

PASTOR'S COLUMN—DECEMBER 15, 2014

Dear Parishioners:

Have you ever tried to figure out where faith in God comes from? It's not as if we can "will" faith into our lives! And then the issue of repentance from sin—how does that connect with faith? Well, mysteriously they do! Faith is gift from God and from it flows the desire to repent of our sin. But when do people get faith and repent? For it seems that some people are blind to the gift of faith and its call to repent. How does God reveal God's Love to them? "Mysteriously" is the humbling reply.

Although we acknowledge the gift of faith in our lives, there are many people who do not overtly acknowledge the gift of faith. It does not mean that God is not pursuing them via faith but it is not so obvious to us looking from a distance. And, thus, we need to pray for one another that we are all freed up from our blindness to God's saving love in Christ.

Jesus is the "Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world" but the repentance issue flows around through the gift of faith that mysteriously pursues all of us to acknowledge that we need Jesus' saving love as we admit sorrow for our sins. Mysteriously, faith and forgiveness of sin go together in freeing us up from our blindness to Jesus. It is a gift from God so let's cooperate with it and pray that our neighbors do as well.

In God's Mysterious Faithfulness,

Fr. Terry