MASS SCHEDULE:
Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm
Sunday: 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am, 12:00 noon, and 7:00pm
Spanish Mass: 2:30pm
Daily: 6:30am, 8:30am & 12:00 noon
Saturday: 8:30am

Federal Holidays:
6:30am and 8:30am only
Holy Days: 7:30pm Vigil
6:30am, 8:30am, 12:00 noon and 7:30pm

FIRST FRIDAYS:
Exposition: 9:00 - 11:45am
Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament: 11:45am
Eucharistic Holy Hour:
Sunday: 5:00pm
Third Thursdays: 7:00pm

CONFESSIONS:
Friday: 11:15 - 11:45am
Saturday: 3:30 - 4:30pm & 7:30 - 8:00pm and by appt.

RECTORY HOURS:
Weekdays 9:00am - 9:00pm (closed 12:45 - 1:30pm)
Saturday 9:00am - 1:30pm
“Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David, a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord.” Luke 2:11

In the well-known Christmas special, “A Charlie Brown Christmas,” Linus repeats these words from Luke, reminding us “what Christmas is all about.” Now it is my turn to echo this great refrain. Heralded by angels, adored and worshiped by Kings and shepherds, people of earthly power and humble hearts, this vulnerable child is given to us; born to die for our sins so that we can live forever with Him.

We celebrate today a new life and a new hope; yet, today in our world there is much to cause anxiety or fear. But my sisters and brothers, let us listen to the words of the angels who said to Mary, to Joseph, to shepherds, and us: “Do not be afraid.” Though there is much beyond our control and it is easy to sink into apathy or indifference, there are angels still who call us out to meet our God. Though there may be sadness or sickness in your life, though there may be division or hurt in your relationships, the heralds ask us to join them. They may be obvious in sight or sound, or they may come quietly to you in a sense of peace in your soul or love in your heart. Hopefully, they come to you here at the Eucharistic Table.

Wherever or however they come to you, I pray you welcome them. I pray that you will not be afraid, for our God is with us always. I pray you hear the joyous chorus of Gloria in Excelsis Deo well beyond today.

Christmas, 2018

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In hope, we rejoice this Christmas, for *a light will shine on us this day: the Lord is born for us*. On Christmas and each day this coming year, may we seek this Light before all else and allow it to radiate within our diocese, homes and communities.

Even in the midst of the darkness we experience within our world, nation and Church, we are filled with joyful hope as we celebrate the truth that Jesus, our Lord and Savior and the Light of the World, has dispelled the darkness. Therefore, with trust and confidence, we dare to pray for one another. We pray for all who lead and serve within the Church, that enlightened by the new radiance of God’s incarnate Word, what we know in faith will shine through our deeds. We pray that God will show our civil leaders the way of truth, guiding them to defend the sacredness of all human life. We pray that the whole human family will imitate the Holy Family in practicing virtue and in the bonds of charity. We pray that those in need will experience the radiance of God’s love in and through our generosity, goodness and sacrifices. Finally, we pray that we, who know God already by faith, may pass through the shadows of this world to reach the brightness of our eternal home.

Please be assured of a special remembrance at the Masses I will celebrate on Christmas. Through the intercession of Mary our Mother and Saint Joseph, may Our Lord Jesus Christ fill you with the gift of his peace and favor this Christmas and always.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge
Bishop of Arlington
Wish Each of You a Blessed, Joyous, and Merry Christmas!

The Priests, Deacons, and IHM Sisters of St. James