

*From the Desk of Fr. Matthew Arbuckle*

+ **JMJ** +

The school year has begun and so the basic busyness of the parish increases considerably. School activity scheduling, student safety, and safe boundary/protocols need to be taken into account so please be reminded that the use of some rooms or facilities is restricted during school hours. This does include the terrace both in and outside.

The priests beat the seminarians in a very hard-fought softball game recently. Those at the game know how much fun it was, and I thank the Serra Club for their work in making the game such a success (the proceeds of which go to the cost of educating our future priests). The sems are soon heading back to classes, so be sure to pray for them and pray for some more boys from SJA to investigate a priestly vocation in the future.

And now that school has started, RCIA is getting underway. We all need to make it our business to pray for those candidates and catechumens in RCIA; and we also need to pray diligently for those who are close to “swimming the Tiber” (converting to Catholicism) but just might need a little encouragement. Encourage them! Invite them! Pray for them! By the way, if you are the non-Catholic spouse of a parishioner and are reading this, know that I probably already have you on a list and are praying for you daily to the Precious Blood of our Savior.

FunFest is Saturday, August 26<sup>th</sup> starting after the evening Mass. Please be aware that Mass is at 4:00 PM that Saturday rather than the regular time of 4:30. We will need a regiment of volunteers so please check the big board near the kiosk to see where you can pitch in. There are various activities, games, and food – so be prepared to have a great time. Don’t forget the raffle tickets – I want a parishioner to win the \$5,000!

I don’t use the parking spot marked for the priest because I need to park farther out in order to force myself to walk a little. So I auctioned it off at the school fundraiser. A couple of families payed a considerable sum in order to purchase the use of the priest parking spot over the course of the next year. If you see a family parking there, please know that they have my permission (and they’ve paid for it!).

August 15<sup>th</sup> is a Holy Day of Obligation - The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Mass times are as usual: 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:30, and the 15<sup>th</sup> at 8:15, 12:10 & 5:30.

Life is busy, but make time to go to Mass, go to Confession, and pray the Rosary!

**St. Joan of Arc...pray for us!**