

## **CHRISTMAS MESSAGE TO ALL PARISHIONERS**

A year is 365/6 days we say is not long, but it is not everyone who lives to see the end of a year.

We started the year 2021 with some family members, friends, church members but today they are not with us but gone to eternity not because they were sinners and we who are still alive are saints – we are only alive by the grace of God. Pause for a minute and say a prayer for them. “Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them”. I hereby want to add my voice to yours in thanksgiving and praise to God for how far he has brought us.

The season of Christmas should, therefore, help us to make amendments of our lives and also fill all the cracks that were created between ourselves and stand out to forgive one another the pains that someone caused us.

Almost all the trees we see around us have shed all their leaves with the hope of bouncing back with new leaves, full of life to blossom and give their yields. Like the trees, let us also do away with our old leaves and clothe ourselves with new leaves of life as we enter into the new year so we will have good life in us to bear more fruits in the coming year.

All of you had many plans and aspirations that you couldn't meet. I urge you not to worry about what you couldn't achieve. There is always another time. Never give up on what you couldn't accomplish in the year 2021.

Your church community is also thankful to you for the good things you did for your church throughout the year 2021, to mention, your church attendance, your financial contributions and every service rendered in your capacity as Pastoral Council member, Finance Council member, Liturgy Committee member, sacristan, catechist, secretary, bookkeeper, lector, chapel attendants, choir, mass servers, church cleaning angel and church member.

I really appreciate all of you and I am urging you not to relent in what you are doing for your parish community as we enter into the new year and I know God will surely bless you abundantly.

***I hereby wish each and everyone a Merry Christmas  
and a prosperous New Year.***

***May you carry the baby Jesus in your heart  
and show him to the world.***

***GOD BLESS YOU ALL ... Fr. Michael Antoh***

