FATHER SCOTT WALLISCH'S

PASTOR'S CORNER

Dear Flock,

Happy 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time. And happy beginning to the fall season.

I say "happy" under duress, being forced to say that because priests are supposed to be nice, positive, glass-half-full people (unless they are over 75, and then they are given special dispensation from the Vatican to be grumpy old men). So, I know I should be all excited that it is fall, but I am faking it till I, well, I am never going to make it. See, winter is my least favorite season, and since fall is in charge of setting the stage for winter (stripping the trees of leaves, browning the grass, turning on the exterior air conditioning), it is a close second at the bottom of the season list.

That being said, there are some things that are worth celebrating in fall. Football has returned. The World Series is approaching. Fall allergies are keeping the Kleenex company profitable.

Perhaps the greatest saving grace of fall, though, is the annual Fall Festival. Now, admittedly, I have never been to the Ascension Fall Festival, because, I am guessing, my personal invitation always got lost in the mail. I am excited this year to be able to attend for the first time (for those of you who read last week's Pastor's Corner, yes, I will come back from the women's retreat to attend.) This year's festival is Saturday, October 17, after the 4:30PM Mass.

We have a big parish here (in case you never noticed), and it can be overwhelming if we only come to Mass on Sundays. It is great to have other opportunities to engage fellow parishioners in a relaxed, enjoyable atmosphere. Fall Festival is a perfect chance to do that. Folks of all ages are welcome to partake of the three "f"s: food, fun, fellowship. You can come by yourself or with other folks.

Also, if you want to display that trademark Ascension hospitality, we still could use some volunteers. Please call the office and ask for Mary to sign up for an hour or two.

I have felt so welcomed by this community, so I am eager to share some fun with you all that evening. Block it off on your cell phone's calendar, come meet some folks, and make this big parish feel a little smaller. Enjoy the first week of the third best season of the year.

In Christ's Peace,

Fr. Scott Wallisch