



Since we are still in the first month of the New Year, I bring a few issues to your attention for your consideration.

*After Mass, there are people who want to remain behind and continue to pray in the quiet of their hearts. However, this is often very difficult because so many of us like to stay in church after Mass and 'visit.' Consequently, as enjoyable and convenient as such 'visits' are for us, it makes it nearly impossible for others to concentrate and pray. Often such parishioners have a very heavy heart and need the extra 'quiet' to converse with God. It would be considerate of us to take our 'visit' to the vestibule or outside, so our brothers & sisters can be with their God in peace. Furthermore, such action would not only be a token of respect to those wanting to pray for a while after Mass, but also, it would offer a special token of respect to the Blessed Sacrament present in our tabernacle. No great sin is being committed by 'visiting' in church after Mass. It's just a chance to show respect to others seeking quiet-prayer-time and, even if no one is kneeling in prayer after Mass, it's an opportunity to exhibit a holy-respect to Our Lord and his **Real Presence** in our church.*

I take this time to thank our staff for the fine job done in decorating the parish for the Christmas Season. They did an outstanding job cleaning and waxing the hall floors while CCD was out. And then there was all the 'set-up' for various parties and the endless 'clean-up' after the parties.

A special thanks is also deserved for the many people who volunteered their services to make our parish shine. Even though 'things' seem to magically appear, it only happens because many kind, devoted people, behind the scenes, supply hours of time and 'elbow grease.' The beauty of the churches, especially at this time of the year, is the result of many hands, all working together. Preparing our church for Christmas was like any other family pulling together for a special event.

*Sincerely and in Him,
fr.t.--vicar*