



CO-CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF SAINT JOSEPH
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5th January 2025

Dear brothers and sisters

We Give Thanks to God.

On this solemnity of The Epiphany of the Lord, we give thanks to God for making it possible for us to start the year 2025. Despite all the odds and challenges we faced in 2024, we have survived, each in our own way—some with a sense of gladness, some feeling somewhat exhausted, and others with metaphorical “bruises.” Yet, despite these varied experiences, we are not broken. We count our blessings and give thanks to God.

The People from Every Nation: Our Journey of Faith and Hope

Reflecting on the past year, I am struck by the beautiful congregation we have every week— a community that actively participates in the Most Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. This congregation embodies the spirit of Pentecost, a microcosm of people from every nation (Acts 2:6) who have a clear understanding of the Good News.

We are working towards fulfilling the vision outlined by John in the Book of Revelation, where people “from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, stand before the throne and before the Lamb” (Rev. 7:9).

Jubilee Year.

We begin this year with great optimism, as it marks a Jubilee of Hope. Our renewed hope is not only for ourselves but for our families, our nation, the world, and our parish. This hope is grounded in faith—the same faith lived by the progenitors of this parish, resilient Irish immigrants and their priests, who had unwavering faith and spirit and built this magnificent place of worship from humble beginnings. This heritage of faith is our legacy, and I implore you to keep the flame of faith alive.

Active in Service.

I am deeply touched by those who dedicate their time, talent, energy, and resources to support the parish. These extra efforts are the pillars of our community. Therefore, I encourage the young people in the parish to step forward and assist wherever possible. We need to provide some respite for our older parishioners! Remember, the reward for good work is often more work!

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 uncover His face to you and bring you peace.

Yours in Christ Jesus

Canon Benedict +