COME & RECEIVE THE GIFT THAT KEEPS GIVING

Christmas is an extraordinarily sentimental time of year. It brings out the very best of our charity toward the needy, blessings of gathering with loved ones, and inspires a spirit of prayer and faith in the most casual of believers. It is unrealistic to think we can sustain the sentiments of the Christmas season every day of the year. Still, we do sustain a spirit of Jesus Christ's presence throughout the year by engagement in / connection with the Church, the Body of Christ.

We, the Church, gather every Sunday (in fact every day) to celebrate the presence of Christ – Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity – in the Holy Eucharist. He is the source of our charity and love. He is the source of our unity with one another. He is "God With Us - Emmanuel".

Anyone touched by Christmas sentiments will be / should be / ought to be daily overwhelmed by the profound mystery of God With Us in the Holy Eucharist. It is the gift of God's love laying in a manger in Bethlehem, poured out for us on the cross on Calvary, and resurrected on the third day so that we might share in that love eternally.

In that spirit we hold a special hope for each of you as we gather to celebrate Christ-With-Us, Emmanuel.

Faithful parishioners who join us regularly, may you know how much you are cherished. Home-comers, travelers, visitors to our community and guests, may you find rest and hospitality in our midst. Brothers and sisters of other faith traditions, may the bonds between us be strengthened. Catholics who join us occasionally, may you find new hope and inspiration to join us again.

It is a blessing for us to join together in prayer on this Christmas day, praising God for the gift of His Son, Our Savior, Jesus Christ.



MERRY CHRISTMAS!