



MISSION PARISHES

ST. PETER- ST. ANTHONY- ST. CHARLES

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Oh, How Good the Lord Has Been with Us!!!!

The days of Christmas this year will remain engraved in my memory and in my heart for seeing the work of God in these three parishes of St. Charles, St. Anthony, and St. Peter, how we have been able to unite to celebrate the festivities of the INCARNATION; seeing the parishioners working together, striving to ensure that all the faithful parishioners could enjoy the Christmas holidays... WE LOOKED LIKE A PARISH!!!!!! And *that* is God's Work. During these days we have witnessed, in the Mission district, that Jesus is alive, that God is in our midst and they have been able to say about us: LOOK HOW THEY LOVE THEM!!!!

I would like first to THANK everyone who has made these events possible. We could not have done this without your help, your time, or your donations. I also want to thank those IN CHARGE OF THE MASSES that with their experience, desire to help, love for their parishes, and encouragement, they have encouraged me to make these festivities an unforgettable celebration. Beauty will save the world!!!! Thanks to those of you who have beautified the Churches with your talent, time, and dedication to make the church more beautiful with flower arrangements, and more. Finally, I want to thank all the parishioners for their presence in our festivities because thanks to you, and for you, God gives us the strength to be able to serve them with joy.

A year ago, this seemed impossible. DESPITE PANDEMIC AND COVID-19 THAT HAS DONE SO MUCH DAMAGE TO OUR SOCIETY AND TO THE CHURCH, today, I see that there is nothing impossible for God. We have been able to contemplate the love of God in the midst of so much destruction, social disorder, fear and sometimes even lies on the part of a government and society that does not want God; nor do they care that man unites with his creator. Yes!!!! I say it with pain. They have wanted to close the churches. They have treated us as if we are one of the greatest risks for COVID-19 infection. Yes!!!! They have laughed at us and have come to try to entertain us as if we were a park or the zoo, or theaters. Yes!!!! We have been told that we are not essential; that we are not necessary. I never thought that in this century of tolerance the church and its faithful would be treated so badly. As Saint Paul says, "... we have become the laughingstock of the world ..." **But despite all this, with your presence you have helped me to believe that we are not entertainment for people. We are essential! Your presence currently has been of enormous help to my faith.** How good the Lord has been to us? This year he has united us in a special way with his passion. "A new poem springs from my heart..." When the psalmist said these words, he precisely meant this: "...in the midst of pain and suffering, Jesus makes everything new." I greatly wish that for the next year, he will find us together forming a community of brothers and sisters united in our Lord Jesus Christ and the Virgin Mary, mother of God, and our mother.

THANK YOU, ALL SO, MUCH!!!!!!!!!!!!

I CAN ONLY SAY THANKS FOR LETTING ME ENJOY THIS CHRISTMAS WITH YOU. THANK YOU FOR BEING A WITNESS, ALSO WITH YOU, OF THE GOODNESS OF GOD. THANK YOU, GOD, FOR BEING A PART OF THE HISTORY OF THESE THREE PARISHES.

HAVE A HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!!!!!!!!!

PRAY FOR ME AND ALL THE PRIESTS OF THE PARISH.

- **Father Moisés Agudo**