

Today is the **Feast of St Andrew the Apostle**. He was the prototypical evangelist; he even evangelized Simon, his brother, who would become Peter. He was crucified and tradition has it he preached for two days before he died. As with eleven of the twelve apostles, excepting St John, he was martyred for the faith. It begs the question, how far would we go to defend the truth of Jesus Christ?

Advent is upon us, as we start a new Church year. Remember that Advent is a season of preparation for the two comings of Christ: the Incarnation and the Final Judgment. Fasting, prayer and Almsgiving are a part of this preparation. Repentance is also vital. That is why we are having **Penance service December 10 at St Ann after the 6:00pm Mass**. There is no formal program. Priests will be available for confession until 8pm or until we are finished, whichever is later. You can come and go to confession, do your penance and then leave, so we can have plenty of spacing.

**Parish Mission Retreat** is December 14-16 at St Mary, starting with rosary at 6:40pm, and the program starting at 7:00pm. Fr Hayes will preach the weekend of December 12-13 in conjunction with the mission. It will be live streamed.

The **Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary** is a **Holy Day of Obligation**. We are having two Masses St Ann - 8:00 am and St Mary 7:00pm. As a Catholic we submit to the authority of the Church and Holy Days Of Obligation are as important as Sundays; missing them is a sin. The Mass will be live streamed from St Mary.

**New Parish Directories** are available at Rectory during business hours M-F 9-12pm or call Martha during those times. One per family please.

Pray that this new year will be better than last year, which was extremely turbulent, to say the least. Always remember that "**Be Not Afraid**" or similar words appear 365 times in the Bible. One enough for each day. Maybe the Lord is trying to tell us something. If we trust in Our Lord Jesus Christ, and live a truly Catholic life, centered on Jesus Christ and Holy Mother Church, we have nothing to fear. The glory of the Second Coming awaits us!!

Come, Lord Jesus, Come!!