



From the
Pastor



A Savior has been born!

“Do not be afraid; for I proclaim to you the good news of great joy that a Savior has been born for you” (Lk. 2:10-11). We have been celebrating our Savior’s birth for two thousand years—for good reasons. The birth of Christ changed world history as no other event ever did. This was not an ordinary birth. It was God becoming man. “The Word became flesh and dwelt among us” says John the Evangelist (Jn. 1:14). Can any other event in history be greater than this? Therefore, let us celebrate it inwardly and outwardly. Let us greet everyone with “Merry Christmas.” Let our greeting be a statement of our faith. Let us be proud of whom we celebrate and believe in. Christmas is all about Christ. He *is* the reason for the season.

The feast of Christmas offers convincing proof of God’s infinite love for us. For Jesus is God’s greatest gift to all mankind in a long line of precious blessings bestowed on each of us. Indeed, we have much to be thankful for as a St. Francis of Assisi Church family. We devised a plan to retire our \$2.6 million debt in five years. But, the Lord’s blessings through your generosity have been amazing! Our debt has now been reduced to \$1 million going into next year. I would recommend that you make your annual gift to the Church and the Christmas tithing toward “debt retirement.”

A special word of appreciation and thanks to all of you who have joined us to celebrate the birth of our Savior. Know that God loves each of you. His love and mercy invites you to a closer relationship with Him.

Thanks a lot for all your generous support to our parish as good stewards, your loyalty, all the volunteer hours, sacrifices, and most of all your prayers. May God repay your graciousness and sacrifices by blessing your Christmas and the New Year with an abundance of spiritual and material joys. Have a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!



—Father Jose Thomas