



WEEKLY LETTER FROM MONSIGNOR KEN

This is probably the most important letter I have written in a while. I want to announce that I will be AWAY from July 30 to August 6, visiting my brother in Tennessee. For that week, no one can get sick, die, or call me!

This week we observe a new feast, or rather an old one that has been expanded. July 29 was always the feast of St. Martha. In 2021, Pope Francis added her sister and brother, Mary and Lazarus, to the calendar. The three were good friends with Jesus, and it appears that their home was often a place of rest for Jesus during his public ministry. Each of them reminds us of important lessons as we seek to be good and faithful disciples of Jesus.

Lazarus was the one who died and Jesus came to raise him back to life in that dramatic moment when He called out, “Lazarus, come out!” Martha was the one busy with chores as she welcomed Jesus to her home. Mary was the one who sat at His feet to listen.

Lazarus reminds us to listen to the voice of Jesus who calls us out of our tombs of depression, despair, guilt, anger, and hopelessness. He calls us to come into His light and life. Martha reminds us of the value of hospitality, working to make others feel welcome and meet their needs. We do this through many ministries of justice and service. Mary reminds us that we also need to fill our souls by spending time in prayer, quiet and reflection. We need each of these saints and their good example, maybe not all at once, but at different times in our lives. While each one teaches us a different lesson, together, they remind us of the one importance of being a friend of Jesus!

“Yes, Lord, I have come to believe that You are the Messiah, the Son of God, the One who is coming into the world.” (John 11:27)