

PASTOR'S COLUMN—MAY 12, 2014

Dear Parishioners:

During the Easter Season, a lot of attention is given to the importance of rebirth in the risen Christ. Sure, we have a birthday from our mother's womb but every day can be a re-birthday thanks to the mysterious Holy Spirit. John's Gospel speaks about the Holy Spirit being like the wind in our feeling the movement of the Holy Spirit but not being sure what direction we are being lead on any given day. The Will of God is revealed in the Holy Spirit and is connected to ongoing rebirth, that is, growth in the ways of God. As much as we might try to structure our prayer times and say particular prayers, the Holy Spirit can mysteriously "blow" us in unpredictable directions of new awareness. At times, our rebirth can knock us over as we are refined and purified in God's Love.

God's "gusts" of newness can humble us again and again as we admit that God's Ways are not our ways. But in the faith journey of discipleship in Christ, rebirth is not an option. To be stubborn against rebirth is one way to describe sin. In fact, when we are closed to growth in Christ, we tend to regress in our discipleship. Not a good choice.

Easter Season is rebirth season thanks to the risen Holy Spirit of Christ. In our baptism we carry within us the "wind" of growth. Let us be open to the "wind speeds" of God's Will and trustingly go along with the changes in "wind direction" that inevitably "gust" in our faith journeys in Christ.

In Christ's Rebirth of Love,

Fr. Terry