PASTOR'S COLUMN—SEPTEMBER 1, 2014

Dear Parishioners:

One of the more fascinating discoveries about life on this earth is that the growth process for us humans is life-long. Oh we might argue that once we are 21 years old, we are done growing. This is a stunted way to live because it implies that we are only physical beings. How about our minds and spirits? Hopefully, we realize that our bodies are connected with our minds and spirits. Sometimes our culture tries to make us short-sighted about ourselves, putting so much focus on our bodies that our minds and spirits are dwarfed into insignificance.

Our Beloved Jesus does enter into our humanity: body, mind and spirit to affirm growth for us till the day we die. Jesus tells us that food for our bodies can only take us so far. We need the "food" of our Creator Father's Will which prompts us to become more wholly holy about life no matter what our numerical age. To be fully alive in Christ (holy) is to keep exercising our body, mind and spirit until we die. We can become lazy after age 21 or after formal schooling or when we get a steady job or when we get overweight or arthritis sets in or we say we are too busy or we are retired. We can let our lives turn into mush physically, mentally and spiritually.

Life on this earth is about actively growing in using all the gifts God gives us in body, mind and spirit until we die. This implies that we are open to growth long after age 21. Our faith in Jesus (Holy Communion) is the "kick-start" we need to keep on growing for a life-time. Let us be open daily to the energy of the mystery of faith in Christ.

Open to growing with you,

Fr. Terry