



Dear fellow parishioners,
 As we gather together each week to participate in the liturgical life of our Church and celebrate the mysteries of our Faith, we often take it as a given that there will be someone to sing, to play the accompaniment, to cantor, to take on the responsibility to help and lead us in liturgical music. Let us pause and realize that this would not happen if it were not for the presence of our faithful cantors, musicians and choir members. They are there not simply to sing the hymns and responses for us, as if we were coming to listen to a concert of catholic music each week. Rather, they are there to help guide and lead us all in our worship of God, as we give thanks to Him who has given us this life through our own offering and sacrifice of praise. Therefore, through the music they sing, chant and play, the prayers and hymns of our church come alive for us, so we can easily join in the sung prayer, that we all may be spiritually uplifted, and our God may be praised, honored and glorified. This Christmas season, I ask you to remember our choir members in your prayers and join me in thanking them for their work and dedication each week throughout the year.

May God continue to bless all of our church choir members, cantors and musicians as they beautify our services with their voices of praise, and grant them many years!

Yours in Christ,
 Katarina Hackney, Director of Music

Good Shepherd Music Ministry Members
 Terry & Joe Mattingly * Gregory Pierce * Aleta Tomas
 Charlotte & Denis Boudreau * Lisa, Aine & Aeronwyn Lewandowski
 Amy Bowman * Bill Weidner * Dan Steiger
 Zakaras Family: Katrina, Scott, Caiden & Brandon
 Vicky Jerabek * Ann Momper * Marie Hernandez * Mike Callaway

I will sing
 of the
 mercies of
 the LORD
 forever:
 with my
 mouth, will
 I make
 known thy
 faithfulness
 to all
 generations.
 Psalm 89:1




LITURGY

Today's Readings:
 Isaiah 52:7-10; Hebrews 1:1-6; John 1:1-18

As we see the breaking of this day, we celebrate the dawning of a new period in salvation history. Jesus, the Word of God, is born and has come to bring fulfillment to what was promised to us throughout salvation history. He has come to show us the glory of God. A new day has come!

Gospel Focus:
A holy day has dawned upon us.

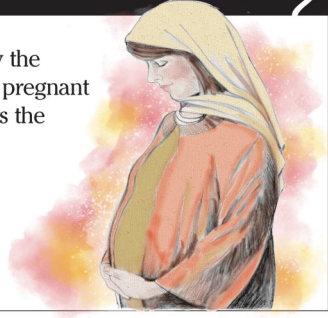
 **"Encounter the Joy of the Gospel and Set the World Ablaze"**
EVANGELIZED PEOPLE...
 Are willing to publicly profess their faith in Christ and their love for Him.


FATHER'S CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK
Adults: In what ways and to whom can you testify to the light in the coming week?
Children: What can you say or do to share the light of Christ with your parents, friends, classmates, and neighbors?

Bible Quiz

Elizabeth, an older relative of Mary the mother of Jesus, was miraculously pregnant at the same time as Mary. What was the name of Elizabeth's husband?

A. Aaron
 B. Zechariah
 C. Joseph
 D. Simeon


 Answer: B (See Luke 1:5, 39-41)

 *Fr. Tony's Christmas Message*


Dear Parishioners,
 May the peace of Christ be with you all.

I am very happy to wish you all my *Prayerful Greetings* as we enter the Christmas Season. The story of the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ is a reminder to us all that God came to live among us, to be close to us, and to save us from our sins. Jesus gave us Himself as a gift to us. He is close to us because He lives in our hearts where He continues to be a gift to us. Because of His presence in each one of us, we are also present and connected to one another.

As we celebrate the Nativity of Jesus, we remain eternally grateful to God for all the blessings, especially for the gifts of life, family, faith community, friends and neighbors. I take this opportunity to thank you most sincerely as you have been such a blessing to our parish by being active and supporting us with your gifts of time, talents and timely financial help. My special gratitude goes to all the volunteers in our different ministries who do such a wonderful job in serving the various needs of our parish with much enthusiasm and commitment. I hope and pray that you will have a wonderful and blessed time during this Christmas Season.

May God bless you abundantly during this Christmas Season as well as during the New Year!

~ Fr. Tony

 **The Staff would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!**

~Vicki, Kate, Lara, Scott and Cheryl