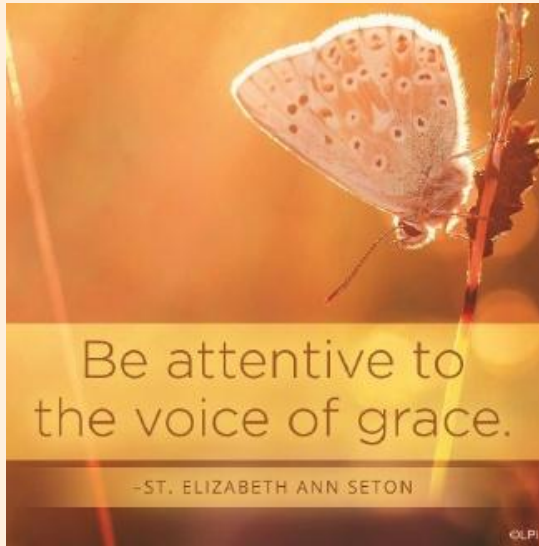




*From the Desk of Father Peter*

*God Wants Us to Become Confident*



*With the summer season almost coming to an end, it is tempting to feel beaten down during the day, buried under hundreds of details that cry for our attention, harried by looming deadlines, mystified by our children's (or own) moods, fears or choices. But the truth is that we are heirs of an amazing life! We do not have to feel burdened or*

*confused. No, as Christians we are enriched in every way by the grace of God. Next week we celebrate Labor Day, the official end of summer. What can we say about our time of growing in the faith? What can we say about our parish family and our own family during the past months of relaxation?*

*God wants us to become confident in the vast resources we have inherited in Christ! Jesus is more than eager to provide us with every spiritual gift we need. Imagine: wisdom, knowledge, understanding, counsel, faith, and fortitude are ours in abundance. On top of that, mercy, forgiveness, comfort, compassion, and love are constantly flowing from the throne of our heavenly Creator. They are all offered to enrich our lives and the lives of everyone around us.*

*So how do we receive these gifts? Well, when we pray, we need to*

*be specific—and honest—about the needs we have. Being clear with ourselves and with God about what we are seeking and then taking time to rest quietly in God's presence will help open our eyes to the miracles God is pouring into us. At times, His answer will come in some unfolding event in our lives; or perhaps it will be a still, small voice in the quiet of our hearts or minds. Sometimes the understanding or fortitude or love we need will simply materialize at the right time.*

*However these gifts come, one thing is sure: God, who calls us to be holy, is faithful. Life does not have to be too hard. Peace and hope are not beyond our grasp. They are not meant only for a chosen few. They are for every one of us regardless of our age, natural talents, or station in life. It is not a matter of our efforts. Jesus is always there with us, to keep us constant in this life, and to make us ready to greet him when he comes again.*

*Someone once said: "Time is too slow for those who wait; too swift for those who fear; too long for those who grieve; too short for those who rejoice. But for those who love, time is eternity." So we should capture the moments of our faith, wherever we are and whoever you are. None of us is here forever but the love of Christ endures forever.*



*Peace and may God bless us all.*

*Fr. Peter Enyan-Boadu*