



Christmas 2021

My Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

At a recent School Mass I showed the students a brand new crisp \$100 bill. (I don't usually carry that denomination but I wanted to use it in my homily). I asked the students how much it was worth; "a hundred dollars" came the amused reply. Folding it once, twice, I asked "now how much is it worth?" Again, "a hundred dollars," they said – some giggling. "Now what if I were to throw it on the ground, stomp on it, how much then?" Same replies. "What if I were to tear it up, which I wouldn't because that's illegal, how much then?" Silence.

What if that bill represented you? Or me? Does our worth diminish over time? Do we lose our value as human beings, as God's children, the more tattered we become?

My sisters and brothers, "I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people:" our Lord Jesus Christ was born Christmas Day for us "and our salvation." He came for shepherds and kings; for the sainted and the sinful; for the newest child born today and for those whose days, or even years, have seen distress or disappointment.

Jesus was born in a humble setting to show that no one is beyond the reach of God's love. No matter how many times we are tattered, bent, or folded over, we are worthy of His gift. No matter how many times you may look at someone and wonder if they can be saved, I assure you Jesus' message and mission are there to do the job.

On behalf of my brother priests, our deacon, faculty and staff, I wish you a blessed and Merry Christmas. May you feel the warmth of Our Father's love throughout the year.

In Christ,

Very Rev. Patrick L. Posey, V.F.
Rector