

Pastor's updates

January 7, 2022



Things you may want to know this week

1. **GOODNEWS for the NEW YEAR:** The actual work of our church heating project has commenced last Wednesday. We thank **Rob Aveson** for constantly lobbying in the city hall for the building permit. Thanks to our parish construction experts for making sure the work is headed to the right direction.
2. Be aware that the **Church Heating construction** is from Monday to Friday, between 7AM-5PM.
 - a. The parking lot on Crystal Springs Rd may not be available except for limited handicapped parking.
 - b. The area behind the church and its access will be closed. This will be a working area where heavy equipment and construction materials will be kept. School families, therefore, will not be able to use this section when they drop off or pick up their kids.
 - c. Few parking spaces in the main parking lot by the church side may not be available. Both stairways down from the parking lot will be closed during construction. When parking in the main lot proceed to walk down Oak St to enter the Church.
 - d. Watch out for moving construction vehicles.
3. This Sunday is the **Feast of the Baptism of the Lord** that marks the end of Christmas. The days of Christmas may end on Epiphany (January 6th) which is the 12th day of Christmas but it is not the end of the season of Christmas. The feast of the Epiphany is made solemn by adding an "octave" - an extension of the celebration for a week after the feast. With this Christmas season still continues. At the end of the octave is the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord and so this is the feast that brings the Christmas season to a close.
4. Shout out of gratitude to those who have made our Christmas celebration a truly meaningful and joyful one. To the many volunteers who prepared and served at the altar, those who decorated inside and outside the church, those who led us in songs and praise, to our tech support, our collectors and ushers and those who have shared their gifts of generosity to our parish and most of all the gift of your presence in our church. I will never get tired of saying THANK YOU!
5. We welcome back our **Saint Robert's school students** this Monday. Early this week, **Dr. Sullivan**, our school principal, gave the parish a generous donation of \$15,000 for our church needs. Fr. Boie pointed out that while other parishes are subsidizing their school, at St. Robert's, it's the other way around. In gratitude, we need to pray for the school so that they can continue to have an in-person instruction considering the surge of this omicron variant.
6. We received a letter from the Archdiocese asking us to complete our **Archdiocesan Annual Appeal** goal by the end of next week. Our campaign goal is \$101,451.00. As of today, our balance is \$17,925.51. As God always provides, we received a generous donation of \$5,000 this week and will be deposited next week. That brings to a balance due of \$12,925.51. If you have not participated and if you want to give more, God's providence will be seen through you.
7. Next weekend, we will have a **Special Collection** for the victims of the super typhoon in the southern Philippines including the island or province that Fr. Boie and I came from. As you might have seen and heard in the news, thousands of families lost their homes, 70,000 in our island alone. Some of the smaller islands were almost completely wiped out. They celebrated Christmas and New Year in the dark since electricity is down and will not be fully restored till April. They need our help to rebuild their homes and their lives.

FAZnotes
(Father Arnold Zamora)
January 7, 2022



Sometimes we think that we have so little:

**Little blessings,
Little money,
Little worth,
Little attention...**

**But if we start to rethink, to appreciate the little things in life,
we will find out that we actually have so MUCH...**

**So much of Time,
So much of Love & Trust,
So much of GOD's Love & Blessings...**

and

“You” are among the Best Blessings received by others!”

Share your blessings and have a wonderful day by making others' day wonderful!
Fr. Arnold