

Peace & Joy

COURIER-JOURNAL

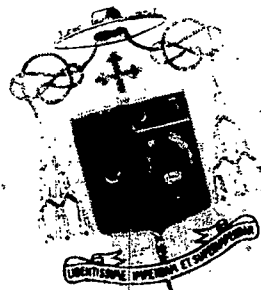
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CHRISTMAS, 1978

My dear People,

When left to our own devices, we human beings can be a sad lot. We come to another December. The days grow colder and darker as the sun gives less of its power to the earth. We worry about having enough fuel to warm our homes. We hope that enough electricity will be produced to light our lamps. The prophets of doom fill us with a sense of frustration.

But, thank God, we have not been left on our own. As Christians, we come to the cold dark days of December with renewed joy because of the birth of Christ, the Son of God. On the first Sunday of Advent, we prayed:

Father in heaven, our hearts desire the warmth of your love, and our minds are searching for the light of your Word. Increase our longing for Christ our Savior and give us the strength to grow in love, that the dawn of his coming may find us rejoicing in his presence and welcoming the light of his truth.

I shall be offering my Christmas Masses for you with special gratitude for your prayerful support during my nine years as your Bishop and for your precious healing words of affirmation and concern since my resignation.

On this Christmas, 1978, I wish each of you love and light. May you be filled anew with the life of Christ; and with renewed hope, may you continue to work for a better world, as we wait for His coming again in glory.

Devotedly yours in Christ Our Savior,

Joseph L. Hogan

+Most Reverend Joseph L. Hogan, D.D.
Apostolic Administrator
Diocese of Rochester

The Church Is
Advent Itself,
Pope Says . . . 5

Help the Needy
At Christmas
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