

From the Pastor's Office

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

We are getting closer to the end of the liturgical year. In a couple of weeks we will celebrate the First Sunday of Advent. Like everyone says “where did the time go?” Coming to the end of the Church year the readings take on a dooming flavor. They talk about the end of time. The end of time is always on our radar. Often the news tells us about a meteor that will pass by the earth by a few miles. To add spice they make sure to tell us that if the meteor hits, the world will be destroyed. Currently, we are all waiting for “The Big One” in California. Any day now Yellowstone’s volcanos will say “Hi.” Don’t even talk to me about anything nuclear. So, the end of the world is nigh and we can do nothing. We have to live with it. The various themes spoken of in the Gospel reading have already happened in history. “You will be handed over by parents, brothers, relatives and friends.” Go talk to the people who lived in East Germany in the Communist era and they will tell you all about betrayal by family and friends. In every war, every time and place, we hear of people killed by war and destruction. It is all very upsetting. “Nation will rise against nation, kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes, famines and plagues from place to place.” It is a miracle we have survived until now. Every way we turn there is death all around. It makes you think. There is nothing that lasts. There are no thousand year kingdoms. Everything comes to an end at some time. All we can do is jump out of the way and try to survive. What are you going to do? It seems to me if I get lost in the ocean and I am moments from death...I see a rock sticking out of the ground. What I have to do is swim to that rock and hang onto it with all my life to stay alive. In the world of today I am moments from death and the rock I see is the consolation of God, let me swim to Him. Let God be my Savior and companion. There are so many things I have no control over, but I can say, “The Lord is my light and my help. Whom should I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life, before whom shall I shrink?”



With love,
Fr. Pat