

**The Reflection from Pastor Fr. John  
Carlos, Holy Cross Church, Harrison, NJ,  
January 2, 2022**

**ABIDE IN ME LORD**



“And they came into the house, and saw the young child with Mary his mother, and they offered him gifts: gold, incense, and myrrh” (Mt 2:11). Dear brothers and sisters, as I begin this reflection, first of all, I want to thank you for the many gifts you have given us and the celebrations that we share together, during this time of Christmas and New Year. We truly live the Christmas season, which is to offer for Jesus what we have. But, time moves on, life continues, and we may ask ourselves: What can I continue to offer to my Jesus? We are already in the new year of 2022 and with it is born a new hope, a renewal of life in the Lord.

“Renew me, Lord Jesus, I no longer want to be the same”.

A new year is born, and with it a new hope, a renewal of life in the Lord. So, we have a new opportunity to drink the water of life that flows from the temple. It is possible, one only needs accept him as Lord and Savior of ones life. Go to meet Him and ask: “where are you staying?” He said to them, “Come, and you will see”. (John 1:38-39). Therefore, I wish you a happy and prosperous New Year, full of the Grace of the Lord, as said in St. Luke 4:18a.19: “The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because He has anointed me to give knowledge that the year of the Lord's good pleasure is come”

May this year bring us renew hope, Happy New Year filled with God’s grace.

Father John Carlos