Greetings, friends and neighbors:

For Zion’s sake I will not be silent,  
for Jerusalem’s sake I will not be quiet,  
until her vindication shines forth like the dawn  
and her victory like a burning torch.  
- Isaiah 62:1-4

Isaiah’s words, which begin the Proclamation of the Scriptures at the Christmas Vigil liturgy, almost fluoresce with brilliance. The writer, referred to by scholars as Trito-Isaiah, cannot contain his excitement at the coming of the Messiah. Therefore, it may surprise you to learn that he wrote these words as Israel approached one of its darkest hours. Revolts occurred from within, and foreign powers encroached on God’s chosen people from all sides.

What could be a cause of joy when Israel was in the midst of such peril? The prophet was able to see the larger picture. He knew that, even when things looked like they could not get worse; the love of God was still present. God’s love would ultimately triumph over human greed and lust for power.

During the season of the Incarnation, the memorial of God becoming a human being, it is good to look above the things that appear to overwhelm us. The birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus reminds us that nothing can overcome God’s care for us. This sure knowledge transforms how we see our world, so that, like Trito-Isaiah, we understand its true beauty. We can relish the life God has given us.

On behalf of Deacon Jeff and the staff, Merry Christmas to all, and may God’s blessings be on you during 2024.

Notes from Fr. Nick

Christmas Greetings

It’s Time to Buy Tickets to the Parish Centennial Gala!

The penultimate event of our Centennial Year will be a Gala evening in our Parish Hall: 
a catered dinner, live music, and dancing!

6:30 - 10:00 pm  
Saturday, January 20, 2024  
Link to Tickets:
tinyurl.com/SMM-Gala