

St. Michael the Archangel

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Dear Parish Family,

What an excellent first sermon that our very own newly ordained Deacon Joseph 'Joey' White shared with us last Sunday. Many of you have come up to me saying the same thing, "Just how wonderful it was!" A parishioner watching on YouTube, drove by and said the same compliment. Many of us I am sure, were very proud of him and grateful to God for the gift of vocation bestowed on him.

Deacon Joseph's message really hit home with us last Sunday. With all the disruptions and destructions of life and health to many of God's children, the sermon was inspirational and full of hope. All the questions of whys, the despair, even anger that many people have during this pandemic, are pointed to the suffering that is part of our human existence in this world. "The soil has to undergo or be subjected to plowing, spaded, raked, or hoed so that the seed can grow and bear much fruit" (from the Gospel on the parable of the sower). Then Deacon Joseph quoted St. Paul's words to the Corinthians in the 2nd reading, "the sufferings of the present times are nothing compared to the glory that is to be revealed to us." Beautiful, isn't it?

I hoped many of you were able to be encouraged by that sermon as I was, for we live in difficult and challenging times. We thank Deacon Joseph for the Spirit-filled insights he shared with us last Sunday. It certainly buoyed up the sometimes flagging moods and emotions we find ourselves in during this pandemic!!! Please continue to pray for him as he continues his studies in the priesthood.

God bless you,

Fr. Dwight

*If you wish to respond to Father Dwight please e-mail him directly at pastor@smlj.org