This Easter, Let us celebrate together!
A letter from Monsignor Jim Lang
April 2022

Happy Easter! So much has happened in our beloved Saint Mary's since March of 2020. Some of the lessons have been positive and life-giving. Many families found a deeper bonding and greater love. For others it has been difficult. Masks, sanitizer, social distancing, minimizing human contacts outside our "pods," gave us pause. We are not accustomed to our lives being not a lesson that anyone wants to learn.

One of the most difficult was the closing of our churches, schools, offices, restaurants and other places where lives and friendship come together. Restaurants, gathering places and churches are all speaking of the challenges of starting over. When do you begin the big return to work, to school, to church?

Saint Mary's has stood proud because of her community, gathered around the Gospel and celebrating and enjoying our faith home. It takes all of us, in the Lord, to be one, holy, cathlic and apostolic, witnesses to the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus.

In two years that have passed, Father Croghan has retired; our new pastor, Father Esper was called home to God; and Father Kaminski and Father Tormey were at St. Mary's for a brief while. Last May, Bishop Lucia asked me, Msgr. Jim, to be with you until a new pastor could be appointed. We look forward to the day when our future is clearer. On the other hand, we have known for years that the shortage of priests would bring change to our lives. Nevertheless, whatever the structural changes may be, nothing will alter our commitment to Jesus Christ.

God promises, 'my plan for you is peace, not disaster.' This time, as COVID becomes more contained, it can be a marvelous experience of rebirth and regeneration as we renew our dedication to Jesus Christ, HIs Church, and this faith community.

The easiest way to come home, is simply that, to come home. We are very hopeful that we will be able to celebrate with you again soon. Watch the parish bulletin and parish website as more information will follow.