

Pastor's Column SS Medford

December 20, 2020

Dear Friends,

Merry Christmas...yes that is right, MERRY CHRISTMAS!

It may be a little more difficult to say it and especially hear it this year, but it is Christmas nonetheless and it is worth celebrating.

The Son of God has been born and we have been given the opportunity for salvation to eternity in Heaven. We must not lose sight of this despite the hardships that we have endured now in our 9th month of the pandemic.

Perhaps there is something to be thankful for. Maybe it is simply that things have become very grounded, haven't they? The basics of family life have been thrust upon us: presence to each other, prioritizing our time and the simple reality of what is most important: love.

I am especially thankful for all of you, the parishioners of Saint Sylvester here in Medford. Whether you have been able to come to Mass or watch it livestreamed at home, your loyalty and devotion to our community is beyond commendable. I thank you for ensuring our weekly collection is maintained in person or by mail. It helps keep the lights on.

I also want to thank our ushers and "heavenly helpers" with us at weekly Mass. The ushers have worked tirelessly to ensure our liturgies are safe and effective. The heavenly helpers have disinfected the Church on Sunday mornings between liturgies to ensure our worship space is clean and safe.

A strange year? Yes, without a doubt. Nonetheless, there is much to be thankful for as we continue to navigate our way through this health crisis.

Let us be especially thankful that God became man and shows us the pathway to happiness, health and everlasting life. May God continue to bless you and your families this Christmas season into the New Year.

Yours in Christ,



**Fr. Suglia
Pastor**