

PASTOR'S COLUMN—DECEMBER 29, 2014

Dear Parishioners:

Faith and God's instruction flow together in the mystery of daily life. Sometimes we try to set up prayer time/experience that foster God's instructive guidance. But have we not noticed that God instructs us and guides us while we tie our shoes, wash a wall or make a peanut butter sandwich. The point is that God's instruction to us is not constructed by our designated prayer time and techniques.

It would be helpful if we simply "floated" in silence in God's presence. Yes, silent prayer that simply keeps vigil to the Holy Spirit promptings within us. The blessed gift of silent prayer is that it is not a prayer time or technique—it simply is. Silent prayer is always with us and, thus, no matter what we are doing or not doing, the silent prayer provides a constant atmosphere of openness to God's instruction. Chances are we have been surprised many times in our lives already at how God instructs and guides us in many unique and unpredictable circumstances. Silent prayer heightens our attention to God every sacred moment which includes every moment of our lives. Prayer becomes less something to do and more something to be. What a spiritual relief!

Faith and prayer go together and a deepening faith will lead us to more silent prayer and more consistent awareness of God's instruction and guidance in the risen Spirit of Christ.

With you in the Faith Journey,

Fr. Terry