

Christmas 2022

Dear Parishioners,

Greetings in the Lord!

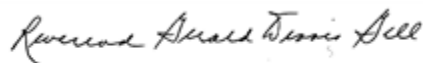
Christmas is a wonderful time of the year. This letter gives me the opportunity to invite you to celebrate the Birth of Jesus in a way that might be more focused for you and your family from years past. *Can this Christmas be a moment of deeper faith and practice?* Jesus was born in Bethlehem to be our Savior and Redeemer on the Cross. Jesus desires all of us to know him and to love him. Jesus calls us to a daily relationship with him. This relationship reveals all that Jesus' gives us with his Birth, especially his divine life and mercy. When we know Jesus in this way, we understand that Sunday Mass is a non-negotiable. We also recognize that the very way we live flows from this relationship and mirrors this relationship. I sincerely invite you to celebrate Christmas with Christ at the center. This will truly deepen faith and the practice of this same faith.

Please see the enclosed *Schedule of Confessions and Masses for Christmas and New Year's Day*. There are several opportunities for the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation during Advent. This Sacrament for the forgiveness of our sins, as a necessary and regular part of our Christian lives, is always a most fitting way to prepare for the Birth of Christ at Christmas. Please invite others to join us at the Cathedral Basilica for our Christmas celebrations. Everyone is welcome!

Also, enclosed is the *Christmas Gift Envelope*. I ask you to consider a gift of two hundred and fifty dollars to the Cathedral Parish, if this is possible. I am grateful for whatever additional contribution you can make to support the Cathedral Parish at this time of year. Your generosity at Christmas and all throughout the year is deeply appreciated. The *Christmas Remembrance Envelope* is for a special remembrance of your loved ones at Masses celebrated during the Christmas Octave. The *Christmas Flower Envelope* is directed to the expense of the Christmas decorations for the Cathedral Basilica and Chapel. Thank you for making use of these envelopes as well.

Let us keep one another in prayer during this holy time of the year.

Blessings and peace for Christmas
and the New Year,



Reverend Gerald Dennis Gill
Rector