

# FROM THE PASTOR'S PRINTER

## Just To Be Clear...

Last Sunday's announcement about weekday Mass and snow seemed to be anything but clear to people. To me, who wrote it, it was perfectly clear, but as we know the power of the word ultimately lies within the hearer who interprets it. I apologize for the confusion. Here is what I meant to say: When there is a weather emergency and county or city officials ask that people not be driving in this weather, Sunday and weekday Masses are cancelled for that day. No one is obliged to participate in Sunday Mass under these conditions. As with any situation which can pose a danger when traveling, use common sense about whether to come to church or not. (Well, unless you drive a tank; then you probably can make it!) I hope this is clearer.

## Even More Confusion!

Last Sunday it was announced that the ROPC collection was at the doors that day, and then it didn't happen. Actually (and you will know this if you are reading this after Mass (and NOT during Mass), it is this weekend. Next weekend we will have the special collection to assist the clinic at our sister parish in Soyapongo, Our Lady of Guadalupe. Your generosity in the past years has been very helpful to the people.

## A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words (and a Great Big Hug)

Each year when we make our parish pilgrimage to our sister parishes, we take a picture of each child who is sponsored, and then send it to the sponsors. While the

child is waiting for her or his picture, I show her/him a picture of the sponsor from our parish directory. I cannot exaggerate the excitement and joy they have when they see the sponsor. Some hug the book, some kiss the pictures. Their parents are equally moved. If you are a sponsor and your picture is not in the parish directory (or even if it is), I am begging you to send me a picture of you and/or your family. The children who don't see a picture are so disappointed. It doesn't need to be a formal type picture, any will do. Please put your name on the back, and we can match it up to your child. You can send it to the parish or drop it in the collection (please mark it *El Salvador picture*). I will need it by February 1<sup>st</sup>. If you need the picture returned, note that on the back, and I will scan it and return the original to you. I have to say, if you ever feel unappreciated, you should see the look on your child's face when they see your picture. You are a superhero to them, and you don't even need a cape!

## Can't It Be Warmer in Church?

You may have noticed that the heat in church has improved since the polar Masses of 2 Sunday's ago, and yet it is not at the cozy 70 degrees that so many of us are used to. (It has remained about 66-68 degrees.) This is the best we can do with the continued cold weather. First of all, the building is not well-insulated as is the case with so many 90-plus-year-old buildings. Secondly, this streak of super cold weather is not normal, and our 40-year-old heating system was not designed for this. IF we raise the temperature higher than this, the system begins to break down. I urge you to keep a stiff upper lip (which may be frozen stiff!) and think of the stories you can tell your grandchildren about how, in the old days, church was so cold in the winter that your earbuds froze to your ears and shorted out your iPhone.

---

**You are cordially invited to a reception to see some  
of the treasures for our new church  
and to consider contributing to the treasures  
on Sunday, February 11, 2018  
from 2 to 6 pm  
at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 10490 N. State Street.  
Refreshments will be served.**