

Thoughts from the Rectory ...

St. John the Evangelist, pray for us!
Fr. Pierz

Dear friends of St. John the Evangelist,

Thank you for tuning back in to our weekly bulletin! After last week's Hurricane Ida, heavy rains and flooding caused the shutdown of our bulletin printing company. Thank you also for all your prayers for those in our nation and around the world facing difficult situations due to hurricanes, earthquakes, wildfires, political upheaval, health issues, and so much more. Sometimes we may think ourselves isolated and little affected by the struggles of others, but in today's reality we can see how we're all connected. We genuinely are called to be brothers and sisters in Christ.

This fact is made clear to us in our readings from Sacred Scripture today. To love not just in word but in deed. To love not in mere sentiment and feeling, but in action and resolve. "Faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead". Faith which is a witness to the mystery of Christ and the Cross, the work of our salvation, is one to which we are called each day. "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me" Jesus proclaims to his first disciples and to us this day. Such is the man and woman of faith. The ones who carry the Cross of Christ and go!

In a special way, we see the example of the brave men and women who served as first responders on that fateful day twenty years ago. As we commemorate the anniversary of September 11th this weekend, may we remember the dead, honor the fallen, and give thanks to God for those firefighters, police officers, and medical professionals who, by their example show the meaning of the cross in action.