

Coop's Scoop's #142

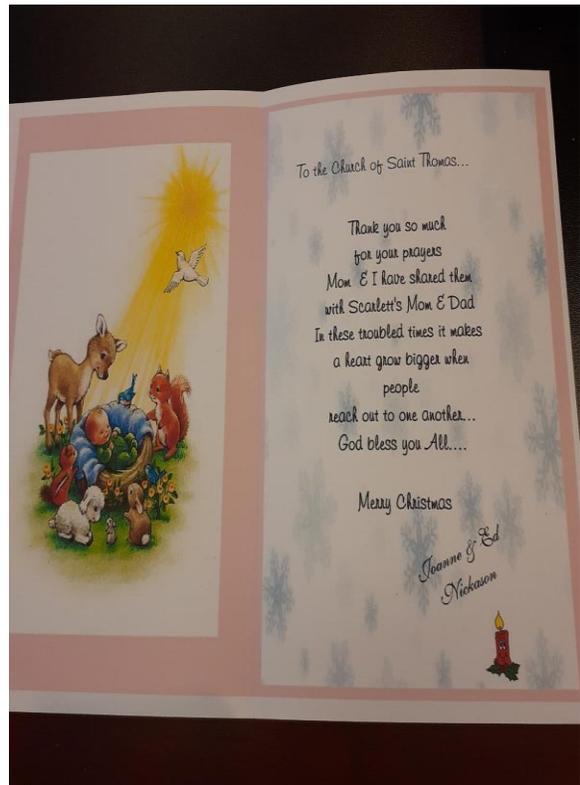


If you've been out walking by the church lately, you'll have seen the tall green wooden latts tree at the end of the ramp, and a large green wreath under the canopy. Thanks to Dave Hough for hanging the wreath (no small feat on a cold day) and to Peter , Alva Wood's son who hand made and painted the tree for us. It is double sided and makes a real statement for the community. "Jesus is the reason for the Season"

Amen. And thanks!

I probably have told you this story already but it bears repeating if I have! When CN rail was putting through the far northern rails out West they had work crews come from all over the country to spend months working away from their families. From time to time, they would sponsor family parties, where wives or parents and children were brought in to the camps for a great celebration...super food, great music, polkas and jigs and waltz's, and some fine wine (at least). On one occasion near Christmas, such a celebration was underway and a fine time being had by all except one poor fellow who remained alone, as his wife had just recently given birth to their first child. Little did he know, that the company had gone to great lengths to bring them, and they were a little late. The man heard the hall doors open one more time and looked up and there they were, his wife and new-born son. He ran toward them. The baby, startled by all the loud music and dance stomping started to wail. Suddenly, one of the more ancient railmen banged a staff on a table and yelled "Stop the music so we can hear the baby cry!" That was the "music" most needed for sure. Of course there's an application... Usually at Christmas there is so much chopping , ching chinging of the ATMs, home parties, music and busy-ness that we can't hear the arrival of the Baby Jesus. I would be challenging you to stop the "Christmas chaos" that takes our focus off the holy birth. Now this year, there's not so much "noise" claiming our attention. In so many ways, that is sad. Yet perhaps in this quieter time of celebration more of us will be able to "stop the music" and hear the Baby cry!

News From the Parish: St. Thomas received a heart-moving card yesterday from Jo and Ed Nickason which is reproduced for you here. We have been praying for little Scarlett Rose as she is receiving treatment for cancer at the tender age of 18 months. Please keep praying! Committing her to God's tender care as well as that wonderful love of her family and the amazing skills of all who are treating her. Thank you, Ed, for making this card. It really moved my heart. This is one baby that we DON'T want to be in tears, but rather getting stronger and stronger each day.



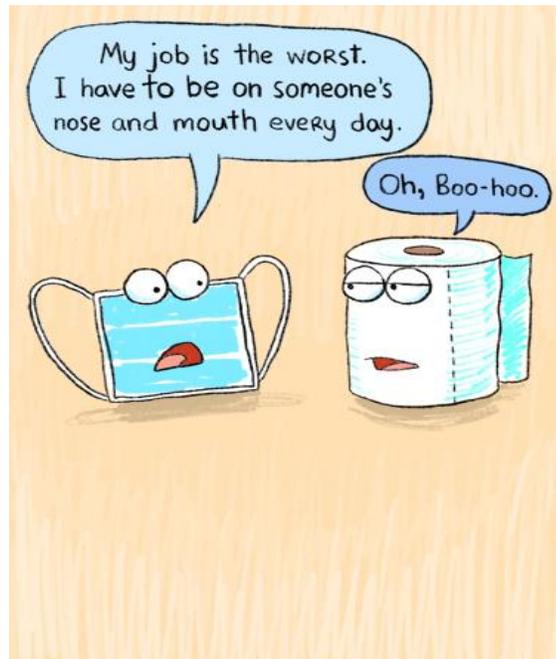
May Jesus, who once was rocked in Mary's arms, now by His Spirit rock wee Scarlett Rose in perfect peace and make her well! Amen.

If you were close at hand, I'd pass a tissue! Blessings to this family from all of us.

On the Lighter Side:

I must say this cartoon sent by Caroline Sokoloski certainly improved my perspective on my own “small” challenges! You’ve heard of the “Owl and the Pussy Cat” Here’s the “Mask and the Toilet Paper”

And if it seems like EVERYTHING’S being cancelled, Jacquie Howell sent reminds us of this:



I am on a very tight time-line today, so I’m asking your help with the Scripture and Homily. Please take out your Bible, look around and find something that speaks to your heart, and if you have the time, you can email a few words about what it was, and how it spoke to you.

Your Sunday Liturgy and Sermon for this week was delivered last Saturday! Hope that it is a blessing to you.

Love to all from Judie!

