

WORD FROM THE PASTOR

FAITH IN CHRISTMAS JESUS



My dear brothers and sisters Merry Christmas to all of you and your loved ones! On Christmas day we celebrate God became True Man and our Savior was born. Recapture the joy that was in the hearts of all who had the faith to believe that this baby was the Messiah of Israel, the King of Kings, the Lord of Lords, the Savior of all sinners who would believe in Him and seek His forgiveness.

One of the spiritual exercises this season of Christmas invites us to do is to believe and know Christ, since without knowing the Christ of Christmas, we will never capture and understand the significant and true meaning of Christmas that brings real joy and happiness this time of the year. The same way God went to the garden of Eden to look for Adam and Eve after their fall, He came down to us looking for us. That means my beloved Christmas is a day for us to remember God's merciful love. Through Jesus, we come to know who God really is – He is Love. God's love is extended to everyone, including the marginalized ... and especially the poor and the homeless. Pope Benedict XVI exhorted us by saying that, *It is the task of us Christians, with the witness of our life, to spread the truth of Christmas which Christ brings to every man and woman of good will. Born in the poverty of the manger, Jesus comes to offer to all that joy and that peace which alone can fulfil the expectations of the human soul* (Pope Benedict XVI, 2006).

This Christmas, let us be mindful of those who need our welcome – a family member, a friend, a co-worker, a fellow parishioner. Let us make room in our hearts for forgiveness and love and reach out to those who are asking for them.

Merry Christmas! On behalf of our Priests, Sisters and church and school faculty and Staff. I sincerely hope that the remembrance of Christ's Birth brings you much **PEACE AND HOPE**. As we celebrate Christmas, I would like to thank you for your presence and prayers with our parish family and mission.

I extend a special welcome. if you are joining us for the first time; if you are visiting from any other places or faith traditions, or if you do not worship with us on a regular basis. You may be visiting your family members; may you have a great Christmas with all your family and friends, Holy and Happy New year. I express my most fervent good wishes for a **HOLY AND HAPPY CHRISTMAS, A HAPPY NEW YEAR** to you and your relatives. Specially remember those who may be in difficulty or are suffering physically & spiritually.

THROUGH THE INTERCESSION OF MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD, MAY WE FIND PEACE AND JOY IN JESUS HER SON, THE PRINCE OF PEACE.

Very Rev. Fr. Lucien Eugene Pierre Ph.D., Pastor, VF

Dean of Northwest Broward of the Archdiocese Miami – December 22, 2024