

St. Michael the Archangel

100 Oak Drive South

Lake Jackson, Texas 77566

979-297-3041

www.smlj.org

Dear Parish Family,

Days from now we will celebrate once again the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in Bethlehem. Why Bethlehem? Why not in Jerusalem or why not in Rome? It would have been a good home base or a good place to start Christianity. Or why not Egypt, or Athens, or Corinth which were all bustling and progressive cities at that time?

With all of God's power, He could have certainly done that. But many times God has this propensity to choose for the least likely over those that according to human standards are the obvious choices. There are many reasons offered why Bethlehem was chosen as the place where the Savior was to be born. I like to think that it was chosen because of the meaning of the word 'Bethlehem'. Bethlehem itself means 'house of bread' – a perfect name that anticipates the One who would give the Bread of Life for the life of the world later on. It's just a simple thought but hopefully it will help us relate more to this great feast of our salvation.

As of this writing, we are still in the season of Advent but 'soon and very soon' Christmas will be here. I would like to wish all of you a happy, holy and blessed Christmas and to ponder more deeply in our hearts the greatest gift God our Father has given us – His own Son!

Merry Christmas!

Fr. Dwight

P.S. This weekend the Knights of Columbus will be inviting us to a Consecration to the Holy Family by reciting the below prayer each day next week and then we will pray it together on the Feast of the Holy Family which is December 27. There will be prayers cards with this prayer for you at the Masses this weekend and it is in our bulletin and on our website: