

Christmas Message 2015

No Better Time to Say Goodbye ~ The coming of another Christmas brings with it a renewed sense of joy and awe at the Lord's overwhelming goodness to me as I reflect on memories in which the people of our Diocese played an important role in my life.

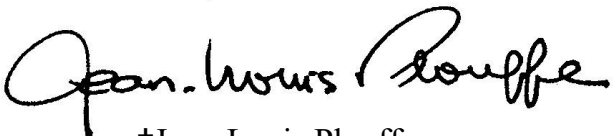
The span of almost twenty-nine (29) years of memories gives them a profound and everlasting character. They remind me of the many and various ways the priests, deacons and layfaithful make the message of Christmas so credible and so real to me and to many others. These past years have helped me understand more deeply how much I am indebted to the Lord and to all of you for your kindness.

There could not be a better time for this parting of our ways than the beginning of a New Year, a "Jubilee Year," calling us to a significant moment in our journey toward our fulfillment in Christ rediscovering Mercy in our lives, as not only a word or concept, but God Himself, seen on the face and in the actions of Christ.

If 2016 is to truly be a "Holy Year," may finding God in our midst be our way of shining God's presence in ourselves and around us. In the quiet and stillness of our soul, the harmony of heart and mind, spirit and body, may we come to experience the joy and peace that only the merciful Christ can provide to all who surrender to Him.

May this Christmas be an exceptional moment of presence to the sacred space within, awakening a true spiritual relationship among us and others, especially the outcasts of our families, our parishes and our communities.

A Blessed Christmas and New Year to all!

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Bishop's Office

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