

St. Mary Mission

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Thanksgiving/Christmas 2018

Dear Mission Friends,

Greetings from the Mission where freezing morning temperatures (10 - 25 degrees) greet us daily -- and winter is still a month away! The swamp coolers are all winterized and the heating systems are up and running well, thanks to Calvin and Vernon, our maintenance men. With so many buildings in three different locations, maintaining equipment from one season to another is no easy task. Thankfully they attend to these matters well and in a timely fashion so that the Sisters and I can continue to give 100% to ministry.

Included with this letter is the full page 100th Jubilee mural by Chriss Murphy along with the accompanying narrative. Produced and created over the summers of 2017 & 2018, this mural decorates the outside wall of the mission garage facing south. The narrative explains many of the figures, but the mural also includes some of the Franciscans stationed here (Fr. John, Fr. Dale, Bro. Maynard, Sr. Pat, Sr. Marlene), as well as St. Katharine Drexel, flags of the USA and Navajo Nation, Navajo sacred mountains, a Navajo family, and our Hogan chapel. A canopy protects the mural from the deteriorating effects of the sun and rain, so we expect the images and colors to remain intact for years to come. Thank you, Chriss! Your mural is such a source of inspiration as we countdown to June, 2020 -- our 100th anniversary celebration!!!

As it turns out, November is usually the busiest month of the year! In addition to all the regular ministerial programs, the Sisters are busily organizing all the families for the St. Joan of Arc (Phoenix) visit (100 gift boxes for 100 needy families) and then finding additional families for the Southwest Indian Foundation Christmas vouchers (another 100 food baskets for 100 needy families). Additionally, I make the annual road trip to our twinning parish (St. James) in Fremont/Oakland for the Thanksgiving Day Mass and appeal. Yes, it's a long trip (1,000 miles each way) with the 1997 Tahoe and trailer, but the kindness of the parishioners is overwhelming!!!

As we enter the season of caring and sharing, may you be blessed abundantly! Be assured of our continued prayerful support; and, your continued support will help keep us "standing tall for the Navajo people" for another hundred years!!!

Merry Christmas!

Rev. Dale Jamison, O.F.M.
Pastor

P.S. Please consider St. Mary's in your estate/bequest planning! Thank you, again!

Rev. Dale Jamison, O.F.M

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Pastor



Christmas Stocking Wish List

1. Supermarket gift cards
(for food pantry items)
2. Walmart/Target gift cards
(for clothes closet items)
3. Good used cars
(I'll come and get it)
4. Good health for our donors