

PASTOR'S COLUMN—DECEMBER 23, 2013

Dear Parishioners:

As precious as Christmas is with the Son of God, Jesus, being born into our humanity, what is also precious is Jesus risen from the dead: Easter! It is wonderful that Jesus becomes human and lives like us in all things except sin. What is profound beyond his birth is how Jesus dies and rises from the dead. This is what distinguishes Jesus from all previous prophets and kings. Jesus conquers sin and death via the cross and empty tomb.

Christmas is awesome but Easter gives Christmas its eternal life depth. The greatest Christmas gift is how Jesus born of Mary lays down his adult life for the salvation of the world. He saves the world from sin and death by his rebirth from the Easter tomb. Nativity scenes under our Christmas trees are beautiful, but how about placing an empty tomb next to the manger. Talk about Joy to the World!

Experiencing Christmas in the evergreen tree spirit proclaims the ever-loving God born into our humanity. In addition, Jesus reveals ever-loving us thanks to his death and resurrection. And this precious Christmas gift is the empty tomb, namely, Easter that proclaims everlasting joy to the world.

Merry Christmas/Easter,

Fr. Terry