

PASTOR'S COLUMN—APRIL 14, 2014

Dear Parishioners:

One of the more commonly used drugs is caffeine. It is often disguised as coffee and when we desire a cup of coffee, many times it is because we desire caffeine. Yes, caffeine is perceived as a wake-up drug that helps us get started in the morning. Some people say: "I can't wake up until I have had a cup of coffee!" This sounds like an enslavement to caffeine and hurts our freedom as God's children.

It is possible to "wake-up" each day without caffeine thanks to Jesus. When we realize through faith in Jesus that we breathe Jesus' presence in our every breath, then the coffee grounds take "back seat" to the Holy Spirit "grounds" that are "percolating" within us. To smell the "aroma" every morning of Jesus within us through the Holy Spirit is far more awakening than caffeine. Jesus helps us stay awake to God Our Father's Will throughout the day. And when it comes time to sleep, we can do so peaceably without any caffeine residual.

It is God's Will that we experience freedom as God's children. The more awareness we have of our enslavements which can include caffeine, the more likely we are to "wake-up" to the illusion that we cannot start our day without coffee. The truth is we can start our day just fine with Jesus in our every breath. We will have plenty of alertness throughout our day(s) as we wean ourselves off of drugs and live soberly in Christ's constant presence through the Holy Spirit.

With Easter Love in Christ,

Fr. Terry