

PASTOR'S COLUMN—NOVEMBER 23, 2015

Dear Parishioners:

We get confused about how to love God with our whole heart, soul, mind and strength because we really don't understand what constitutes our whole heart, soul, mind and strength. Since we are limited in our humanness we can't comprehend this fullness of love approach except on the faith level. Yes, on the level of faith we become consumed with how God loves us with God's whole being which includes our human hearts, souls, minds and strengths and then also the mystery of the divine encompassing our entire humanity as revealed in Christ. We can't explain God's fullness of Love but through faith we can be in God's fullness of Love whose mystery impacts our whole heart, soul, mind and strength.

Faith reveals the all-pervasive presence of God's Love given to us in Holy Communion with Christ the Savior. It is gift from God; it is not earned. Once we are convinced via faith that God's full love permeates our very being as humans, then we find ourselves simply and easily loving our neighbors. Talk about a mystery! The possibilities of the different ways we can love our neighbors are endless in the eternal love of God within us in Christ. Some people we may declare are too difficult to love. However, in our Holy Communion with Christ Jesus, we will find ourselves being love to our most challenging neighbors. How can this be? To us who have faith in God's depth of love within us, let's observe how God transforms our hearts, souls, minds and strengths in the midst of our confusion about how to love God with our total person. Faith is the great unifier of love of God and neighbor. Let us bask in the gift of faith within us and rejoice every day in how God's Love is the constant possibility for us to love our neighbors.

In the Mystery of Faith,

Fr. Terry