



*From the Desk of Father Peter*

*Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe*

*Today we celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King. This week we will celebrate Thanksgiving Day with family and friends with great appreciation for the blessings received as a nation. Then next*



*week we will begin the Season of Advent. Unfortunately, many of us have grown to accept this time as a season for rushing, buying, wrapping and giving. Our culture expects us to be stressed and harried at this time of the year as we move from store to store, party to party. Indeed, for many of us, our schedules are full of dates and deadlines. Yet through all of this many people's hearts are touched and enlivened by what we do. I know through personal experience that when we open our hearts great things can happen. I cannot but be grateful for all you do to support our church here at St. John the Evangelist. We are indeed the beloved disciples of Jesus Christ by our presence here each week and by our support of the church's activities with our time, talent and treasure. Like some of you, I grew up in a family of four children in the fifties, on a different continent called Africa in the Country of Ghana, rich in resources but very poor. For my parents, money at times was tight for food, clothing and shelter. Medical opportunities were rare; at the tender age of four I lost my mother. Together with my siblings we were raised by our grandparents as our father was in the army in Ghana. We were, however, never without the basic essentials of life. We were taught to share with others what little we had and*

were encouraged to go to Mass every day. Maybe we can't do that today, but I am happy for the many experiences growing up with all its struggles. We were taught to support our local church in any way possible and were made to understand that our church was our responsibility. We were made to understand that European and American priests and nuns (missionaries) in our country were there only to help. We were to carry the church into the future with all that our baptism calls us forth to do in Christ. The church was ours to support. As your pastor, I share this experience with you because as this year comes to a close, many of us are in the mood of gift-giving to various causes. I want you to remember our Diocesan Catholic Ministries Appeal (CMA). I know that we have been told that times are hard and yes, I am very sensitive to the demands of each of us with financial strain, yet, I write today on this Solemnity of Christ the King asking us all to offer a helping hand of hope, peace and love. I do so not only as one who knows that hardships are out there, but also as one who has contributed personally to the CMA. I kindly ask you to please do the same and help us achieve our goal. During this time of giving, please think about our CMA; you may have received a second or third letter from Bishop Matano. Reaching our goal will be a blessing for all of us in the Diocese of Rochester. Please do not forget to return your pledge card and keep in mind that you can even make monthly installments. Please be sure to use our Parish ID# 039 in the memo section of your check. If you have misplaced your pledge card, you can find one in the back of church or you can see me for one. As we have done previously, we have just begun publishing the names of those who have pledged/donated thus far to help us reach our parish goal and as more come in, those names will be added. During this season of giving—thank you for your support! May

*you be richly blessed. You will find in today's bulletin our updated parish numbers.*



*Peace and blessing all of us,*

*Fr. Peter Enyan-Boadu*