

***From the Pastor:***

Life can be so much easier and safer when we have nothing to do with others—*don't get involved, walk away, mind your own business*—are much safer approaches to life. But in today's Gospel, Jesus does not hesitate to wade into the messiness of life, in order to transform such messiness into healing, and such death into life. In the two miracles we hear today, Jesus ignores custom and taboo in a way that modern readers may miss: in taking the dead girl by the hand, in allowing the sick woman to touch him, Jesus became ceremoniously unclean and not permitted to enter the synagogue or temple. But to respond compassionately to the plight of these families becomes more important, more sacred, than the "safety" of convention and tradition. May we imitate that same compassion of the healing Christ, risking our own sense of safety and satisfaction, in order to bring that love into the lives of others.



First impressions are so important ... at an interview, at the doctor's, at a business. So it is with the church. We are blessed that long-time OLG parishioners **Bill and Maryann Wadsworth** agree with this philosophy. Bill and Maryann have graciously provided for new landscaping by the front doors of Our Lady of Grace Church. The work, which will be done by Nally Landscaping, will provide a welcoming and hospitable entrance for all worshippers and visitors to this house of the Lord.

Perhaps a fresh coat of paint on the **railing** along the sidewalk to the entrance would complement the new landscaping. This sounds like a project for any ambitious person with a little time on their hands. If you are interested in this project, please contact Donna at OLG (518-384-0109) or Fr. Jerry.

Special thanksgiving receptions will be held on Saturday, July 17 after the 4 pm mass and Sunday, July 18 after the 9 am mass at St. Joseph's for **Debbie Griffith**, who has served the church for a long time and most recently was the Parish Administrator for both Our Lady of Grace and St. Joseph's. Coffee and pastries are on the menu in Holy Family Hall. Please join us to recognize Debbie's contributions. Debbie plans to remain active at St. Joseph's and will remain visible in the preparations for weekend liturgies.

Until next week, be well, do good deeds, and say your prayers.

***Fr. Jerry***

***OUR PRAYER: Loving God, be present to us and grant us wisdom, so that we, who may feel anxious about change, might trust in Your love and rest in the Changelessness that is You.***