

A Note from the Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners,

With the new year in full swing by now, I simply want to mention something about January 1st that I have not been able to comment on before now.

I understand quite a few people came to church for the 5:00 PM Mass on New Year's Day. The only problem was there was no 5:00 PM Mass on New Year's Day. I feel bad for those who intended to come to Mass on the first day of this New Year only to discover the late Mass had been cancelled. Those of us on the "staff" here tried to get the word out but apparently the message wasn't loud or clear enough.

Usually, most parishes cancel the later Masses on both Christmas and New Year's Day. On most years, when those days do not fall on a Sunday, there is often a bit of confusion, but not too much.

When Christmas and New Year's fall on Sunday, as was just the case, I'm guessing the confusion is a little greater. Since the Sunday schedule for the year is posted in many places, the confusion enters in when there is a holy day/holiday schedule. The parish did send out the Christmas and New Year's schedule to every registered parishioner/family (almost 5,000) but sometimes we all get accustomed to a routine and take them for granted.

We also had schedules posted in the church and on the parish website and we tried to make a couple of announcements (which not everyone remains for), but again it may not have been effective enough.

Again, I am sorry for those who missed Mass on New Year's because of the confusion. If you actually came to church expecting to go to Mass on January 1st at 5:00 PM, there is no sin involved in that case. I promise I will make sure we try to get the word out more effectively in the future.

Again, Blessed New Year everyone!

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Monsignor Giandurco". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.