

Column121122
Companions on the Journey

December 11,2022

Dear Friends,

There are two weeks left until Christmas. In those two weeks there is so much still to get done. Decorating, baking, shopping, writing cards, cooking, cleaning, wrapping, errands, and on and on. We all know the drill. We have been at this a long time. Every year we wonder if there will be enough time to get everything done, at least to an acceptable level of satisfaction. And amazingly each year we manage to do quite well. Maybe not everything we wanted or hoped for but enough to be grateful and to have the feeling of trying our best and achieving a job well done.

And we do all this because of the love that is in our hearts. We love our family members, our moms and dads, all our children wherever they are, our parents, our in laws, our friends and co-workers and fellow parishioners, and neighbors. We love them. And we even find the time to do some things for the poor, those who don't have a sufficiency, those who have wandered away or been so wounded by life that they are in their own isolation. We believe that they count too, especially for those who believe in the God and Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

And we do all this in a world that is a very noisy world. There is just so much noise, everywhere we go. There is no escaping it, or so it seems. I make a simple suggestion. Sometime this week and some time next week, stop in at Saint Anthony's and just sit on one of the back benches. In the quiet. In the dark. In the serenity. In the simple beauty. Get out from under all the demands and the expectations, personal and otherwise. Just spend a little time with Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. Speak to Him from your heart. Allow Him to remind you that all this you are doing, he understands as being done for Him. All this you are involved in, is because you love Him and are striving to live his way as best you can.

It gets overlooked sometimes but we do what we do and give it to Our ord. It is our return gift to Him on Christmas for all that He has so generously bestowed upon us throughout the year. We are thankful O Lord. We love you O Lord. We give you the gift of ourselves, the work of our hands, the distribution of our time, the quality of our love. We place in your hands, the hands of the original Little One of God this entrusting of ourselves. Lord let us do the doing but never lose sight of the "why" we do what we do. All is for you. Who gave all of yourself for us.

Peace,

Msgr. McHenry