

# Holy Spirit Church

From Fr. Joe

If you are anything like me just the mere thought of *Christmas* brings visions of excitement, joy, family and friends to mind and heart. Even the possibility of the JOY of Christmas to anyone and everyone's heart fills me with excitement and anticipation. Maybe that's why I love the snow so much, it reminds me of Christmas Joy.

Did you ever try this as a child, just trying to stay awake all night until morning light? We wait for one thing, but what we see amazes -the gradual dimming of the stars as light gently pushes back the darkness revealing the day; the JOY, the now? Somehow all seemed possible and all was refreshed and brilliant - the light has come.

Christmas is just this - Light blessing the now. Christmas is not the end of the Advent waiting, it is instead the dawn of a new waiting, a new Advent. It is Light blessing and sanctifying the journey, the waiting itself.

Some of us wait for travelers, Parents, children, siblings, friends and loved ones to come home for Christmas. In the same way every child seems joyfully impatient for the anticipated delight of what awaits.

In the *hush*, not the *rush*, of Christmas we are invited to witness the gift of the Light that shines in the here and now. We are invited to notice and to receive the sanctifying presence within our journey, our waiting. We are invited to sing Alleluia to the Jesus who *walks* with us each and every day. Open your eyes and see the Christ