

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings and the joy and peace of the newborn Christ Jesus to each of you!

At Christmas, we share the great tradition of giving gifts to honor Jesus Christ, just as the Wise Men presented gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh to the newborn King.

As your bishop, my Christmas gift to you is to share the TRUTH which comes to us in the person of Jesus Christ – the greatest gift that has ever been given to the world. For 2,000 years, this gift of TRUTH has enabled the faithful to live the virtues of faith, hope, and charity.

Throughout 2019, I would like to share my personal reflections on this TRUTH with all of you directly. I invite you to please visit my web site at bishopstrickland.com and sign-up for my new e-mail/text message list. You can provide your e-mail, mobile phone number, or both. This list will only be used for my personal messages to you - the faithful of the Diocese of Tyler and I promise not to share it with any outside groups. It is my hope to be able to communicate with everyone in the Diocese of Tyler, so please sign up this Christmas season and encourage your friends and family to do the same.

In the midst of all the busyness of Christmas, may the grace of God help you to keep Christ at the center of everything you do.

With my blessing and prayers for all of you as we rejoice in the splendor of the Incarnate Word, I am

Sincerely and joyfully yours,

Most Rev. Joseph E. Strickland Bishop of Tyler