



# Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

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November 15, 2021

Dear Parishioners:

**“The Lord is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.” Lam 3:24**

*The Book of Lamentations* (certainly not the most popular book of the Bible) is a collection of five poems that were an anguished response to the destruction of Jerusalem in 587 B.C. This passage from the book of Lamentations is one line from the poem “*The Voice of a Suffering Individual*.” In spite of all of the suffering described in this poem and throughout this Old Testament Book, hope is what provides the individual, and each of us, with the knowledge that the Lord is there for us, and with His grace and mercy, He will help us through all of our sufferings and challenges.

As we move our focus from faith in our last edition of *Proclamation!* to hope in this edition, we see that so great is the Lord’s faithfulness, so personal and sure, that he holds out just the right portion – everything we need – for our souls to drink in today, tomorrow, and the next day. When we wake up to discover his steady, daily, restorative care, our hope is renewed, and our faith is reborn. We then see how faith and hope are intertwined to guide us and support us in our faith journeys.

The hope of the believer is not irrational. It is based firmly on God, who has proven Himself faithful. Biblical hope looks back on everything God has already done and trusts in what He will do in the future. At the heart of Christian hope are the resurrection of Jesus and the promise of eternal life.

I hope and pray that, as we all are confronted with sufferings, challenges, disappointments, and losses, we take courage in the hope of Jesus Christ as He takes our hands, guides us through each one, and leads us to an even deeper understanding of and personal relationship with Him.

Yours in Christ Our Lord,

Rev. Msgr. Joseph Pemberton  
Pastor

*“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.” Rom 15:13*