



June 2020

Dear varTitle varFirstName varLastName,

Greetings from Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Men of Action!

"It is necessary for us to undergo many hardships to enter the Kingdom of God." (Acts 14:22)

As we daily read the Acts of the Apostles during this Easter season we are reminded of the hardship and persecution of the early Church. Concurrently, while adapting to our current COVID-19 situation we find ourselves lamenting hardship: social distance, working for home, and health precautions. The physical violence and struggle of the early Church brings into stark relief what now passes for adversity, thereby giving us strength to persevere.

Acts also brings us into proximity with the energy, excitement, and momentum gained in those early months of our Church as groups of apostles venture throughout the world. Father Mark Ressler has been channeling that energy with an Easter message series focus on witness. Using the book *Everyday Witness: 7 Simple Habits for Sharing Your Faith* by Theresa Rickard, O.P., he has been helping us to "proclaim Christ by words of faith, lives of joy, and acts of charity and justice."

This time of year also brings with it milestones in our present day Church. We join in the celebration of the ordination of Fr. Sean Smith to the priesthood, and Reverend Mr. Jake Dunne to the transitional diaconate: these men have daily been in our prayers. The announcement of Fr. Gary Mayer as our incoming pastor creates eager anticipation in our hearts. Additionally, we celebrate the considerable legacy of Fr. Mark's leadership of our parish these past eight years.

During this challenging time, we wish you and your communities continued hope and blessings through our Lord Jesus Christ. You are tremendous witnesses to us in your ministry. We continue to pray for strength for the whole Church.

Your Brothers In Christ,

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Men of Action

[Please Note: In order to decrease the potential spread of the COVID 19 virus, the MOA are not personally signing your prayer letter this month.]