

## Love is our Rock: Solid for Rebuilding

I propose a parish motto for the coming year: ***Love is Our Rock: Solid for Rebuilding***. We grow ever stronger as we grow together as a parish. The strength of “together” is the product of much loving sacrifice. Love and sacrifice always go together - and I sincerely thank each and every one of you for the love you have for me and for your brothers and sisters in our parish family, as we sacrifice for one another.

**Love cares.** Thank you all for your many constructive suggestions for the betterment of the parish in the past year. Your suggestions show just how much you care for and love our parish. Your ideas are making ours an inviting and vibrant parish – one other parishes look to for inspiration! Permit me to voice what others think: “We are the best around!”

**Love remembers.** To God be the glory. May the Lord grant our beloved dead eternal repose.

**Love survives.** The pandemic is on the run - and it is heart-warming to see more and more of our parishioners returning to Mass and our social gatherings. Social events are springing up all over: Coffee And’s to begin rotating through the churches; Designer purse Bingo; the St Patrick’s day dinner; and more! The pains of our parish’s birth are subsiding – and we are beginning to thrive! We are now looking beyond our needs and are caring for the needy through our Emergency fund and Food Pantry. In fact, the Emergency Fund is now to be overseen by a committee of parishioners. Our Food Pantry is ready to grow - with a dedicated Manager and a crew of equally dedicated volunteers. We owe a debt of gratitude to our Office Manager, Theresa Gannon, and our parish staff for their hard work in making the Food Pantry what it is today! I remain deeply grateful to Theresa, the shepherd of our parish staff, for making my work a lot easier – and to the entire staff for their flexibility and understanding as we engage in some inevitable internal restructuring.

**Love cooperates.** We are so appreciative of the support of the Archdiocese in our efforts to divest the parish of the severe tax burdens of the vacant Maple Street lot, the two empty schools, and the empty convent.

**Love inspires.** We thank Mark Dupuis for his years of selfless service that earned him the St. Joseph’s medal from the Archbishop - and Caesar Faraci for his compassionate service that earned him Employee of the Year honors.

**Love opens heart and eyes.** We were so blessed to gather as a family to celebrate our first Multicultural Festival. Parishioners generously shared their heritage and culture through food, dance and displays representing an astounding 13 countries. A tremendous success - to become our tradition!

**Love assists.** Your parish Finance and Pastoral Councils are steadfastly working for the financial and pastoral stability of our parish by providing expertise and advice to me. Truly, the Holy Spirit guides them in this selfless service.

**God is love...** and, so, we worship Him through our active participation in the Eucharist, First Saturday devotion to Our Lady, and Eucharistic Adoration with Confession every Monday.

**Love is our Rock: Solid for Rebuilding!** To God be the glory – for He is preparing our parish for a lifetime of blessings with an everlasting Love.

Sincerely Yours in Christ



Fr Dominic Anaeto