PASTOR'S COLUMN—FEBRUARY 3, 2014

Dear Parishioners:

This time of year "buyer's remorse" can set in after the Christmas holiday. The ensuing bills can lead us to regret how much we spent on Christmas gifts. We need to keep perspective on the importance of gift-giving and thank God we were able to afford the gifts.

What is most important for us this time of year is that we do not develop "Jesus remorse" such that we regret Jesus being born into our humanity. God Our Creator Father freely chooses a "hands on" approach to saving us humans from sin and death. God's "hands" are God's Beloved Son, Jesus, who comes to "caress" the human community with saving love.

God has no regrets about loving us to death and into new life through Jesus. Hopefully, we will pay our bills peaceably and revel with abundant thanks to God for the priceless gift of Jesus born of Mary. God does not present us with a "bill" for God's saving love. God freely gives us His Son in our humanity. Hopefully, we have no regrets about Jesus being one with us in our humanity and, thus, we are wise to love God with constant thanks.

Loving you in Christ,

Fr. Terry