



Glory to GOD

December 1, 2021

Dear Friends,

As we begin the season of Christmas which commemorates the Feast of Christ dignifying our humanity with His Divinity, it occurs to me that in spite of the difficulties our world, our nation and even our Church, have faced, we have been richly blessed. The Lord is bringing us through the pandemic, and we have been able to pray together virtually and finally as a community of faith in Church.

I am truly grateful to be your pastor. It is a wonderful gift to lead you in prayer and to share the Word and the Sacraments with you. You have made me feel that I am a part of this wonderful parish and I know that our time together is very rewarding to me, and I hope also to you.

Christmas is a time when we give thanks to God for our salvation and for all the many gifts that God has given us. Christmas also reminds us to remember the needs of each other, and especially those who are less fortunate than ourselves. Perhaps we can perform a special act of charity by purchasing a gift for someone who may not otherwise receive one, or give a donation to a charity that helps those who are in need, especially at this time of year. One of the greatest gifts we can give to someone who is lonely is the gift of our time, maybe a visit or simply a phone call to someone who has no one to care about them would be the greatest gift of all.

Finally, I ask you to remember your spiritual home, the parish of Our Lady of the Fields. We are an active and lively parish, and it is your gift of time, talent and treasure that makes Our Lady of the Fields such a special place to worship and to grow. Your generous support throughout the year has gotten us through the challenges we face, and I ask you to be as generous as you can this Christmas season. Over the past months, the COVID-19 virus has caused a decrease in our weekly attendance and income, and your generosity in the Christmas collection is needed now more than ever.

Most especially, I want to thank you once more for making our parish truly my home, and a place where I hope I will be for many years to come.

Merry Christmas and "May God bless us, everyone!"

Father Jack Ward