



My Dear Parishioners,

Greetings Everyone! Last week, at the mid-point of Advent, we turned toward the Christmas Mystery, itself: Hearing the call of the Baptist, reflecting on St. Joseph, the value of questions and the wonder of this time

of year. All of which was so very fitting because Pope Francis would then name this coming year a Year of St. Joseph!

This week, as Christmas arrives, the mysteries, questions and wonder of Advent continue as we hear at Mass the First Joyful Mystery of the Rosary: The Annunciation. There we are invited to ponder with Mary the words of the Angel, the thoughts and sentiments that filled her Immaculate Heart, as God-became-Man within her.

A Popular Song that can help that pondering is ***Mary Did You Know***. I encourage you to listen to it this week and reflect on the lyrics found below. While beautiful in themselves, it's important that we remember all that Mary DID know. That YES indeed she knew that her Son was the Son of God; that she knew how loved, highly favored and chosen by God she was. And it was precisely such knowledge that made the mystery so full, the wonder so deep and her love so great.

My friends, as we approach Christmas, now is the time for us to focus on what we do know. That we have been looked upon with such great love. That God was born for us. That He is Lord and there is no other. May these truths, deeply rooted in our hearts, open up the Mystery of Christmas even more fully with all the joy and wonder that Christmas offers.

I express my gratitude to all of you for the faith and goodness that you have shown to our parish. I wish you all a very happy, blessed and holy Christmas Season.

Peace,

Fr. Rogers

#### **Mary Did You Know?**

**Mary did you know that your baby boy would one day walk on water?**

**Mary did you know that your baby boy would save our sons and daughters?**

**Did you know that your baby boy has come to make you new?**

**This child that you've delivered, will soon deliver you**

**Mary did you know that your baby boy will give sight to a blind man?**

**Mary did you know that your baby boy will calm a storm with his hand?**

**Did you know that your baby boy has walked where angels trod?**

**When you kiss your little baby, you kiss the face of God**

**Mary did you know? Mary did you know? Mary did you know?**

**Mary did you know? Mary did you know? Mary did you know?**

**The blind will see, the deaf will hear, the dead will live again**

**The lame will leap, the dumb will speak, the praises of the lamb**

**Mary did you know that your baby boy is Lord of all creation?**

**Mary did you know that your baby boy would one day rule the nations?**

**Did you know that your baby boy is heaven's perfect lamb?**

**That sleeping child you're holding is the great I am**

**Mary did you know? Mary did you know? Mary did you know?**

**Mary did you know? Mary did you know? Mary did you know? Oh**

**Mary did you know?**