



## Christmas 2021



Happy Christmas my dearest brothers and sisters!

Let us rejoice together for the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Many times when I write you or speak to you in a homily, I address you all as the "Christ the King family." In truth, this is so much more. We are, in all sincerity, a real family—a reality made possible through our Lord Jesus Christ, in whom we are united. This reality that we are a family in Christ means we are deeply connected, by something extraordinary and supernatural. In greeting you as "family", I mean for us to recognize in each other the nature we share as children of God.

Saint Teresa of Calcutta wrote: "It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you." We must nurture, protect and uplift each other as only family can do. It is from the family—that fundamental cell of society—that we bear the fruit of Christ which can then be shared with others. This is as true in the homes we share as a family as it is in the parish we share as a family.

It is this time of year that I as your Shepherd can relay my heartfelt thoughts to each and everyone of you.

I therefore want to take this opportunity on behalf of our Church here at Christ the King to thank you the congregation and our various ministries for your dedication, sacrifice and service this year for our Church. I wholeheartedly extend my humble and sincere gratitude to all those that work quietly behind the scene to make a huge difference to our parish. We are indeed a vibrant and energised parish that is united in living the Gospel. I am truly marvelled how we work together as a team and continue to face whatever adversities there are. That is the power of love and prayer working together. I therefore say a big thank you to our hardworking volunteers involved in the Administration of our Parish, the Technical and Website Team, Eucharistic Ministers, Readers, Catechists, Music team, choir, flower arrangers, wardrobe mistress, Alter servers, hospitality team, Grounds Team, Sacristans, Cleaners, Stewards, Children's Liturgy and all those make daily sacrifices to help our community thrive.

Without you, we could simply not operate the way we do. You are a magnificent credit and I am most humbled to be alongside you.

Since my arrival, you have shown me such love and care and I cannot repay you for all that you have done. From the bottom of my heart, I am sincerely appreciative for all your time, effort, hard-work, dedication, value, zeal and enthusiasm you have for the work of God. Together we make a difference.

May God bless you with abundant joy and happiness. Please continue rendering your services to God for there is no greater satisfaction and peace in life than committing yourself to him.

In the coming year, we will gather each week in thanksgiving for all that God gives us. This Christmas, let us open our hearts, enlarge our boundaries and bring those at the farthest edges, closer. Beginning even here, look to the brother or sister next to you in the pew. Do not let them leave a stranger. If you came to Christ the King alone, see that you are not alone! You are each part of our family, bonded together by a different kind of flesh and blood—one that was born thousands of years ago but that is living still today.

To all of you and your families, I extend the greetings of each of us here at Christ the King. Be sure that each of you is in my prayers and thoughts in this holy season, and my wish is that your hearts may know the joy of the presence of the new Born King. May the Holy Family fill your hearts and lives and homes with the choicest of blessings at Christmas and throughout the New Year!

Merry Christmas and a Happy and Grace-filled New Year! God bless you!

Rev Fr Nicholas Nwanzi

*Happy  
New year*