

October 21, 2021

Hello Parish Family,

This week the Parish Team brings you a reminder that Sol May will be installed as our newest Minister of Service. We congratulate him and welcome him to this ministry in service of the Parish. Please see the details about the Installation Ceremony in this week's Bulletin.

We also have a request. The Pantry Program is in need of plastic grocery bags, so if you have bags that you can bring to church this Sunday or next Sunday, we will be very grateful.

This week, our Archdiocese has focused our attention on a new initiative called: Civilize It. Using Pope Francis' encyclical, Fratelli Tutti (All Brothers) as a foundation, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has launched Civilize It: A Better Kind of Politics in response to the current polarization in society. The initiative is designed to challenge and empower Catholics to take leadership in breaking down barriers, building bridges and seeking a common purpose for promoting the common good in their communities. Archbishop Paul S. Coakley of Oklahoma City commented on the importance of the initiative: "Civilize It: A Better Kind of Politics aims to equip Catholics to address the division and polarization in society that are at times also reflected in the Church. Such division among the faithful compromises the Church's ability to effectively witness to the life and dignity of the human person in the family, parish, workplace, and political sphere. In Fratelli Tutti, Pope Francis offers a different way forward based on Gospel values, justice and truth." We are encouraged to pray this prayer:

Lord make me an instrument of your peace.

Where uncivil words prevail, show me how to model love.

Help me remember the God-given dignity of all and invite others to do the same.

Show me how to build bridges and not walls and see what unites us rather than how we diverge.

Let me seek to understand before asking to be understood.

Give me a listening heart filled with empathy and compassion.

May I be clear in sharing my own position and respectful and civil in describing those of others.

Let me never tolerate hateful ideas. May I invite all to charity and love.

Lord, help me to imitate your compassion and mercy.

Make me an instrument of your peace. Amen.

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