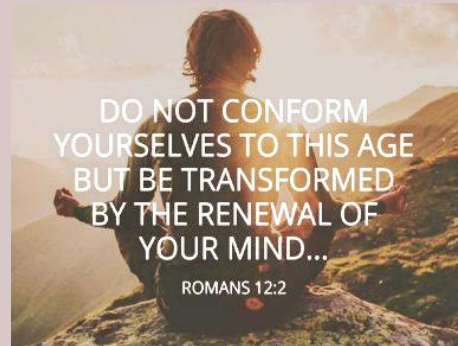




*From the Desk of Father Peter*

*Now & Forever is a Profession of Faith*

*The task of renewal of our Catholic faith in this parish is our responsibility, each and every one of us. Every baptized member is called forth to be a witness of Christ in our family, at work, and in the*



*community. Certainly the task of renewal will require changes in our thinking about the Catholic faith, structures, and organizational life of our beloved St John's parish. As Catholics we can no longer allow ourselves the complacency of the past. The way things have always been needs to become the way things need to be. If we have any hope of preaching Jesus Christ to the world around us here in Greece and beyond, then we need to stand up for our faith. We need to proclaim God's love for us in our family. We need to make room for the love of God to transform our lives so that we can put Christ first. In doing this we will be able to love God and neighbor as well as make sure our Sunday obligation becomes part of our everyday life. Finally, we need to announce to the whole world our love for our Catholic faith despite its human imperfections. This we have to pray for all the fallen away Catholics, and those who do not have faith. We should tell them of our stories and how God has been the rock of our foundation. In the years ahead as we grow together in the we need to speak the truth to each other with charity and respect—but also candidly. This should be the spirit that should animate every level of our Church life. In the words of Archbishop Charles Caput of Philadelphia: No one "owns the Church, not the bishops, not the clergy, and not the*

*people. The Church belongs to Jesus Christ and to Him alone.” We are all called by our baptism to service in this Church and as St. Paul says, we are called to the different ministries in the Church to make God’s kingdom grow. You and I are needed to build this Church of Christ founded on the apostles, which is now our turn to uphold. We are the driving force behind the function of the body of Christ, the Church. We are never alone, God is always with us. As we are with God, we are one with each other. As we go through each day, let us pray to be guided by the Holy Spirit. Let us go forth now and forever with the realization we are never alone; let us smile at the stranger in the pew and safely offer the sign of peace. Let our worship show by word and deed that God is with us. When we recite our Profession of Faith, may it be one that we truly believe and put into action in our lives.*



*God bless us all.*

*Fr. Peter*