

Pastor's Column

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“Creating Sacred Time”

As we mark the passage of time with the close of 2005 and the beginning of 2006, we are focused on the notion of time and how swiftly it passes.

Hopefully, we are also aware that, by the choices we make, time can be meaningless and wasteful or it can be sacred—a moment and a place in which the Holy One speaks to us and we respond.

In making time sacred, in experiencing the Holy One, rituals play a key role. That is why we gather together Sunday after Sunday to celebrate the Eucharist, why we come together for family celebrations and Parish Family

celebrations. We desire to regard time as a moment and a place in which we consciously celebrate the Mystery that is life.

I share with you these ideas taken from the book, **“From Beginning To End, The Rituals Of Our Lives,”** by Robert Fulghum. May these thoughts help each of us to make 2006 sacred:

“To be human is to be religious. To be religious is to be mindful. To be mindful is to pay attention. To pay attention is to sanctify existence.

Rituals are one way in which attention is paid. Rituals arise from the stages and ages of life. Rituals

transform the ordinary into the holy.

Rituals may be public, private, or secret. Rituals may be spontaneous or arranged. Rituals are in constant evolution and reformation.

Rituals create sacred time. Sacred time is the dwelling place of the Eternal. Haste and ambition are the adversaries of sacred time.”

Happy New Year to you and yours.
Make 2006 a sacred year!

F. Mike