St. Michael the Archangel 100 Oak Drive South Lake Jackson, Texas 77566 979-297-3041 www.smlj.org

Dear Parish Family,

How was your Thanksgiving Holiday? I hope it was not just all feasting but rather a special time with members of the family and relatives to pause and then mention the blessings that God has showered each one and then break bread together like the Pilgrims and Native Americans did of long ago. Perhaps you are now sitting in your favorite chair relaxing, after the special China were put away, after the leftovers were wrapped and stored, after the furniture were put back in their original place in the house. Then you saw and watched all the Christmas commercials on TV reminding of another special time coming up very soon.

Next Sunday we will begin a new church year. We begin this new church year with the season of Advent. We will replace the green color with purple and then we will light the first Advent candle, and once again the sacred scriptures will continue the theme of the end times most especially the second coming of Him who died for us.

As you sat relaxing today in you favorite chair, may I encourage you to think about your Advent Season. What do you want to do during these days and by Christmas? Maybe the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the desire to be at peace with God and neighbor will be my goal. Maybe I will be more prayerful and faithful with Sunday masses. Maybe I will be more loving and giving. Maybe I will be involved in my parish family. One thought, one dream to take through Advent. May this new church year and this Advent Season be the best one ever!

A Blessed Advent to you!

Fr. Dwight