



do justice • love tenderly • walk humbly with God Micah 6:8

December 20, 2024

We begin all of our prayer in the presence of our loving Creator; because we are all created in the very image and likeness of God!

As a Christian community, we know this:

God tells us to Rejoice!

Daily reflection:

(The Joy of the Gospel, Pope Francis)

Pope Francis wrote a letter to all the people of the Church called, “The Joy of the Gospel”. In this letter, he says that if we really believe in Jesus then we must be joyful people. He tells us not to be a ‘sourpuss’. Gloomy people are not spreading the joy of Christ.

In another letter, Pope Francis says: “And here the first word that I wish to say to you: Joy! Do not be men and women of sadness: a Christian can never be sad! Never give way to discouragement! Ours is not a joy born of having many possessions, but of having encountered a Person: Jesus, in our midst.”

Daily decision for action...

In these last days before Christmas, when our schedules can get too busy, when our frustrations can overwhelm us, let us choose to spread joy to our families, friends, and all those who we encounter.

Intercessions/ our prayer for our world:

For the Church during this season of Advent, that our own joy will show God’s love to the world.

For all nations in the world, for peace and respect among all people.

For parents and children in difficult circumstances, that they will find joy in the love of those around them.

For all of us, that we will spread the joy of God to everyone we meet.

Blessing: *(the prayer of Aaron upon the people: Num. 6:23b–26)*

May the Lord bless you and keep you!

May the Lord let his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you!

May the Lord look upon you kindly and give you peace!

And we say together with all of the people of God:

Amen!