan</b>	<a href="mailto:benny.malijan@dor.org">benny.malijan@dor.org</a>
<b>Housekeeping</b>	
<b>Rich O'Donnell</b>	<a href="mailto:richard.odonnell@dor.org">richard.odonnell@dor.org</a>
<b>Finance Director</b>	
<b>Wayne Sweet</b>	<a href="mailto:wayne.sweet@dor.org">wayne.sweet@dor.org</a>
<b>Facilities Manager</b>	

*And there will be wailing and grinding of teeth  
when you see Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob  
and all the prophets in the kingdom of God  
and you yourselves cast out.*

*And people will come from the east and the west  
and from the north and the south  
and will recline at table in the kingdom of God.  
For behold, some are last who will be first,  
and some are first who will be last."*

- Luke 13:28-30

Reflect carefully on the first four lines. Jesus addressed the crowd using second person - ‘you’, and in effect, Jesus is startlingly telling us, “You are numbered among those who did not make it inside!” In doing so, Jesus really invites to think of ourselves in the same scenario and begin to our work of striving through the narrow gate and to strive now before it is too late! In reality, we are still on earth. This should be enough for us to agonize or strive to get ever closer and get in before the closing time.

The closing verses are reminders on the universality of salvation - the saved will come from all directions, and the need for humility - like the faithful and prudent steward. Act justly, love faithfully, and walk humbly with God.

Buen camino!

- Father Edison