

A Post from Father Niblick

Monday of the Fourth Week of Advent

The Christmas Carol in the Parking Lot yesterday afternoon was a wonderful experience for me, and I suspect everyone else who was there. There was such a mix of people of all ages.

Thank you to Pam Kulam and her many volunteers for all that they did. Thanks to John Wiatrowski who was just terrific as always offering his Disc Jockey on steroids style to make sure that no one was left out and everyone sang and honked their pandemic blues away for just an hour, and we all thank All Around Sound and their wonderful and competent and charming sound wizard, Tim Mc Laughlin for getting us in and on the air..

A special thanks to Santa Claus for making our parking lot a bit more enchanting for the little ones who deserve all of the enchantment that they can get these days.

Keep checking our online presence as Adam White and Karin Jurek and Linda Barrell have created a wonderful retrospective of past Christmas music at Maria Goretti. It will make you cry, and it will make you smile and it will make you glad you are a part of our parish.

All Christmas Masses, 2 PM, 4 PM, 6 PM, and 8 PM Christmas Eve and 8:30, 10:30, and 12:30 Christmas Day will have wonderful music and all will be streamed on our YouTube channel and our Facebook page and you can go back and watch them again on that YouTube channel and Facebook page.

A manger technically speaking is simply a feeding trough, nothing romantic or special or exceptional, a few boards joined together so that cud chewing animals can beat the grass and hay into their mouths, a manger is the place where we are told in the Gospel of Luke we will find the Christ who like us will get bruised in making his way through his life.

We are being bruised this year and this Christmas as are people all over of every faith and way of being in the world as we make our way through our lives and, as I have said before, while this moment is a moment of pain in many ways it is a

moment, a long one, I will grant, but a moment, and a whole grand tapestry of our lives is what Christmas proposes for us to take to heart.

As I write this, the situation is getting muddied again with new alarms sounding in various places and these days before Christmas might get more complicated and worrisome but take heart, be patient, be disciplined and stay safe and try to be of good cheer.