

**The Reflection from Pastor Fr. John
Carlos, Holy Cross Church, Harrison, NJ,
May 24, 2020**

MEMORIAL DAY



Memorial Day weekend gives us the occasion for a few reflections and as in any reflection we remember the past and look with hope to the future. This weekend draws our attention to the approaching end of the school year and the beginning of the summer break. This year in unprecedented circumstances due to the pandemic.

After long and diligent work during the school year, a well-deserved break is at hand as we look forward to a resolution to this pandemic and hope to experience the usual summer rest, relaxation and potential vacation trips. While most scholastic programs experience a slight fallback in learning because of the

break, most instilled a summer assignment for students, a summer reading list among others.

Similarly, the church also experiences a slight fallback due to the relaxed atmosphere of the summer months. Therefore I invite you to make a personal commitment to our Lord who never relaxes His Grace toward us. Let us make a commitment to continue our Sunday Mass attendance, wherever we find ourselves. With the added free time for many of us, as we have experienced during this shutdown, we do well to commit to some spiritual reading we don't have the luxury to in our busy schedules.

Memorial Day also draws our attention to the sacrifice of so many men and women who gallantly gave their lives to secure life, liberty and security for all. We are whole-heartedly grateful to all who have lost their lives fighting in all the branches of military service and all our civil service men and women who protect and serve in our local communities.

As we prepare for a restful summer, pray for me and be assured of my prayer for you.

Father John Carlos