



From the Pastor's Desk

Advent Dream

This is the season of getting and giving, of buying and wishing we could buy and give more to those we love and those who have so little. One of the reasons we begin each Mass with, "slow down, slow down, be still and know that I am God" is to help us focus on the Christian reality that our best gift to others just might be to become the best person God dreamed us to be when we were created in our mother's wombs. I see so many people in all age groups trying to become the best version of someone else. We know that God's imagination allowed for the unique gifts, talents and personalities that make up our world.

Make peace with your imperfections as well as striving to become your better self. We have a delicate balance to achieve in our lives. We are called to improve but to accept ourselves as well. I was reminded by an Abbott that a tree does not work hard to straighten every limb and look how much beauty and life flow from trees. I pray that we receive the gift of becoming gently who God dreamed us to be.

Have a peaceful journey toward Christmas.

I Didn't See Santa, Bit I Did See Christmas

Earlier this week, I was downtown to do a little pre-Christmas shopping. When I came out of one store in Westlake Mall I confronted an unforgettable experience of Christmas. Into the Mall came 15 people of every imaginable form of physical and mental limitations. They were making noise and filling the mall with excitement. With them were 15 caretakers smiling, encouraging, speaking lovingly to these people with limitations. I went and spoke to this group to find out who they were. What I found was a truth that these caregivers give Christmas gifts of their best selves to these people every day. The smiles on the faces of the folks with these physical and emotional limits said Christmas had already come.

Fr. Jack

Word & Communion Services

Wednesday, December 26th

Thursday, December 27th

Wednesday, January 2nd