



Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Church

3368 Esplanade Avenue (Church)

1322 Moss Street (Office and Mail)

New Orleans, Louisiana 70119

Phone 504.488-2659 Fax 504.488-6741

www.oler-nola.org

Email: office@oler-nola.org

December 23, 2018

Dear brothers and sisters in the Lord,

As we come to the end of the Advent Season, we look forward with great hope and expectation and joy to celebrating the birth of the Lord at Christmas. I consider myself blessed as a priest and pastor to celebrate my second Christmas with you at Our lady of the Rosary!

Our Christmas Masses will be at 4pm on Christmas Eve and at 9am and 11am on Christmas Day. As we all know, the joy of Christmas always brings to our church many guests and visitors as well as some parishioners that we may not have seen in a while. I encourage you to welcome with joy those who join us in prayer and worship at our beautiful church; and I thank you that this welcoming spirit is always present in our parish and so often related to me by guests and new parishioners. Something as simple as a smile and a handshake and an introduction makes a huge difference in the experience of those who visit our parish.

As a Christmas gift to our parishioners, Our Lady of the Rosary has purchased copies of the book *Signs of Life* by Dr. Scott Hahn. This book will help to explain some of the customs and traditions that are uniquely Catholic and so familiar to most of us. I hope you will enjoy the book. We have ordered enough books for each family to take one copy.

Finally, in gratitude to those who give so much of themselves for our parish, I will host a Christmas party in the rectory (1342 Moss St.) for all volunteers and members of the different ministries of our parish. The Christmas party will be on Saturday, December 29th at 6:30pm. Please come and enjoy good food and fellowship during this most wonderful time of the year.

Wishing you a blessed Christmas,

Fr. Jonathan Hemelt
jhemelt@arch-no.org