

January 2025
Pastor's Report

Parish Vitality: Listed below is an update of our efforts this past month and moving forward to help accomplish some of the goals pertaining to our parish's vitality.

1) Service to Others:

- a. We are still working on completing 2nd on the 2nd program for 2025. We will post that information once it is complete.
- b. We were blessed to help a great number of those who needed assistance during the later part of November and throughout December. The Giving Joy program supplied about \$5,400 toward gifts for families. We were also able to provide family assistance to about 30 families and provide an additional \$2,300 in assistance for urgent need requests for housing, food and gas. A special thank you to all who assisted with these programs.

2) Sense of Belonging

- a. We are still hoping to have our Pictorial Directory ready for distribution sometime mid-January.
- b. We are pleased to have two individuals from the Marshallese community in our O.C.I.A. program this year. Let's keep them in our prayers as they journey forward to full reception into the Church.

3) The Mass:

Our Advent Scripture Reflection series was well attended. We had some good reflection and discussion. If time permits, we may offer the program again through the Lenten Season.

Some other happenings around the parish and the archdiocese include our promoting, along with all parishes in the archdiocese, full participation in a **Disciple Maker Index (DMI)** survey conducted by Catholic Leadership Institute. We have received about 285 responses thus far and hope for a big push before the window closes on January 9th.

It was good to see our Mass attendance was up over last year at some of our Christmas Masses. A special thank you to all who helped decorate our church sites and/or assisted with the liturgies during Advent and the Christmas Season. I received a lot of compliments from regular parishioners as well as guests who attended some of our liturgies. I know there is a lot of work and effort involved and so I greatly appreciate all the ministers and volunteers who helped to make these celebrations very special.

In closing, I want to thank all who attended our leadership "Sunday Night Holy Hour and Night Prayer" event on December 15th. It was good to see so many as we gathered in prayer and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Let us continue to keep our archbishop, priests, and parishes in our prayers.

God's blessings to all for a wonderful and prosperous New Year!

Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Steve