

PASTOR'S COLUMN—NOVEMBER 24, 2014

Dear Parishioners:

Do we realize that if God is not with us, we do not exist? That's right! In our belonging to God, that means our existence belongs to God and we are not alive without our God being present to us all the time. If we remember this, we are well on our way to living more vigilantly in the faith journey.

Sometimes we confuse prayer with thinking that prayer is our way of waking God up to us. Not hardly! Prayer helps to wake us up to God's constant presence within us. Our Sacraments in the Catholic religion are powerful spiritual ways of alerting us to God's faithful love in Christ. In particular, the gift of faith community, the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit, the gift of reconciliation/forgiveness, healing of the sick, Holy Communion with Jesus, the covenant of Marriage, and the Service of Holy Orders. These seven-fold alerts instill in us God's constant care for us as well as for the entire human community. Our spiritual existence on this earth is assured by these sacraments and impacts our external existence as well.

Hopefully we believe in God's constant presence within us and are lead to be more thankful to God for how God provides for us in our every breath. Thus, we can approach prayer more peaceably and realize that God is ever present to us or we do not exist.

In God's Constancy,

Fr. Terry