

From the Pastor's Desk...

Christmas 2009

Dear Parishioners:

Christmas is a time to look back to the day, 2000 years ago, when heaven came down to earth in the person of Jesus so that all of us could go back to heaven with Him. We look forward to the day when the promise of Christmas will be fulfilled, when shattered dreams and unfulfilled expectations will be erased, and when peace, joy and love will replace war, hatred and despair.



In the meantime, inspired by the Holy Spirit, we reach out to others in imitation of Jesus. We participate in the "Giving Tree Program," the Coat Drive, the Lend a Helping Hand Toy Drive, the Penny Drive for the Seton Foundation, and the Food Drive for needy families. Jesus gave Himself to us and He asks that we give of ourselves to others. It is what St. Nicholas and many other saints have done throughout the ages, and what we at OLSS try to do every year.

As you can see, the outside of our church is substantially complete, except for the gold cross, and the pavers. On the inside, most of the sheetrock and the insulation are finished along with the beginning of the wood ceiling. The bathrooms are tiled and the inside brick is complete. Once the sheetrock, the painting and the ceiling are finished in December, work can begin on the floor and the cabinets in January. In February, the pews, stained glass, statues and icons will be brought in. We are extremely hopeful that we will be able to occupy the church by Easter, April 4, 2010 and have a dedication for it in June. Pray that this schedule will come true.

We thank God for all the blessings He has sent us in Christ throughout 2009, and the past decade, and we pray for God's peace and blessings, health and happiness at Christmas, through 2010 and throughout the next decade.

Sincerely,

*Rev. Msgr. Jeffrey P. Conway
Pastor*