

**Our second collection this weekend is for the Priests Pension Plan. Every retired priest, as well as those who have turned 70 receive a pension. For those retired, a full pension; for those not retired but of the age of 70 receive half of their pension. It takes around a million dollars a year to support those retired and not retired. Please be as generous as possible to help give our retired priests a pension they are most worthy of for serving in the various parishes in the archdiocese.**

**I want to thank those who have used our reservation program to help us arrange the seating in the worship space for each Mass. If you have not done so, the reservations close at 10:00 pm tonight. We are not going to turn people away if they come without a reservation form, but if that Mass is filled the greeters will assist you if there are other Masses that still have room to accommodate you. We have seen a gradual increase in our Mass attendance, and hope this will continue to be the case in the future, as I feel people are feeling a bit more at ease over the pandemic.**

**Now that school is out, and graduations have taken place, I want to congratulate those high school students who have completed this portion of the educational pursuits. As they move forward to achieve their fields of study for a future job, it is our prayer that they will continue to be faithful to their religious obligations of attending Mass, receiving the sacrament of reconciliation, and plan some time each day for personal prayer. We know that the Lord carries the future, and he will gradually reveal his plan for them. May they be open to his plan.**

**I pray all of you are doing well with all the issues our country is dealing with, namely the Covid 19 epidemic, and the protests in our cities. I know the greater majority are peaceful protesters, which is their right. My concern is that**

**'small' group that have created violence on our streets. We need to alleviate racism in all its forms, but we cannot do this if people are at odds with one another.**

**Pope Francis said, and I quote: I have witnessed with great concern the disturbing social unrest in your nation in these past days, following the tragic death of George Floyd. We cannot tolerate or turn a blind eye to racism and exclusion in any form and yet claim to defend the sacredness of every human life. At the same time, we have to recognize that the violence of recent nights is self-destructive and self-defeating. Nothing is gained by violence and so much is lost. Let us pray for the consolation of their grieving families and friends and let us implore the national reconciliation and peace for which we yearn. May Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mother of the Americas, intercede for all those who work for peace and justice in your land and throughout the world."**