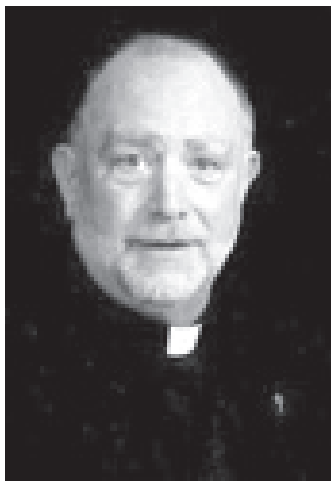


MESSAGE FROM OUR KJT SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR



REVEREND ROBERT E. (BOB)
KNIPPENBERG
KJT State Spiritual Director

*“In the sixth month,
the angel Gabriel was
sent from God to a town of
Galilee.” (Luke 1:26)*

During April we celebrate the Annunciation of the Lord. This originally happens in March, but because of Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday, we

Annunciation of the Lord

carry the Annunciation of the Lord into April.

The Annunciation marks the beginning of our salvation history. God’s plan to save us abides in eternity. His realization of this plan, however, occurs in time, our time. The full text of the Gospel for the Solemnity of the Annunciation begins, In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee. God’s plan to save us embraces all those who dwell on planet earth. The realization of this plan begins in a specific place, a Galilean town called Nazareth.

The circumstances of the Incarnation of the Son of God lead us to ponder how divine grace takes hold of our lives. Though there are some all-atonce conversions, ordinarily God begins with something

particular in our time and space. We might experience a sorrow, and so turn to God for comfort. We might find ourselves in need of something, and we ask God to give it to us. We might find ourselves drawn to something religious, though without realizing what it means to become authentically religious.

From Nazareth, God’s saving plan extends to the whole world. We recognize this movement in the growth of the Church throughout the world. Everywhere the Church exists, there also is the woman who in the Annunciation receives the message of the angel. Just as Jesus abides as the Savior of the world, so Mary extends her maternal care to those whom God sanctifies.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fr. Bob Knippenberg". The signature is written in a dark ink and is positioned below the main text of the message.