

Dear parishioners

Last weekend at mass, using the Responsorial Psalm, psalm 85, we echoed the words... Kindness and Truth shall meet, Justice and Peace shall kiss.

After the attempted assassination of a former president in Pennsylvania, and seven lives lost in Birmingham through gun violence, we begged the question, how and when will these words be fulfilled?

Like the disciples in Mark's Gospel, who were sent out two by two with the power to tame unclean, unholy spirits, we too, are called in our time and space to be bearers of the Good News.

What can we do to be more civil, incline to listen rather than win an argument, more willing to join hands with another, less violent in word or thought, on social media and within our own households?

I'm convinced, as Saint Francis prayed, we were made to be instruments for peace. It is God who gives us the power, freedom and spirit that will ultimately advance kindness and truth, justice and peace.

Let us look within, asking the Good Lord to give us proper attitude in making a difference for good. A good first step, let's take stock of ourselves.

Let us pray daily, for an end to all forms of violence, in our community of Birmingham, our nation, under the care of her patroness, Mary the Mother of God, the Prince of Peace, and our world.

Let it be Good Lord, your words and dreams fulfilled in our time and space, and let it begin within me. Amen.

Hope and Joy

Fr Joe Culotta

Pastor