



O Come All Ye Faithful

COME LET US ADORE HIM

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Happy Advent and (soon) Merry Christmas to you all!

As we prepare to celebrate the two thousand and twenty-second anniversary of the coming in the flesh of Jesus our savior, we have so much to be thankful for this year. We as a parish community have continued to grow closer to Christ in our path of discipleship. This Advent Season I have been reading short reflections written by St. Padre Pio who had a strong devotion to *Bambino Gesù* - Baby Jesus. Often the other Capuchin monks who lived with him would see him praying with his arms folded as if he was carrying a small child with his countenance glowing in the presence of Christ. That story of Padre Pio reminds us that as Christians we are called to carry the presence of Jesus into the world. Just like in Bethlehem we are tempted to turn away from the Child Jesus and say 'there is no room at the inn for you.'

How can we this Christmas make room for the Child Jesus in our lives and help others to make room for him, too? The first step is slowing down, just a little bit, during this season of joy to remember the great mystery that God would become one of us in the flesh. He has all of our human experiences, our human emotions, like us in all things but sin. God loves us that much!

We want to celebrate the many ways that we as a parish community have been making the presence of the Child Jesus



Come

and behold

*Him
Born
the King*

*of
Angels*



known in our midst. This past year we have restarted our ministry to the homebound and nursing homes. Over 170 parishioners each week are visited from a minister of the parish to receive the presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament. We priests are called to the bed side of the sick and dying several times a week to administer the Sacraments of the Sick. In this way the whole Church is present with those preparing to enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

This year we welcomed more than 30 children and adults into the waters of Baptism to become children of God. During the Rite they received a lit candle symbolizing the Light of Christ. This Christmas season as we enter into the darkest part of our year, and whatever other darkness may be plaguing us in our lives, we renew our own trust in the Light of the World.

This past year the parish embarked on a synodal process as we listened to one another - and most importantly - listened to the Holy Spirit guide the future of our parish ministry. One of the fruits of the listening sessions was our 10-year strategic plan recognizing the three centers of evangelization, worship, and charity as a way of uniting together.

As we welcome the Christ Child anew in our lives let us this year be challenged to spread that joy to our family, friends, and neighbors. There are many, many people who have yet to receive that greatest gift of all time. Will you share the story with others?

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Tyler Bischoff
Fr. Tyler Bischoff

Parochial Administrator

Fr. Michael Lingaur

Fr. Michael Lingaur

Parochial Vicar



Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve

4 pm St. Anne Church

4:30 pm St. John the Baptist

7 pm St. Mary Church

Christmas Day

Midnight - St. Bernard

9 am - St. Anne Church

11 am - St. Anne Church

LET US ADORE HIM, CHRIST THE LORD

**WAYS TO
STAY
CONNECTED**



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817 Sable Street
Alpena, MI 49707
989.354.3019