



**MIDDLESEX CATHOLIC
FAMILY OF PARISHES**

"A mission-oriented church that forms disciples of Jesus"

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Christmas Day

December 25, 2020

Christmas Reflection December 25, 2020

We might think of this Christmas as the year when nothing went right. Even though this is what it looks like to us, this is all part of God's plan for us. Is it easy to accept? No. Do we readily understand? No. But God in his infinite wisdom knows what he is doing!

As many of you know, my husband and I have ten children and 15 grandkids. Our Christmas Day will be very quiet this year. No kids running up and down the hallways. No friendly teasing and the laughter that follows. No Christmas wrapping turned into a ball, being thrown at each other competing for the best shot! Will Christmas still come? Of course it will! No matter what the circumstances of our individual situations, we can not change the fact Christmas is about the birth of Jesus.

What we can change is how we choose to celebrate. Yes, we can sit home and mourn the loss of our usual Christmas traditions. Yes, we can be upset our families are not with us this year. Or, we can take the silence and turn it into something positive!

Mary and Joseph were required to travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem to be registered as part of the census. Was it convenient for them? Most certainly not. Mary, heavy with child, would have been so uncomfortable sitting atop a moving swaying donkey travelling on a rough road. Were they able to find ideal accommodations fit for the future King of the Universe? No, they did not. What they did find however, was a barn that provided privacy for Mary as she gave birth to Jesus.

Was the arrival of the baby Jesus greeted by kings and queens? You guessed it. No. But, those who did come to pay homage to the newborn king, were those that Jesus came to serve. The simple shepherds, living in the fields, believed the Angel multitude who proclaimed the birth of the child and set out to find this baby. How wonderfully rewarded they were!

Covid-19 has left many of us wondering, why. Why are we going through this? I believe there is a lesson to be learned. I also believe the lesson can be found in the silence. This silence can be found in our hearts as we pray. The silence is not empty or void but possesses a wisdom that we need to be in touch with. Slow down. Take time to pray. Listen to what God is placing on your heart.

Take time this Christmas to enjoy simplicity. Remember what the first Christmas was like. Enjoy the true meaning of Christmas and give thanks and glory to God for all the blessings that we do have! A Child is born for us today, Alleluia! May the peace of Christ and the joy of a blessed Christmas, be with all of you and your families!

Reflection by Julie de Gouw, Pastoral Minister

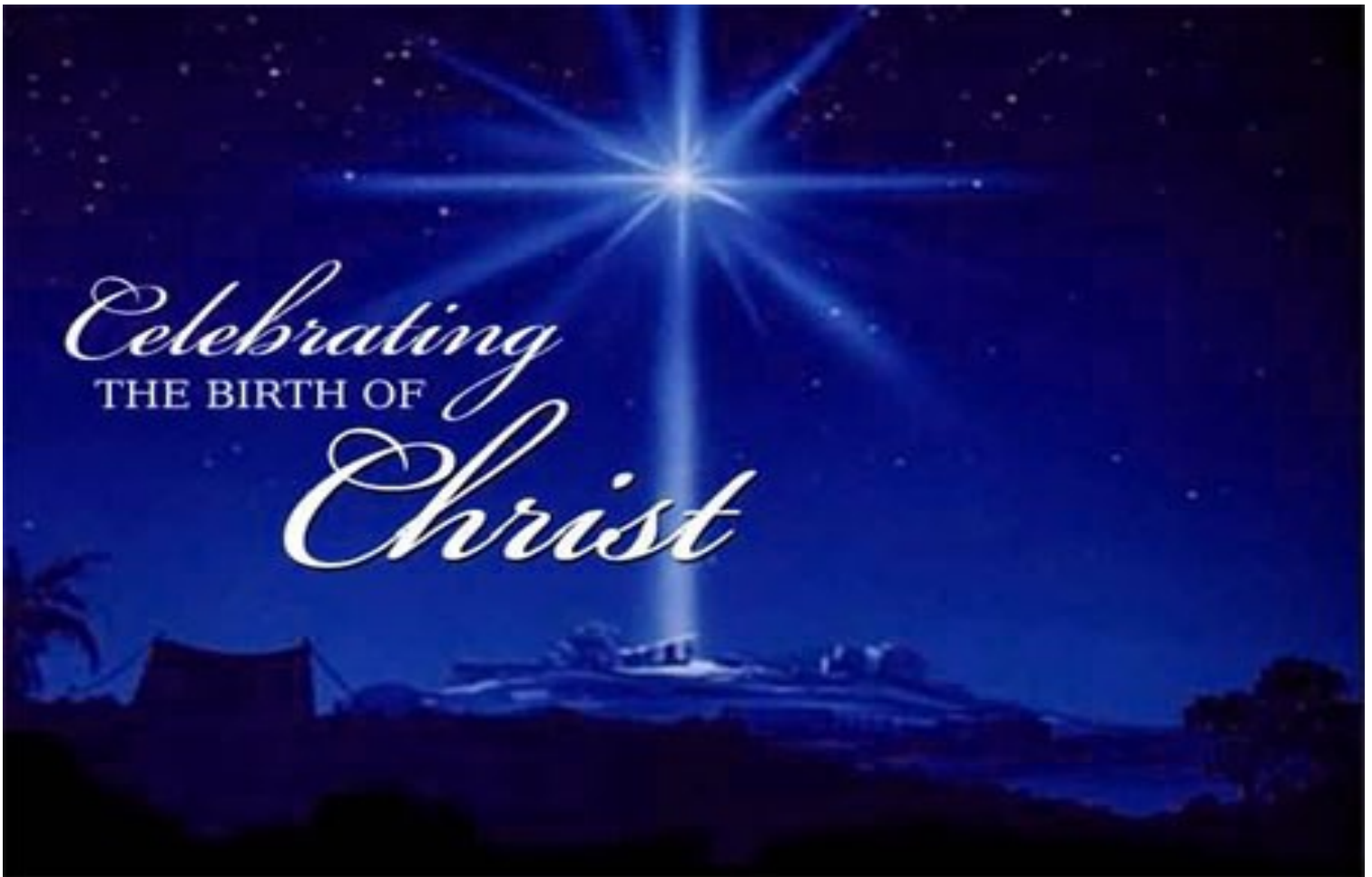
News for all parishioners

From the office

The Church office will be closed until further notice.

If you need to call the office, leave a message and someone will get back to you.

Merry Christmas to you and your families...and God Bless everyone!



There will be no more Masses celebrated beginning December 26th until further notice.

Check our website for the most up-to-date information. More details will be forthcoming mid-January 2021.