

FROM THE VICAR'S DESK



Well, here we are. It's the Fourth Sunday of Advent (& Christmas Eve!) and we are scratching our heads, wondering where the time went. In 1 day, it will be Christmas! There seems to be so much more to do and so little time in which to do it. (No 4th Week of Advent this year!)

I invite you to fantasize with me for a minute. Just pretend for a moment: what if those final, little things, didn't get done? Would the world end? Would you lose your happy home? Would you be fired? Be dis-owned? Turned in? Reported to the Christmas 'Unfinished-business' Police? Try to imagine: if nothing else (except food!) gets done, how many people would even notice? How many would even care? You say, "Well, I would notice!" Yeah, so what? Do you think Baby Jesus would notice... even care?

Aha!

Are we remembering what Christmas is really about? We're celebrating God's infinite love for us...the unfolding of His promise in the birth of a baby! Is this the way we celebrate His birthday... by worrying ourselves to death... by spending ourselves into a black hole of debt... by screaming and making everybody around us a nervous wreck? In just 2 days, Christmas Day will be here & gone! Remember to make time to pray & to thank God for giving us one of the most wonderful days in human history.

We will have been very foolish if we have let Madison Avenue and high-tech-sales-pitches rob us of the peace and joy this holy season is meant to bring into our homes and hearts. We never know when our last Christmas, together, will be. Make this the best one ever. It's not too late. Slow down right now. Take a deep breath. When you get home, maybe even have a glass of wine—and one for me, too! And remember my 11th Christmas-commandment:

CHILL OUT--THE 'BABE' IS NEARLY HERE!

Sincerely & in Him, born-in-a-manger. --fr.t.

P.S. --Thanx for the wonderful & generous Christmas cards!