



VERMILION CATHOLIC
a legacy of Mount Carmel

Merry Christmas to our VC families!

Dec 16, 2024

For my message this month, I'd like to focus on gratitude. I am deeply grateful for all of you, for the great community we have, and for the educational opportunities made possible by our collaboration! Of course, I'm grateful that our football team won the state championship and for all the other achievements of our athletes and students over the past 4 months.

Being grateful is such an important part of our faith. Living in a spirit of gratitude is an essential part of what we want to form in our children. This Christmas, please make the time to practice gratitude. Soak in the joys of the holidays. Even in the mess and stress of navigating this sacred season, make the choice to be grateful for the opportunity to grow in love. If everything went perfectly smoothly all the time, we'd never have to actually grow in love! So, yes, be grateful for the difficult people and moments this Christmas as well as the pleasant ones.

Most of all, please give your gratitude to God for the gift of his son, born into our world to set us free. There is no better way to do this than to attend Mass, to offer worship and prayer - and all the mess too - in and through the Eucharist. "Eucharist" means "thanksgiving/gratitude." Even if you cannot receive communion, you can unite your offering to the bread and wine and prayer at Mass, then receive a [spiritual communion](#) in prayer, and you'll still benefit! If you're a part of St. Mary Magdalen, I hope to see you at Mass. If not with us, then may whatever parish you attend be enriched by your presence!

Merry Christmas to you all and thank you for giving me the gift of being your pastor, of allowing me to bring Jesus Christ in Word and Sacrament to you and your precious children! Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and may God Bless you!

- With joy in the birth of our savior,

Father Alexander M. Albert,
Pastor,
Vermilion Catholic, A Legacy of Mount Carmel
St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

P.S. For Lagniappe, here's another priest's take on gratitude:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5bjTQi4gy1I>

*Christmas
Mass Schedule*

**CHRISTMAS EVE
(CHILDREN'S CHOIR)**
Tuesday, December 24 | 4:00pm
Overflow in Chapel | 4:00pm

CHRISTMAS EVE
Tuesday, December 24 | 6:00pm

**SOLEMN VIGIL
(CHOIR/ORCHESTRA)**
Wednesday, December 25 | 12:00am
Christmas Caroling Begins | 11:30pm

CHRISTMAS DAY
Wednesday, December 25 | 7:00 & 9:00am

Enter to Learn Christ, Leave to Serve Christ