

Fr. JC's Pastoral Letter – Faith & Love in Action

My dear Little Flower,

September begins a new spiritual pilgrimage for our parish: **Faith & Love in Action**, rooted in the richness of **Catholic Social Teaching**.

On September 1, the Church observed the **World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation**, reminding us that faith is never only private. It must shape how we care for creation, how we treat the poor and vulnerable, how we build peace, and how we uphold the dignity of every human person.

This month, I want to offer one simple challenge to every household: **Let our children see us take ownership of our parish.**

Let them see you pray, serve, learn, give, participate, and belong. Children remember what we make important by the way we live. There are many ways to put **faith and love into action** this September. Parents, if you are wondering what Artificial Intelligence means for your children, your family, and our Catholic faith, join our “*Little Flower Beyond Series*” on **Artificial Intelligence and Catholicism**. Crack open the Scriptures with us. Join a **Bible Study**, whether in person, online, for men, or for women. Give an hour to the next generation. Help with **Religious Education** and reach out to Genevieve. We will help you find a place that fits your schedule. Dads, stop by our **First Friday Men’s Gathering** before work or come to a **Men’s Ministry** meeting. There is a seat waiting for you. Pray together as a family. Follow my pilgrimage through **Poland**, learn more about **Divine Mercy and St. Maximilian Kolbe**, or stop by the **Story Wagon** after the 11:30 Family Mass and bring home a faith-centered book. Practice the **corporal works of mercy**. Donate to the food pantry. Support our clothing and household-goods drive for **Mercy House**. Help a family experiencing homelessness. And make room for joy and friendship too. Come **golf with us**, become a sponsor, donate to the silent auction, or place a bid. Grab your spouse for a **Beatles Concert by Candlelight** or join us for movie night featuring **Heaven in Stone and Glass**.

You do not have to do everything. **Choose one thing this September**. Pray more intentionally. Serve somewhere. Join something. Engage. Give something. Learn something. Invite someone. Let your faith become visible.

Catholic Social Teaching can be summed up in one beautiful conviction: **Every human person matters to God, therefore every human person must matter to us.**

May this September become more than the start of another busy season. May it become a new pilgrimage of the heart. May our children see a parish alive because they see us living it. **Faith is love in action.**

Buen Camino!

Your parish priest,

Fr. JC Merino
Pastor

All events mentioned are in the bulletin or on our website!



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