

Greetings and salutations, my good friends of St. Lawrence Church!

Although it is not yet officially summer, the temperature is currently 93 degrees, so it sure feels like summer to me. I'm hoping that as some have theorized, Covid-19 will melt away in the sun and heat, much as I am doing at this very moment.

The other day, I was watching the STARZ Network and by chance, I came across a 2011 movie entitled, "Courageous". It is a story about a few police officers who experience a series of challenges and personal tragedies. This leads them to a conversion where they turn to Christ Jesus and the teachings of the Holy Bible. I found this movie to be rather emotional, beautiful and a wonderful distraction from everything that's happening in our world today. It was a distraction I desperately needed and over the last few days or so, I have gained a fair deal of inspiration from its core message. It is a very wholesome movie; there is very little violence and there is no foul language or sexual content. While we are technically still under quarantine orders, I highly recommend that you watch this film.

Just months before I was ordained to the Priesthood, I saw "The Passion of The Christ". I remember how it impacted my spiritual life and I shared as much with others. I received a good deal of criticism from my fellow seminarians because they basically chastised my having to watch a movie produced by Mel Gibson in order to enhance my prayer life. Well, they were right, but they were also wrong, because God works in mysterious ways and those ways are really beyond scrutiny, aren't they? The 2011 film, "Courageous" is thoroughly Christian and I must confess that while most 'Christian' movies do not move me, this one certainly did. Presently, our world is upside down and my fear is that a culture of secularism has deflected scope and meaning away from Jesus Christ and His message of love, compassion, understanding and mercy. To my (our) dismay, we live in a world divided by politics, disease and civil unrest. There is simply way too much negativity in our world and as a result, our planet is being bludgeoned by the forces of evil. Bottom line: We need God and we need The Eucharist!

For this reason, I am BEYOND happy to announce that the Archdiocese has officially given us the green light to begin daily Masses. As all of you already know, we have daily Masses Tuesdays - Thursdays at 9:30am and ***beginning Tuesday, June 16, we will resume the celebration of daily Mass*** (yay)!!! In accordance with state and church directives, I implore you to please wear a mask if you plan on attending our daily Masses and exercise social distancing. Through the goodness of one of our most dedicated parishioners, John Devery, pews have been marked-off to help facilitate CDC practices. I absolutely look forward to seeing many of you at our daily Masses and to slowly begin the process of returning to some sense of normalcy.

In the meantime, please remain safe and vigilant about keeping healthy and with the grace of Jesus, I'll see you all very soon!

Peace and Blessings,
Fr. Eric