

O, come all ye faithful,

JOYFUL & TRIUMPHANT

My beloved parishioner,

One Christmas morning, an upset mother came to a pastor and told him that her little Johnny of six was missing. The child had been writing to Santa Claus for a wagon. And of course, it arrived on Christmas morning along with the other gifts. He disappeared with the wagon while his mother was preparing the Christmas dinner: and his absence went unnoticed for several hours. The priest decided to go to the police with the mother. But as the church was just next door, he suggested that both make a short visit and ask the Lord for their search. As they prayed in silence, they heard a noise toward the front of the church. They went over to investigate and who did they see but the missing child coming toward them pulling his wagon. He was not alone, for perched in the wagon on top of some straw was the infant Jesus from the crib.

Then the story unfolded. It seems that when he was kneeling at the crib with his mother, he had entered into a secret agreement with the Baby Jesus that if he could use his influence with Santa Claus to get him a wagon, he would take him out for a ride in it. Now he was only keeping his promise, and he had spent the last two hours pulling the Infant around the church.

Christmas! It is Christmas time again: the busiest and the most beautiful time of the year. We approach this time with a lot of enthusiasm and vigor because it is the special season to prepare our hearts and homes to welcome our Savior, Jesus Christ. Every year, December comes with more joy and happiness, a lot of celebrations and family gathering buying gifts and giving away gifts to our loved ones. It is easy for us to lose the real taste of what the season offers us; every Christmas is reminder and commemoration of how God loved His people and loves us today. Advent invites us to a unique, spiritual journey which let the birth of Christ open our hearts to the grace of Christmas and fill every dimension of our lives with light and joy and not mere fun filled celebrations. Let the preparation of Advent and celebrations of Christmas help us receive Jesus, our Savior and give Him to those around us.

Saint Joseph the Worker Church Bonneauville

Wishes you and your family and friends a

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Sincerely in Christ

Fr. Benny Jose *Deacon Richard Weaver*