

# **Happy New Year 2021**

*The Dawn has approached and is here.*

***Dear Parishioners of Saints Simon and Jude,  
West Chester, Pennsylvania.***

***“Rejoice in the Lord always, I will say it again, rejoice”!***

***Everyone ought to see the strength and  
determination of you the people of God.***

***We look forward and are grateful for the blessings of this day. Our glass is not only half-full, but in the face of every burden our glass is overflowing in hope.***

***We mourn all the lives of those who died in 2020;***

***We mourn the very real difficulties that attempt division;***

***Yet we are confident and constant: our elderly are very, very wise;  
our adults are not silenced; our youth have vision and  
with incredible energy the little ones dance with abandon.***

***We stand strong and willing to make this year yet another opportunity to  
Give God the glory. We courageously reflect on our beautiful United States of  
America and move forward as a Constitutional people. We meditate on our  
Catholic faith that is founded by Christ, rooted in sacred scripture and nurtured  
by the seven sacraments. We have daily and eternal purpose.***

***We are a 2000 year Eucharistic Community  
determined and dutifully celebrating beauty and goodness.***

***We leave 2020 behind as a memory to be healed and lessons learned.***

***We embrace 2021 as an “adventure, for in the Lord, the voyage never ends”.***

***Have no doubt, in the Lord there is glory and the fullness of redemption.***

***This is a call to pray at home, safely come to Church, open our society and love  
our families. May our Parish church be called a house of prayer and  
a home of forgiveness.***

***In Jesus, Mary and Saint Joseph,***

***Fr. Michael J. Gerlach***

***My brother priests, deacons, Sisters of the IHM and our entire Staff.***