

## Month in Review

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The month of December for us is filled with celebrations of our faith that the Son of God became man in Jesus Christ. The restrictions caused by the coronavirus have not impeded the practice of our faith, even though they may have made them look a little different from years past.

On the evening of December 4 we celebrated Mass at our outdoor altar at St. Paschal Baylon and our yearly Tree Lighting followed. Our Facilities Coordinator, Bert Morrison, did an excellent job lighting up our Christmas Tree and walkway leading into the church. Many people take walks near our church and our prayer is that, as they see the festive lights that mark this time of year, they might be reminded of the light of hope that comes from Christ.

The December festivities continued with the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception on December 8. We celebrated two evening Vigil Masses and one morning Mass honoring our Blessed Mother. It is on this day we celebrate that she was conceived without sin. One of our evening liturgies was preceded with the Rosary. Many parishioners came to celebrate the Mother of Jesus and to ask for her prayers.



The celebrations for our Lady continued on December 12 for Our Lady of Guadalupe. Parishioners seeking to honor Mary's apparitions to the humble St. Juan Diego in 1531 safely came together for celebrations that included Aztec dancers, a small play

describing the event of Guadalupe, songs to our Mother accompanied by Mariachi music, and the Holy Mass celebrated by Fr. Daniel Williamson, CFR. Our Spanish speaking community beautifully decorated the altar with a large number of roses that surrounded our Lady's seven-foot image.

Our Social Justice Committee continued to show their spirit of generosity by hosting the Giving Tree as they do each year. Thank you to everyone who participated.



We celebrated Christmas with two evening Masses on Christmas Eve, one in Vietnamese and one in English. Christmas Day we also celebrated two Masses with one in English and one in Spanish. While lighting candles after our Christmas Eve Masses, we sang Christmas carols and even did a little dancing. The spirit of this joyful time was truly in the evening air.

As we celebrate the closeness of our God to us in Christ, may the peace that comes from Him be with you and your loved ones.

In Christ,  
*Fr. Matthew*