



# ST. ANDREW THE APOSTLE

## HAPPY MOTHERS'DAY DEAR MOTHERS!

Dear St. Andrew,

As we celebrate mothers' day this weekend, I invite you to join me in celebrating our mothers for the invaluable gifts that they are to us. Happy Mothers' Days to you dear Mothers!

In particular, today, I would like to wish my mom Regina, now in heaven, and all the mothers who helped raise me over the years, a very special Mother's Day.

Mom, even though you left me for heaven at age six, I want you to know that you greatly influenced who I am today and most especially you influenced my decision to become a priest as you took me to Mass every morning while you lived. Thank you for all you did for me! I love you!

Yes, dear beloved mothers, know that we your children love you. Know too, that the love you provide your children is something we can only imagine, but never fully appreciate. We know that at times in your lives you wanted to rest, to enjoy a quiet time and just cool off from your busy schedules, yet your desire to care for us first was always stronger than taking care of your own needs. For all these, even though men boast of being the heads of our families, you are indeed that indispensable neck!

As we celebrate you, our mothers today, I would like also to pray for those children who are not able to be with their mothers at this time for various reasons including this pandemic or due to death and other unavoidable circumstances. May our Blessed Mother Mary be their beacon of comfort and hope at this moment. God bless you all dear mothers!

Finally, I would like to invite you to please take time to fill in the survey which we have rolled out today. Remember that your answers will give us a true picture of your needs and how you wish our parish to be served. I value your input!

In the next two paragraphs of his Apostolic Exhortation, bishop Olmsted points out the importance of the ark in overcoming the dangers and challenges of crossing the Jordan river into the promised land and links it to the crisis of faith in the eucharist that we face today. He writes:"

***6. When the People of Israel were preparing to cross the Jordan river and enter the Promised Land, Joshua stressed the importance of following the Ark: "When you see the ark of the covenant of the Lord being carried, you are to set out from your positions and follow it... so that you can see the way to go, since we have never been this way before" (Josh. 3:2-4). This instruction was addressed to a people who would face the dangers of the crossing and the challenges and threats that awaited them in an unknown land.***

***7. Like the People of Israel, we too are heading into difficult waters. Today we find ourselves in a crisis; many anxieties, uncertainties and doubts assail us from every side. As I said in my***

From the desk of our Pastor  
Fr. Robert S. Aliunzi, AJ



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*pastoral letter “O Sacred Feast,” the Church at large is experiencing a grave crisis of faith in the Eucharist. This crisis has inflicted additional significant implications for authentic Christian discipleship; namely, abysmal Mass attendance, declining vocations to marriage, priesthood, and religious life, waning Catholic influence in society. As a nation we are experiencing a torrent of assaults upon the truth. The Gospel message has been watered down or replaced with ambiguous worldly values. Many Christians have abandoned Christ and His Gospel and turned to a secular culture for meaning that it cannot provide and to satiate a hunger that it can never satisfy.*

For more details on this awesome exhortation, I encourage you to log onto the link in our parish website.

Dear mothers, once again, have a happy and blessed mothers’ day. And may our mother Mary, Mother *par excellence*, bless you all!