

A Note from the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

This week we come to the end of one year and the beginning of the next. New Year's Eve and New Year's Day is a time to look back and look forward at the same time. It should also be a time for prayer, as January 1st is a holy day of obligation.

In looking back over the year 2018, I would like to express my gratitude to so many who have done so much for this parish and for others. It has been a very difficult year for the Catholic Church, but our parish has remained a true family in Christ. There are hints that the disappointments will continue in the years ahead but there are signs of hope as well. We have all been shocked and saddened over the failures of many trusted leaders but we cannot forget that the true High Priest of our faith is Jesus Christ and it is Jesus who calls us and leads us to holiness. In his name, so much good takes place here every day. I think of those who assist at Mass each day; those who teach religion in our School and Religious Education program; those who work to make the parish an effective sign of God's presence in our midst; those who lead the many groups in the parish; those who participate in parish events and the many who volunteer. I think of the dedication of our clergy and lay people; the generosity of many who support the parish; help the needy; respond to emergencies and have contributed more than two million dollars in the past year to the Capital Campaign which will help the parish and the Archdiocese for years to come. I give thanks for those who pray and serve and sing and study and do for others as best they can after the example of Jesus.

My prayers for our parish and all of our families and loved ones is that the year 2019 will be filled with God's blessings and that Jesus will give us strength and grace to do his will. Jesus came into the world to bring his healing power and forgiveness and we cannot live without his presence. He is our life. May the grace of God conquer the presence of evil and darkness and sin in our world. And may the Lord lead his Church into greater holiness and help the Church once again be an example of faith in God and right living to inspire the world. It is a tall order but all things are possible with God's help. The Lord will renew His Church in the New Year and always!

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Monsignor Giandurco". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.