

The Epiphany Of The Lord January 3, 2010

PRAYER FOR STARTING THE NEW YEAR

Thank your Lord, for the past year, that remains in the chest of memories.
For it's great achievements, satisfactions, joys, smiles and torrents of enjoyment.

But also, thank You because there where tasteless trials, crisis, and tragedies,
that got me closer to You, making me a better human being.

Even the apparently wrong made me grow.

I lost at times, but I will never forget the lesson.

I entrust in You the coming year, with its great challenges.

Will it be my last year of existence? I hope not.

Grant me life a little longer. I still have a lot to do,

so Your creation will be even more beautiful.

I would like to tell you that I love all that is good,
take away from me, and my family all snares of the enemy.

I would like to ask You to grant me winning the lottery,
to build an orphanage.

I would like to ask for so much.

But it embarrasses me, because we live in a world of excesses,
in the world of unborn children, abandoned elderly,
destitute families, despised migrants,
of a mistreated planet Earth and of soldiers, armed to take the gift of life of their brother.

We live in a world of technology, obsessive purchases,
greed, envy and of competition.

This world is fascinating, but also a challenge.

Instead I would like to thank You because I have already won the lottery:

The lottery of living.

That is why, I now ask for nothing.

I need nothing, well maybe yes, and it is one thing:

That You continue walking with me in prosperity and in adversity.

Fr. Vili Valderrama

MASS INTENTIONS

Please make your mass intentions during the week in the parish office. Don't try to do it on the weekends or at the last moment, immediately before Mass. Don't put your intentions on the altar. All intentions are to be registered in our data system. Thank you for your consideration.



BAPTISMS

Baptisms will be held on Saturday, January 2nd at 12:00 noon and Sunday, January 17th at 3:00 p.m. To register stop by the parish office.



COLLECTION

The amount collected last week was \$3,073.35 and \$3,018.40 the previous week. The parish goal is to collect \$5,000.00 a week to subsist, which equates to \$5.00 a week per family. Thank you for your generosity to the Church of Christ.

RENEWED CONTRACT

As you all know, the diocese has renewed my contract to the parish for another six years. A lot has been achieved on these first six years, in regards to material, pastoral and above all the spiritual aspect. It amazes and motivates me to see the profound commitment with Christ and the parish from a lot of you. You are a great community filled with God and that needs to keep on growing. there is still a lot of great challenges and projects. In the past six years a lot has been achieved. It is incredible: parish hall, office, house, pavement, garden, parish truck., etc... We hope that the second period of my time, would be of great achievement (installation of the parish tile, construction of confessional, construction of classrooms, mural, Way of the Cross. etc.). May God Bless you and the parish.

INTERNATIONAL JOURNEY FOR PEACE

Pope Benedict XVI's 2010 Message for the World Day of Peace, "If You Want to Cultivate Peace, Protect Creation," is the latest in a long tradition of Church teaching on our obligation to care for creation. Quoting Pope John Paul II and Pope Paul VI throughout his message, the Holy Father affirms that environmental degradation is "a wide-ranging social problem which concerns the entire human family" (# 3). *Some themes and excerpts from this statement are provided below. The full text of the message can be found at www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/messages/peace/index_en.htm*

Creation helps us to recognize our human dignity and God's love.

"Seeing creation as God's gift to humanity helps us understand our vocation and worth

as human beings . . . Contemplating the beauty of creation inspires us to recognize the love of the Creator" (# 2). **We have failed to carry out our role as steward.** "The true meaning of God's original command . . . was not a simple conferral of authority, but rather a summons to responsibility. . . . Nature is a gift of the Creator, who, enabled man to draw from it the principles needed to 'till it and keep it' (cf. *Gen. 2:15*). Everything that exists belongs to God, who has entrusted it to man" (# 6).

2010 WISH LIST

- Install ceramic tile and renew the church interior.
- Paint the church interior
- Build a practical confessional
- Build catechism classrooms
- Build live Stations of the Cross on the church surroundings.
- Paint the mural on the church entrance.
- Construct a bell tower

NATIONAL MIGRATION WEEK

It Will be observed on Jan. 3-9. The theme this year is the same as last year's observance, "Renewing Hope, Seeking Justice." The focus will be migrant and refugee children, following the lead of the Pope Benedict XVI, who has chosen the theme "Minor Migrants and Refugees" for the 2010 World Day of Migrants and Refugees. Information and materials for National Migration Week in the diocese website.

NATIONAL VOCATION AWARENESS WEEK

It will take place Jan. 10-16. Let us intensify our prayers this January for an increase of vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life for service in our Diocese. We know God answers our prayers. While we are blessed to have 16 seminarians this year preparing to serve as priests and one Deacon, Oscar Magallanes of Our Lady Queen of All Saints Parish, to be ordained this June. My hope is that we can invite 10 new candidates each year to enter the seminary and, as well, to invite women and men to consider serving the Church as vowed religious. Pray and invite!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS

I thank everyone for your prayers that were made on December 16th, the day that my brother suffered an accident. The medical report, up to this moment is that he has bruises and fractures in the jaw, pelvis, left hand, shin bone, both knees , back, and broken upper teeth. The rehabilitation process is going to be a long one, he has shown an excellent physical condition. His recovery has accelerated. Thank you all for your support and solidarity, and your worthy prayers. He has regained life, and I think God has something marvelous for his existence.

TUCSON MARCH FOR LIFE

The 2010 March for Life will take place on Saturday, Jan. 16. There will be a mass at 9 a.m. at St. Augustine Cathedral. After Mass, there will be a rally in Cathedral Hall with special guest speaker John Tabor of the Women's Crisis Centers. At 10:30a.m., we will begin our march to Holy Hope Cemetery, where we will hold the beautiful Rose Ceremony at the Statue of Rachel as a memorial for the children who have died because of abortion. This March for Life is a prayerful witness to our respect for life from conception to natural death. The March is held annually at the anniversary of the Roe vs. Wade decision.

Each year, Kelly Copeland, in conjunction with the Arizona Right to Life, helps to organize this important event in which we can respectfully and publicly call for the repeal of Roe vs. Wade and an end to abortion on demand. In addition to marching, we need to intensify our efforts to reach out to women who are in situations in which they are considering abortion to help them to see their are alternatives and

that we want to assist them in any way possible to bring their child to term. Organizations like Reach Out, the Fatima's Women Center and Catholic Community Services are places where women can find help and support.