



VERMILION CATHOLIC
a legacy of Mount Carmel

A blessed Advent and a Merry Christmas to you all!

Dec 18, 2025

As we wrap up the halfway mark of the school year and start our Christmas break, I want to say thank you for being part of the VC family! It is our mission to help every child flourish and grow and come to know more fully Jesus Christ whose birth we celebrate next week. Our God chose to be a little child and in so doing so raised up the dignity of our human nature and value of childhood. Indeed, he called us to become "childlike" in order to enter the kingdom of heaven.

We of course know there is a difference between being childish (immature and selfish) and being childlike. To be childlike is to trust our Father in heaven. To be childlike is to delight in the riches of life. To be childlike is to be curious about the world given to us - a world we didn't create or choose to belong to, but given us nonetheless. To be childlike is [to want to give and receive love and to share experiences with the people we love more than to acquire wealth and stuff.](#)

So, among the final hustle and bustle of gift-buying and party-planning, I urge you to remember the value of being childlike, to cherish time with loved ones and to cherish experiences of loving God and each other above all the rest. The Magi brought gifts, yes, but even more importantly, they brought themselves. They came to be in the *presence* of the king and to share their presence and worship with him. Don't forget to share your presence with our newborn king and with each other this Christmas. May we continue to delight in the community we share as a sign to us of God's presence. And may we by our love and kindness make Christ present to those who've never known him.

In Christ the Newborn King,

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

P.S. As lagniappe: Check out this excellent conversation on waiting between Fr. Mike Schmitz and Dr. Arthur Brooks: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w9_5VdG_7A4

Dr. Brooks has some wonderful advice on marriage at the 24:30 minute mark.

Enter to Learn Christ, Leave to Serve Christ

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