



From the Pastor's Desk:

Thank you Monsignors Jim and Joe and Fathers Frank and Mike for an absolutely inspiring parish Mission. And thank you to all of you who attended for making the time to be there for one, two, three or all four of the evenings. The final evening welcomed almost 800 people. I want to thank all of the parents and students of this year's Confirmation Class who sacrificed the time to be with us for this closing session on The Eucharist. I pray you found the spark to ignite the Holy Spirit's presence in your life. I am sure that everyone who attended felt the power of the Holy Spirit working through His ministers, the Priest and in the magnificent gift we share, The Eucharist, an ACTIVE encounter that operates in our lives both when we attend Mass and when we live our daily lives "outside" the Church building and in our homes, workplaces and school. Our Advent has been truly blessed right from the start. May you all join us on this journey to the Birth of Christ, just as the Wise Men did, may we travel as far as necessary to find Him and adore Him.

On another note: As we prepare for Christmas we might know of individuals who find it difficult to celebrate Christmas with all the joy, music and laughter that come with it. They might even find it difficult to come to one of our Masses that have a lot of music. Perhaps they have experienced some tragedy in their family such as, the loss of a loved one, or a series of events over the past year that leaves them in pain.

Christmas is certainly a time that brings an awareness of the loving embrace of God in Christ His incarnate Son. However, there are people of God whose pain requires a simpler and gentle encounter with the Savior at Christmas. So, I encourage everyone to make sure that you share with those you know the different styles of the Liturgy of Christmas that our Schedule of Masses will offer. No one should stay away from Christmas Mass when they are in sorrow nor deny themselves of God's desire to embrace them through the birth of His Son.

In particular, to respond to those in sorrow over a loss or personal struggles we have both the Christmas Day 6:30 am Mass, a very simple Liturgy without music and the 8:00 am Mass with some Christmas Carols. I also want you to be open to encouraging and sending anyone who is in this situation to the rectory where any one of our priests are more than willing to reach out to someone experience this type of struggle during Christmas.

We do not want anyone to be alone or feel left out or forgotten. We will do our best to bring the Peace and Love of this season to EVERYONE in our parish. Please be a part of this outreach to people in your family or amongst your friends and neighbors. As we were all taught during our Parish Mission, we need to be the Christ whom we eat when we receive Him in Holy Communion.

Finally, don't forget to purchase a ticket for our Advent play, "LIKE WINTER WAITING" which will take place on December 19, 2009 at 8:00 pm. Just like our Mission I hope we will fill the Church with parishioners.

May God + bless you and yours now and forever,

Father Anthony
