

St. Alexander Catholic Church

LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS I LOVE YOU

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Dear family in Christ,

Our gospel from Sunday about the man born blind, finds Jesus saying, “We have to do the works of the one who sent me while it is day. Night is coming when on one can work.” These words of Jesus reminds me of two reflections: One is that when we are able to begin doing the work of the Church in a fuller capacity, as far as our physical participation being at Mass goes again, we should return to, or capture in our hearts the importance of making that offering while we can, being united to the Heart of Christ speaking in these words of His.

Someone who can no longer go to Mass because of physical reasons, cannot make that particular physical offering any more. When our physical ability to attend Mass is restored, we have to recognize the gift that the Mass is and keep offering it in a physical way with Jesus. Because He offered upon the cross in a physical way, so much more than just being spiritual, as some people like to claim that they are, without including their physical presence at Mass, when they are fully capable to do so.

We never know when we are going to enter into night, such as at times like these with the Coronavirus outbreak. These situations have been faced in the Church’s history before. It is not without precedent. Then how will we, how will our generation, rise up from these moments, how will we prepare ourselves to enter back into the physical opportunity to offer Mass with Christ? When the ban is lifted, will we see it as an opportunity to enter back into the light of God’s work by offering our body as well? If we have been away as Catholics before the outbreak, then we should return, seeing this opportunity of entering back into the light of the work of Christ in His Church.

The play and importance of light and dark is prominent throughout John’s gospel especially. God will look at the opportunities we had in life to continuing working in the light, because when our life ends, we cannot return to this opportunity again. What did we do with the light, with the life, we have been given? Did we enter into the works of Christ, in His Church, or did we choose to follow ourselves instead? The night is coming for all of us, that is death. Let us continue to do the works of the Lord while we still have some light. And look forward to the time that we as Catholics, can offer that physical offering through and in His Church again, and never take for granted the Eternal light of the Mass when it is available to us.

I continue to keep you in my prayers and private Masses. May God bless your persistence in faith and perseverance in His Almighty Love. Amen.

With prayers and blessings,

Fr. Rosenbaum