

## **A Message from Fr. Leandro "Lines" Dela Cruz**



**Imagine the scene: Jesus, walking along the Sea of Galilee, casting his gaze upon Simon Peter and Andrew, their nets heavy with the day's catch. In that simple moment, He utters a profound invitation, a challenge to leave behind the familiar and embrace a new purpose.**

**To be a fisher of men is not about wielding a literal net, but about casting the net of our faith. It's about sharing the love and mercy of Christ with those around us, drawing them closer to the Kingdom of God. It's about becoming instruments of His grace, spreading the ripples of His message in our families, communities, and the world beyond.**

**But how do we answer this call? How do we become effective fishers of men? Firstly, we must deepen our own relationship with Jesus. We cannot share what we do not possess. Spending time in prayer, reading Scripture, and participating in the sacraments are all essential in nourishing our faith and equipping us for the task at hand.**

**Secondly, we must embrace the power of love and compassion. Jesus' ministry was marked by love for the marginalized, the lost, and the broken. We are called to follow His example, to reach out with kindness and understanding, to offer hope and solace to those in need.**

**Thirdly, we must live our faith authentically. Our words and actions should speak louder than any sermon. Let our lives be a testament to the transformative power of the Gospel, radiating Christ's light in all that we do.**

**Let us be fishers of men, not with force or coercion, but with the gentle power of love, compassion, and a life lived in accordance with the teachings of Christ. May the words of St. Augustine inspire us: "Preach the Gospel always. Use words if necessary." Go forth, then, and share the Good News, not just with your words, but with the very fabric of your being. Let your life draw others closer to the love and mercy of our Lord.**

**Many thanks to those who have participated in one of our many Pro-life activities this past week. We thank the Knights of Columbus for co-sponsoring a bus trip to the March for life in Washington DC.**

**Next weekend, January 28-February 3, we will be celebrating Catholic Schools Week. Our theme for this year is "Catholic Schools: United in Faith and Community". Kindly check our schedule below. Check on this beautiful video of our excellent school - <https://galleries.page.link/gdQEc>. Please continue to support our school.**

**There is still time to register for the blood drive. See flyer below. Help save lives.**

**Also, this weekend is Word of God Sunday, kindly be reminded to bring your BIBLES. We will bless them at all Masses. More importantly, read them at home.**

**CONGRATULATIONS to our newly installed altar servers. Thank you, servers, for saying 'YES' to serve the Lord at His altar. Thank you, parents, for being pro-active in passing your faith, our faith.**

**God Loves You.**