

Reflection from the LAAMB

Where have all the flowers gone?

Long time passing

Where have all the flowers gone?

Long time ago

Some of you may remember this song written by Pete Seeger in 1955 and then in 1960, Joe Hickerson added additional verses turning it into a circular song. Our grocery stores and other places that sold plants and flowers may have been singing this song. Lore and I spoke with the owner of Foodland in Warton two weeks ago. He told us that this spring, once a shipment of flowers came in, within a few days they were gone. He had people asking more about flowers this year than ever before. He added that,



“he sold more flowers this year than the last two years combined.”

My mother told me in Sudbury which is Northern Ontario, there was a shortage of flowers throughout the North. There was only a limited supply and you had to take what was available. Part of the reason for this shortage had to do with the Pandemic.

It was obvious that people had more time on their hands during this pandemic so they decided to make their home look good with more flowers. But I think there is another reason.

Flowers and plants simply make people happy. What do you do when self isolation and physical distancing is getting you down?

You plant flowers!

Lore and I went for a walk one morning where we spoke to this woman planting flowers at 7:30 in the morning. Yes, that earlier! And she definitely was not half asleep!!! She was humming as she planted her flowers. Lore told her how beautiful her flowers were. The woman said, “I have always planted flowers. They make me happy. When I am planting them I feel at peace and there is something good about digging in the earth and knowing that you are helping to create something.” Especially this year, she said. “When I felt a little depressed from this Pandemic, I would go down to the grocery store and get more plants.”

That woman had some good news! There is something transforming about getting your hands into the ground and knowing that something good and loving like a flower will grow. God planted it and it was good!



Lore also spent a lot of time planting flowers around the rectory this year. Notice some of her flowers. Not all of them came from the store.

Some of them came from parishioners. Take a look. Where have all the flowers gone? They are around people's homes giving joy to others. So next time you are feeling a little blue, plant a flower or two. If you can't do that, take a walk and see some of the flowering



faces. They are all saying, “there is still some good in the world-smile and be a flower for someone else.” Thank God for the simple things in life, they still bring us joy no matter what's going on in the world!

Perry