

Dear parishioners,

Greetings and blessings from Our Lord Jesus Christ to you. I hope you enjoy the last few days of our gorgeous summer weather and enjoy celebrating Labor Day before we go back to our normal Northwest weather.

First, I would like to thank everyone for organizing and being at our Parish-Wide Picnic on Saturday August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022, from Noon to 3:00pm and attending the Sunday Vigil Mass that followed. It was a good turn out and I had the opportunity to meet with several parishioners (old and new), playing games, having lunch, and enjoying the beautiful day. People were engaged in conversations, laughing and sharing stories while they enjoyed delicious food and good company. Over 125 people showed up for the event. I was delighted to meet and play with young people as well. They brought new energy, enthusiasm, and hope to our parish. I am so grateful for the blessing we received from God as an individual and a community. I cannot believe that I lost the Ping-Pong tournament. (I am just kidding).

Secondly, it was a grace filled and a wonderful way to connect with others on our Marian Pilgrimage event even though we had to change our plan at the last minute. We were able to spend a good amount of time to prayer, bonding, sharing our lives with others and having lunch together. It felt like everywhere we went our Blessed Mother was smiling on us as she listened to our prayers and saw us praying together. What was a fantastic way in which we were able to do just that. Thank you everyone.

Thirdly, as most of our children and grandchildren have started the new school year, we want to send our prayers, and support, wish them to have a fun, successful and the fruitful year. Also, our faith formation and youth ministry will begin in September. So, please have your children register or enroll for those classes and activities. We want to offer our best formation of faith to our young people and invite them to participate and get involved with our community.

Fourth, Archbishop Etienne just sent out a letter to our Archdiocese inviting men to consider joining the Permanent Deacon Program. If you or you know of someone who is interested in this vocation, please let me or Deacon Jeff know. We appreciate your prayer and consideration.

Lastly, we are seeking to fill two positions to assist us in providing care, worship and additional needs for our parish. We need a part time Music Director and a full time Maintenance/Custodian. If you know of someone who can help us, please let us know. Finally, I hope you enjoy the book club with Deacon Jeff as well. I wish I could be there. Thank you to everyone who maintains our campus keeping it nice, clean, and a neat place for people to come and pray.

I look forward to celebrating the first Mass at The Immaculate Conception mission on September 17 at 9:00 am. You are invited to join me in thanking God for his many blessings.

May God, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Saint John Bosco bless you, your families, and unite us as One, in Christ, to Worship and Love, Witness and Serve.

You and your families are in my daily prayers.

Blessings,

Fr. Thomas V. Tran

(This prayer was adapted and given the permission to use from my good friend, **Fr. Randy**)

### **A Steward's Prayer**

*Dear Jesus,*

*Help me understand that my parish is composed of people like me. I help make it what it is. It will be friendly, if I am. Its pews will be filled, if I help fill them. It will do great work, if I work. It will be prayerful, if I pray. It will make generous gifts to many causes, if I am a generous giver. It will bring others into worship if I invite and bring them in. It will be a place of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith, of compassion, charity and mercy, if I who help it what it is, am filled with these things. Therefore, I ask you for the grace I need to dedicate myself to the task of being all things that I want my parish to be. Amen.*