

Happy New Year to all.

This is the season of Advent, and we are using our new Missals with the hymn books in the back of it. Please follow along the order of the Mass and you will see the response will be different from the old Missals. The prayers updated for the celebration of the Mass. You have had inserts in the bulletin for the last few weeks to help you with the change.

Faith Formation Classes:

For all children elementary age needing sacraments AND for those who have received some sacraments. We meet the 2nd Thursday of the month @ 3:00pm @ the home of Faye Wilkinson. Questions call 258-1850. Class will resume after school vacation.

Please make sure when you leave the church that the lights are out in both the sanctuary and the hall, they have been left on for days. Also do not turn the heat thermostats up. Special people take care of the heat in the church. These two things are really running our heat and light bills up, and as you know the cost is terrific. Thank you.

Please pick up your new 2012 calendars and your donation boxes for the year. These are in the Social Hall as you come in the front door.

Thanks! Would like to thank Faye Wilkinson and Mary Maumoynier for the beautiful decorating of the church through the year. Also the work that they do with our Faith Formation children. You ladies are wonderful, thank you for helping our church community.

AND – This is the time of year we should thank all the people who work behind the scene. The ladies of the Altar Society who work all the time making our church a wonderful place to come and praise Our Lord. The men who do the entire repair and keep the grounds and building looking beautiful. The music people who sing each Sunday, and many more that do work we do not know about and lastly our priest Fr. Mario, Bless you. Thank you.

Fr. Aldo's Reflection:

Happy New Year !

Let us begin this year 2012, with lots of blessings and graces from the Lord!

Let us bless on another from this day and throughout the year.

The LORD said to Moses:

“Speak to Aaron and his sons and tell them:

This is how you shall bless the Israelites.

Say to them:

The Lord bless you and keep you!

The Lord let his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you!

The Lord look upon you kindly and give you peace!

So shall they invoke my name upon the Israelites, and I will bless them (Nm. 6:22-27).”

What a beautiful blessing!

I think we have to memorize this prayer by heart. I actually bless everyone most of the time, Invoking this blessing. I do believe that our greatest blessing is this – we are God's adopted Children, created in his own image and likeness.

St. Paul reminds us in his letter to the Galatians:

“As proof that you are sons, (children),

God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts,

Crying out, “Abba, Father!”

So you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son then also on heir, through God (cf. Galatians 4:4-7)”

The gospel this Sunday reminds us to look at the shepherds, Mary and Joseph and the Christ-child Laying in the manger. When we gaze at the stable and ponder upon the mystery of the birth of the Lord, we cannot but praise our God who loves us so much.

“Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart. Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told to them.”

Like Mama Mary and the shepherds, let us glorify and praise God all the days of our lives!

Happy 2012 to on and all ! May your dreams and prayers come true! Fr. Aldo