A WORD FROM THE PASTOR

My Dear Parishioners,

Praised be Jesus Christ! With the close of the Christmas Season this weekend, I take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank all who made this Season so beautiful and bright.

**To our Church Decorators and Gardening Angels.** If I had a dollar for all the compliments I received in regards to the beauty of the Church, I'd have a large amount of \$\$. The Beauty of this Season was truly reflected in the décor of our Church both inside and out! Many Thanks!

- To our Musicians, Cantors and Children's Choir. A word of heartfelt thanks to all of you who made our Christmas Worship sound so good. In this interim time, with our choir on-hold and our seeking a music director, our music team came forth. Special thanks to Jessica Tanner for arranging music, schedules and details. The Sound of Christmas 2024 was delightful!
- **To our Ushers, Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers.** Thank you for stepping up with all hands on deck. Between Dec. 22 and January 5, we had 26 Solemn Masses involving all of you and literally hundreds of people. That's a lot and it was all executed so very well. THANKS.

It's a Custom that on the Solemnity of the Epiphany, the Church solemnly announce in song the moveable Feasts for the coming year. That is, Ash Wednesday, Easter, Ascension, Pentecost, etc. In modern day, with calendars and smart phones, such an announcement is not necessary. However, *let it be known that Easter does fall rather LATE on the calendar this year, April 20<sup>th</sup>!* This gives additional time between Christmas and Ash Wednesday, March 5. With that in mind, be mindful of the following:

- **Bishop Barron book on PRAYER**: On Christmas, our parish made available 400 of Bishop Barron's book on PRAYER. Beginning Thursday Feb. 13 and continuing into March, our seminarians Joshua and Michael will lead a discussion on that book, mark your calendars now!
- **Even Sooner:** Our parish will have several special days for families. Sunday, January 26 will be our Family Catechesis Day and on Thursday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, we welcome to the parish Mr. Alex Haynie who will speak to parents about Family and the Internet. Please mark your calendars.
- <u>The Men of our Parish will gather on February 6</u>, the Thursday before the Superbowl for a Men's Night: Food, Drink and Speaker Matt Lozano. All men are welcome to this special gathering.
- <u>Finally, our Archbishop has released a Pastoral Letter</u> inviting all Catholics of the Archdiocese to prayerfully engage conversation regarding Missionary Outreach and the Future of the Church in Philadelphia. Read his Letter, learn more and visit the website: TrustandHope.org

As Christmas continues, God with Us, May we grow in Him.

Peace,

Fr. Rogers

## Go, Make Disciples: An Introductory Training in Missionary Discipleship

Dates: Saturday, January 25, February 8 and February 22, 2025

Time: 8:30AM to 11:30AM (Mass available at 7:30AM)

Location: St. Norbert Parish, Paoli, PA

Join us for a powerful and practical training in the habits and skills of missionary discipleship. This course will help you deepen your personal friendship with Jesus and acquire relational skills to encounter and accompany others into Christ's love.

Facilitators: Ryan Morris, Chris Massaro, Fr. Matthew Biedrzycki, Jen Keller, Missionary Discipleship Facilitators, Office for the New Evangelization.

More info: \$25.00 registration fee includes all 3 sessions, coffee, snacks and guidebook. Visit www.phillyevang.org/events to register.