

December 18, 2020

Dear Parishioners of Saint Petronille,

The Birth of the Savior

If we have ever wondered why we, human beings, need a Savior, then I would hope 2020 has dispelled any doubt. During this trying time, we have come together around our Lord for hope and to demonstrate His love to others in need.

Still, our Savior did not come as a “great man.” He did not come as a great warrior, an accomplished politician or a successful business man. He did not even come as a doctor or a nurse or a social worker. No matter how important and dignified these professions may be...Jesus Christ came as a baby who would give His life having suffered all the hate this world has to offer.

Then...He conquered our greatest enemy: Death. He made death not a hopeless end in darkness but a passage way to eternal life and eternal joy.

I imagine those scruffy shepherds first standing in adoration of the Blessed Lord...a light shining in the darkness...lux lucet in tenebris...permeated into their depths of their being by this eternal light emanating from the Christ child. Then, I imagine the moment when the shepherds, having been enlightened by Christ, turn and walk back into the darkness...but the darkness being shattered by the light they carry inside of them that is Jesus Christ.

This Christmas let us recognize once again the light shining in the darkness of the world and in our souls. Let us give thanks for the Grace and Peace that only He can bring and allow this light to shine into all those we meet.

Walk for Life

Saint Petronille and Saint James are sponsoring a social-distanced, masked, walk for life on January 23rd immediately following the 8 am Mass. We walk in support of the sanctity of every human life and remembering all those who have lost their lives through abortion. Please join us for this prayerful and peaceful walk from Saint Petronille to Saint James and sign-up in the sign-up genius on our parish webpage.

Covid-19 Testing Discount

Augustus Labs is a St. Pet's Family run laboratory that administers rapid PCR tests (school approved) with same day results, if you test before 12:00pm. They are discounting their testing price from the regular \$250 to \$90 for St. Pet's students. To book an appointment go to <https://augustuslab.com>. Then click on the “COVID RT PCR” and in the appointment notes please write that you are a student at St. Petronille.

I'm baaaack!

Two negative Covid tests and 10 days of quarantine and I am back in the saddle safe and sound. Thank you everyone for your prayers and support.

May the Incarnate Lord shower His Grace upon you and yours this Christmas and throughout the new year.

In Christ,

Fr. Thomas Milota