

R T 4 2 22

Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Francis Parish,

Go UConn Gals!!!!!!. Tomorrow night, hopefully, will bring a national title back to Storrs.

Next Weekend Holy Week begins, Palm Sunday. The palms have arrived and are relaxing nicely in the garage so they can keep cool.

I really like Holy Week. No surprises. Everything is all set up for us so we don't have to reinvent the wheel, as they say.

Thank God for the changes in the church. When I was a kid growing up in Norwich in the 1950s and lived two blocks from the church, an easy walk, we never went to church on Holy Thursday nor on Holy Saturday, when they had the most solemn Mass of the year sometime in the morning. (I'm trying to remember if we took Holy Communion on Good Friday.)

Easter morning was glorious. After looking for Easter eggs in the house we walked up to church. Everyone had on their Easter best. I even got to comb my nice wavy blond hair, "In your Easter Bonnette ..."

Thank God we can now celebrate the Easter Services in all their wonder. We enter Jerusalem to shouts of "Hosanna." Unfortunately, these shouts turn to "Crucify him" on Friday. In between, on Tuesday we go to the Cathedral in Norwich for the Chrism Mass. And on Holy Thursday at 7:00 we commemorate the Last Supper with the washing of the feet and adoration in the parish center until 10 or 11 pm.

Good Friday is always special and I especially like the adoration of the cross with two or more Roman soldiers holding the Cross. As times get back to some kind of normal, maybe we will have the living stations again.

I know, Holy Saturday starts late, 8:00 pm and it's a long Mass, but it is the most solemn Mass of the year and if you could only go to one Mass, Holy Saturday would be the one to go to. This year we have

three Spanish adults, all in their 30's, going to be Confirmed and one will be making her Holy Communion.

Easter Sunday is the same, (9:00 in English and 11:00 in Spanish.) And there will be an Easter egg hunt after those two Masses. Nettie is looking for small candies to put inside the eggs. Remember, the egg symbolizes Jesus' tomb. No one really knows how rabbits bring the eggs

On Good Friday I will be 74 years old. Please don't wish me many more

The Gospel this weekend is about the woman caught in the act of adultery. The Old Testament in Leviticus 20 and Deuteronomy 22 both say that both the man and woman should be killed. (Both these OT chapters are x rated) And the crowd conveniently forgets about Commandment Number Five.

The great saint (and sinner) Augustine says that "the two of them alone remained, mercy and misery. "

I know gas and food prices are up, but we could be in the Ukraine, Haiti, Afghanistan, Yemen or a dozen other places where things are super worse. This past Thursday Nettie and her great crew gave out around 100 bags of food and home delivered some more. The need is great and will continue for the foreseeable future.

How about some nice dog pictures to lighten our day?













