Dear Holy People of St. Isidore and St. John:

I take this time to say thank you to everyone for your participation in the Triduum. Your presence during this most Holy Week is a gift to each other. It is a gift to the universal Church. It is a blessing and a joy to see the members of St. Isidore and St. John being host and guest as we commemorate and celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ as we pass from Palm Sunday to Holy Thursday through Good Friday and on to the triumphant celebration of the Easter Vigil. Our respective Easter Sunday Masses were full of the same joy, beauty and faith. Thank you!

I wish to give special thanks to those who helped in the various ministries throughout the Holy Week celebrations. Thanks to our Readers, Eucharistic ministers, Hospitality ministers, Mass servers and Sacristans. Thanks to our music ministers for their steadfast work to provide beautiful music and melody to each celebration, leading all of us in sung prayer. Thanks to Fr. Jack, Fr. Tom and Fr. Phil for their priestly presence, a true gift to all.

I thank those who spent their Good Friday helping to clean the churches and the facilities in preparation for our many guests. Thanks to our dedicated staff members who go above and beyond.

I am grateful for the many people who contributed to our environment with donations for Easter flowers. As well, I am ever grateful for the artistic and creative decorating that makes up our church environments. Thanks to those who helped prepare and host the annual Easter Vigil reception.

I give thanks to so many who do so much behind the scenes without anyone ever knowing their presence. We take for granted that the church will always be unlocked, the heat or air conditioning a perfect temperature. We anticipate all the beauty and the wonder yet all of these things go on because of individuals in the background who make sure the lights are turn on before we come and are turned off after we leave.

I give thanks for window washers, heat adjusters, petition writers, restroom managers, chair movers, light turners, candle extinguishers, I give thanks for all the things done in Jesus' name throughout the entire year. Your prayers, financial support and generosity are a testimony to your deep faith.

I give thanks to those who brought crying babies and small children to Mass. These little ones are a joy for all of us, a testament that the Church is truly alive. We need all of you no matter how small, how old or how little you think your presence matters. It does matter. You matter to us because you matter to God! Thank you!

Finally, Congratulations to Nick Boots, Ean Caskey and Matt Hess on your initiation into the Catholic Church. The RCIA team has enjoyed your company, presence and insight into faith. We look forward to your continual full, active and conscious participation in the Church.

Christ our light

May God richly bless you during this Easter Season!

Yours in Christ,

we Schettler