

St. Joseph's Parish
& St. Anthony's Mission Church
573 Simcoe Street, P.O. Box 179
Beaverton, ON. L0K 1A0

Tel: (705) 426-7424

Fax: (705) 426-7639

Email: st.joseph.church@rogers.com

Web site: www.stjosephsbeaverton.ca

May 8, 2020

Good day to my dear parishioners:

I'd like to let you all know how much I've missed you all, every day and especially on a Saturday or Sunday's. For me to still see all the pews, vacant, my spirit disheartens. But that makes my Mass all the more meaningful because you all are remembered by name and prayed for.

This Sunday's Gospel speaks of Jesus' "farewell discourse" with his disciples. To Thomas' question: Lord, we do not know where you are going? How can we know the way?" Jesus replied to Thomas; "I am the way, and the truth and the life."

When we hear people saying to us "I am going home," it means a place of comfort and security. When we reflect on our childhood homes, many of us can say of it, what Jesus says of himself. It was the first place almost all of us learned about "the way". And that is the reason the earliest Christians were called "people of the way." This is a rich image denoting that Christianity is *not an idea*; it is a way of living. . . a path to follow.

Our home of faith with Jesus enables us to keep going out to a sometimes hostile world and share with others the way, the truth and the life that sustains us.

The way we follow is about justice, development and peace for all people everywhere and not just the select few who can build the biggest mansions on earth. We are invited to keep speaking the truth, even if that makes us unpopular or different or at odds with the majority. And we have to keep living the life that sees that our greatest joy comes from human dignity being celebrated everywhere.

If all Christians lived out this Way, Truth and Life, we would by His grace fulfil Jesus' extraordinary prophecy that we could do greater works than He did. Now that's a challenge to take with us into the coming week.

Stay safe, stay healthy and pray the Rosary especially during the month of May. And I especially say again, how thankful I am that my parishioners are continuing to contribute to the financial support of the parish. God bless you all!

Yours in the Risen Christ,



Rev. Oswin Fernandes
Pastor