

+++ *From the Pastor* +++  
*The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord*  
*Sunday, January 11, 2015*

**Thank You for a Beautiful Christmas Season**

As the Christmas Season comes to a close today as we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord I thank each person who helped to make this time so beautiful at our cathedral and the mission of St. Thérèse. Everyone involved in decorating the cathedral and St. Thérèse for Christmas did a fine job. And I am very grateful to everyone involved in serving in various capacities in the Sacred Liturgies of these holy days.

It takes time and effort to prepare music for these days, to go out and cut Christmas trees and place decorations in an appropriate way and to perform one's duties during Holy Mass with care and devotion. I do not take any of these things for granted and sincerely appreciate the commitment on the part of so many to help us give Almighty God the glory, praise and adoration that are His due.

We are always blessed, too, to have our bishop return home to his cathedral at Christmas. During his homily Bishop Cary reminded us that we are given the opportunity by God to be reborn through the power of the Holy Spirit over and over again. Also, he said, that Christ is to be made known to the world as He is born in each of our hearts in a special and particular way at Christmas. Encouraging and challenging words to keep in mind as we move forward to help bring the healing mercy of God's love to our broken and fractured world.

May the blessings we have experienced during this holy time fill us with new hope as we continue to walk in the mercy and love of Jesus Christ. May the radiant beauty of Christmas be the light which guides and directs our every thought, word and action in this new year of grace.

***A Note of Thanks to the Altar Society***

Thank you to those ladies of the St. Francis de Sales Altar Society who provided hospitality and a wonderful dinner for all of the people who attended the funeral of Moose Stephens on Thursday, January 8. This act of kindness is truly appreciated by family members and friends at a time when love and support are needed the most.

May God bless you and bring you all a peaceful week in His service.

