

*From the Vicar's Desk*



*Life can be such a pain, you know. We try to do our best. Sometimes we succeed at it and, sometimes, we don't. Whether successful or not, we seem to get more and more exhausted. Besides that, we have a pretty good idea that we are, for the most part, taken for granted. We love those around us, of course. BUT, sometimes, just... sometimes, it'd be nice if they acted as if they loved us, too. Of course they do. We know that. BUT, it'd still be nice if, once in a while, they acted like it. I mean, how hard would it be for someone to say that they loved us? We don't mean to complain. And, we're not. I'm just saying...*

*Maybe it's the 'Season.' The Christmas carols are beautiful... if one had time to sit and listen to them. Maybe we catch a few songs while in the car. Everything/everyone is in such a rush. Traffic is a mess almost everywhere. People seem to be in such a 'mood.' And everything is so expensive in spite of all the SALE signs! So, this is Christmas. It seems like it's ready to gobble us up. I guess it still has to do with one's **'attitude.'** Remember?*

*We have to wonder about that very 1<sup>st</sup> Christmas. Mary's mother was nowhere around. (And what did Joseph know about 'birthing'?) She'd given birth, alone, in a half barn, half cave. Yuk! Yeah... and the animals watched. Just imagine the animals' smell! BUT... I'll bet ya' Mary was so-o happy. The angel's prediction had just come-true. Imagine Mary's **'attitude.'** Imagine Joseph's.*

*If they could be thrilled, in spite of all they'd been through, who are we to complain... as we must remember what the 'buzz' is about? If we don't have an **'attitude'** that works to keep it holy... then we will be lost come Dec. 26. So, step back. Take a breath. Christmas gives birth to Easter. Easter gives birth to us. In the long run, we are Easter People. BUT... it starts with Christmas. So, like I said... get your **'attitude'** in gear!*

*In Him, born in a manger.      --your Senior Vicar.*