



“FROM THE DESK OF FATHER JONATHAN”

AUGUST 28, 2016

Even from a distance, some international tragedies hit close to home. When I saw the small, ancient towns in Italy turned upside down when hit by an earthquake this week, my heart broke. Maybe it felt personal because of the vivid images of the families, elderly, children, religious sisters, and priests staring into the debris, hoping beyond hope that their loved ones would come out alive. Or maybe it was because not too many years ago, I was blessed to walk through the streets of some of these small towns.

As a human family our hearts cry out in pain and in prayer for the deceased, the injured, and their relatives.

Life is short. Life is very short. Whether from natural disaster or natural causes, our lives come and go in an instant. This week we celebrated five funerals in our parish.

I say all of this not to induce sadness or fear but rather to invite us to use the relative short time on this earth to love God and love others. We feel pain when we lose loved ones or when our own death is imminent precisely because human life is so very good. Lost life is tragic because living on this earth can and should be so holy and joyful and wonderful.

Lord, thank you for every breath I take. Thank you for every day I live. Thank you for the opportunity to love and be loved by you!

God Bless,
Father Jonathan

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