

Fr. Martin's Reflection – November 26, 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This weekend we celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King of the Universe. This solemnity alerts us to the coming to an end of another liturgical and calendar year, but it also highlights for us the beginning of a new liturgical year founded on the hope of the birth of Jesus Christ. Let us think of what faith resolutions we will make for this new year.

- **Acknowledging to myself my need for God's love and healing that can be received in the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)**
- **Spend quality time with Jesus before the Blessed Sacrament (The Blessed Sacrament is exposed in the Chapel of Saints, attached to St. Mary Church, Bordentown, from 1pm – 7pm Monday - Friday)**
- **Make Christ the center of my family's Christmas Celebrations**
- **Create family prayer time.**

Let us prepare well for the birth of Christ this Christmas. He wants to be born in the stable of your heart, make room for Him.

Wednesday Holy Hour

Many of you are aware of our Wednesday Holy Hour, where we sit with Christ in the Blessed Sacrament. During that time we pray the rosary and before each decade we name all those who need prayer at this time. Beginning on the first Wednesday in Advent, December 6, we will start with a fresh list of names. If you would like the name of your loved one mentioned, please contact the parish office and submit or resubmit your loved one's name.

Bishop David O' Connell

Bishop O' Connell has been elected as Chairperson of the Committee on Catholic Education, please keep him in your prayers.

Prayer for Advent

My loving Jesus, I choose You, this Advent, as my Lord and my God. I abandon myself to You and seek to put all my trust in Your tender care. Draw me close to You and free me from my sin so that I may love You with a pure and holy heart.

Mother Mary, as You carried your dear Son in your immaculate womb, you also carried Him in your heart. Pray for me this Advent that I may surrender myself to the will of the Father in imitation of you. You said "Yes" to all that God asked of you and never hesitated to fully embrace His divine will. Pray that I may imitate your perfect example so as to share a deeper union with you and your divine Son.

Come, Lord Jesus. Come, Lord Jesus. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen

Fr. Martin