



**October 11, 2020**

May this Thanksgiving find you safe and well.

March seems like a lifetime ago when the ability to be together and meet with friends was taken for granted, and simply enjoyed. The time since then has

been a rollercoaster of emotions, and concerns, as well as a time to find new ways to connect with each other in our hunger to gather together as families, neighbourhoods and communities of faith. It has been a difficult time, mentally, emotionally, physically and spiritually.

As Thanksgiving comes I know some of you will not be able to celebrate with a large family gathering as you have in the past and some of you will be alone. I am so sorry it will be different this year; some have lost income and family, others have struggled to see parents and grandparents.

Hopefully the lessening of precautions has allowed the establishment of a social bubble for most of us. As painful as it is, most of us have discovered a new sense of gratitude about those simple things in our lives; enjoying a coffee with a friend, sharing laughter, holding hands, hugs...among other things. Sometimes it is in the small gifts that we truly see God. And I believe God is with us through it all, in how we have learned to lean on each other and reach out. Prayer, patience and remembering to not be afraid to say I am lonely, I need someone to listen, to care, do not be afraid to say I am hungry for so much besides food...can make this fragile world feel better. I leave you with this quote:

"No despair of ours can alter the reality of things, nor stain the joy of the cosmic dance, which is always there." (Thomas Merton)

I am thankful for your support of each other, myself and our parish and I offer each of you up to God in Thanksgiving....May you be blessed and feel blessed this Thanksgiving...

Peace,  
Rev. June