From the Pastor's Office

11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

I have an awful feeling that God is totally preoccupied with us. Every waking hour He watches over us. When you sit with baby animals, baby chickens, human babies, you can't help but look at them all the time. I think God can't help but look at us all the time. He is totally preoccupied with us. In the Old Testament they talk about God being a jealous God. I don't think that is meant in any nasty way. It is just that God loves spending time with us. It is all He wants to do. So, in the first reading we find the Hebrew slaves wandering in the desert. They make their camp on the edge of Mount Sinai. The conversation God has with Moses is very interesting. Tell the people that God keeps a safe eye on them. Don't forget how He intervened when the Egyptians wanted to do their worst. Remember how He carried you on eagle's wings. God goes on to say that we are His special possession, dear to Him. You shall be a holy nation. Do you know, that is lovely and all, but I can't help but wonder about people, even when they see all that in black and white, why are so many people afraid to come close to God? Paul says this to the Romans in his letter, "God proves His love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us." I am trying to hear the voice of God at His most exasperated, "What do I have to do to tell you that I love you!!? Do you want me to die on the cross? Would that be enough for you? Apparently not enough for some of you. Did you know, God is crazy about you? Did you know that God would do anything for you? Surely the first sentence in the Gospel will get a reaction from you, "At the sight of the crowds, Jesus' heart was moved with pity because they were troubled and abandoned." Life is hard enough. We will take all the help we can get. It means something when the Son of God is moved with pity for us. Like the title of the film, the life story of Rocky Marciano, "Somebody Up There Loves Me."

With love,
Fr. Pat