

November 10, 2019

From Fr. Jim . . .



Happy Anniversary and Feast Day: November 10 is the memorial of St. Leo the Great, our patron saint and the day on which we celebrate the anniversary of the founding of our parish. Our parish was founded in the month of November 1886. We are 133 years old. When a Memorial occurs on a Sunday, the liturgy for the Sunday always has precedence. I just want to tell you how well you all look for being 133 years old! Thank you for being God's church. I thank God everyday for what God has been doing with us and for us. May God continue to bless us, keep us and let his countenance shine upon us all for many more years to come. Saint Leo the Great pray for us now and always! Happy Feast Day and Anniversary, everyone!

Welcome to our guests and friends from Saint John the Evangelist, West Chester. We have had a good partnership established between our parishes for a few years now. We want to have more opportunities to get to know each other better through prayer and "meet and greets." We cordially welcome members from St. John's to our Eucharist, today (Sunday). After Mass, members of our Parish Council will host a "meet and greet" for them. We are graced and blessed with their presence and as brothers and sisters together in the Lord, we welcome them to the Eucharistic table and to our parish home. Saint John and Saint Leo, pray for us.

About the Second Reading, 2Thess 2:16-3:5: Saint Paul wrote these words to the people of Thessalonica. Obviously, the Christian community was struggling there, and he wanted to support them and encourage them:

"May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who has loved us and given us everlasting encouragement and good hope through his grace, encourage your hearts and strengthen them in every good deed and word." "The Lord is faithful: he will strengthen you and guard you from the evil one. We are confident of you in the Lord that what we instruct you, you are doing and will continue to do. May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the endurance of Christ."

The Word of God is pertinent and relates to every time, place and generation. How does Paul's words relate to our personal struggles, to worldly evils and concerns that we face today? Who needs encouragement and support to follow Christ today? Who needs prayer support? Who needs to persevere? Who needs to endure? Who needs God's love – to receive and to give? As you pray this prayer for others today don't forget to pray it for yourself.