

Pastor's Column

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September

On September 2, I left for Germany with 38 pilgrims to attend the Passion Play in Oberammergau, Germany. Witnessing the Play was indeed a very moving faith experience for all of us!

We also visited Munich, Prague, Bratislava, Budapest, Vienna, and Salzburg. What a beautiful part of the world!

We returned home on Tuesday, September 14.

This past week, along with Chris Smith, Kathy Arciero, and Ron Briseno, I attended the International Catholic Stewardship Council Conference which was held in San Diego. Over 1,000 people attended workshops and talks to assist all of us in better living and witnessing to stewardship as a way of life, and sharing this way of life with fellow Parishioners. The conference began Sunday afternoon, September 19, and ended Wednesday afternoon, September 22.

This coming week, along with Bishop Brom and all the priests of the Diocese of San Diego, I will be attending our annual Convocation from Monday, September 27, to Thursday, September 30. These days provide some time for a bit of R & R for the priests.

September has been filled with a number of different activities that have taken me away from the Parish. October will bring back my normal routine and activities!

I share with you the Stewardship Prayer that we prayed before each event during the ICSC Conference. Please pray this prayer at home before a meal, at the beginning of a new day, or as you attend or lead a meeting at the Parish:

*Gracious and loving God,
You are Lord of past, present and future.
You create and recreate.
You make all things new.
Open our hearts so that we may discern your will,
and trust you in the choices we make each day.
Renew our lives so that we may always reflect your love
in our encounter with others.
And breathe in us new life so we may be inspired
to bring comfort to the afflicted, justice to the poor
and hope to those in despair.
May we endeavor to be bearers of your Good News.
May we be attentive to the needs of our Church
and the communion we share.
And by the strength of your Spirit,
may we always be good stewards of your abundant grace,
making all things new and thus hastening your kingdom.
We ask this in the name of your Son, Christ Jesus,
Who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever. Amen.*

F.A. Mike