

## YOU WERE ASKING . . . by Msgr. P. Stilla

**Q.** Why do Parishes still sponsor and host Bazaars, Picnics, Breakfasts, Luncheons, Suppers, Coffee Sundays and similar activities in a modern digital age?

**A.** A Parish is primarily a Community | virtually, it can never replace the face-of Faith, Prayer, Ministry and Action. It is this community building aspect of the events that you mention in your question that sustain and strengthen the Parish. For this reason, these celebrations continue to be essential if we want our Parish to thrive and to be a true expression of Christian Faith.

The “Digital Age”

The second part of your question seems to imply that the “modern digital age” should be allowed to now displace and/or to even replace these time honoured community events. If that is what you are saying, then I must disagree. We realize that while our access to digital media may facilitate and assist us in observing these events



to-face interaction of persons in a community. Our ongoing experience with the restrictions imposed upon us during this current pandemic, have helped many of us to better appreciate the irreplaceable value of this basic human need.

**Digital Assistance**  
Even though it can never replace real personal interaction,

virtual media, generated by all forms of automated devices is certainly an invaluable alternative means of outreach especially in temporary times of lock-downs and of activity restrictions. At least it does allow us to virtually celebrate our Masses, preach homilies, deliver talks and yes, even come together for this year’s Parish “Bizarre” Bazaar!