

PASTOR'S COLUMN—MAY 30, 2016

Dear Parishioners:

Every once-in-a-while we hear a News Story about the victim of a crime forgiving the perpetrator. What makes it News-worthy is how rare forgiveness stories are or that forgiveness stories are under-reported. I'm going to say that forgiveness stories are under-reported because they are not as sensational as some political or criminal News stories.

I suspect that many of us are forgiving because of Jesus in our lives which makes Holy Communion-faith-sense. And even for those who aren't Christian, I suspect that the Holy Spirit is working in them within their hearts to let mercy reign supreme in their lives. The Good News story of Jesus is for the world community of people because Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. And as the Lord's forgiveness reconciles us, we are to forgive one another as we are forgiven by our all-Loving God.

When people say that "love makes the world go round" it would clarify to say instead that "forgiveness makes the world go round". The greatest expression of God's Love in Christ through the Holy Spirit working within us is forgiveness. Another word to define forgiveness is acceptance from the standpoint that we accept one another with mercy. There is nothing more life-giving than a mercy/forgiveness Story. It may not make the radio News but it is the Good News of Salvation constantly in Holy Communion with us in Christ the Savior of the World.

Rejoicing in God's Mercy,

Fr. Terry