



Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

2625 B Street
Philadelphia, PA 19125
Tel. 215-634-1133
Fax. 215-454-6980

5/24/21

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

The great Feast of Pentecost fulfills the promise Jesus made before His death. He told us it was better for us that He went to the Father, and that He would send the Spirit, the Advocate, the Helper (John 16:7). The Holy Spirit came, as promised, manifest especially in the power to forgive sins and unite us once more in a spirit of love with God and one another.

We saw the Spirit's power to bring unity, charity and joy manifest right here at Visitation BVM last week. While the COVID pandemic kept us separate for more than a year and further divided our world along racial, political and economic lines, the receding Coronavirus pandemic has brought more and more people back to Visitation to hear the word of God, to celebrate the sacraments and to share their gifts, talents and treasure.

One of the events that we missed for 2 years because of COVID has been the annual parish Festival. To help bring us back to more celebrate our unity in diversity and share the gifts we have been given with one another the Vietnamese Community hosted their annual Crawfish Festival on Sunday, May 16. Crawfish, egg rolls, rice cakes and Thai Ice-tea were abundant. Over 3,000 pounds of Crawfish were cooked up or taken home, and people were asking for even more! Celsa Rosario represented Latino cuisine with her famous Pastelillos.

Many of the Vietnamese here in the United States in Canada make their living in the fishing industry. They have a great work ethic and enjoy sharing their tradition and culture with all. The Crawfish Festival raised \$12,000 for the Church.

With deep admiration for the Vietnamese community we say thank you for your charity, generosity and enthusiasm toward your brothers and sisters at Visitation BVM. We look forward with even more anticipation to spicey Crawfish next year. We may need 4,000 pounds, and we'll make sure even more people pre-order!

Thank you again to Fr. Peter and the entire Vietnamese Community at Visitation for sharing your love, your cooking, your friendship and your proceeds from Crawfish sales with us, your grateful brothers and sisters.

In Christ the Most Holy Redeemer,
Francis Mulvaney, C.Ss.R.
Rev. Francis D. Mulvaney, C.Ss.R.
Pastor