

Dear Friends and Benefactors,

In early January I traveled to Boynton Beach, Florida, to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation. To have more faithful Catholics as soldiers of Christ, strengthened by the Holy Ghost, is a tremendous blessing not only for that parish but for the Church as a whole.

Toward the end of January, winter made its presence unmistakably known. A major snowstorm swept through New York, blanketing the seminary grounds with more than 24 inches of snow. The storm required several hours of clearing and shoveling. Due to difficult travel conditions and a number of cancelled flights, we were forced to cancel Mass in several locations. While canceling Mass is never ideal, the weather serves as a reminder that even our best plans



*Confirmations at Our Lady of Peace in Boynton Beach, Florida*



*The Blessings of Throats on the Feast of Saint Blaise at St. Pius V School*



*A Conference at the Annual Men's Day of Recollection at St. Anne's Chapel*



*Fr. Martin attended a play at St. Anne's Academy in honor of St. John Bosco.*

remain subject to God's providence, which, as St. Catherine of Siena says, "comes from love and ordains all for the salvation of men."

On February 4 the priests, seminarians, and brothers, traveled to St. Pius V School on Long Island for the annual evening of basketball with the high school boys and alumni. The games were played with a competitive camaraderie, and the evening provided a welcome opportunity to spend time with school families and parishioners.

As we begin another Lent, Holy Mother Church once again calls us to prayer, fasting, and penance. Let us be generous in observing

the fast, if obliged to do so, and let us make good use of this holy season by undertaking additional sacrifices according to our state in life. In this way we do penance for our sins, subdue our disordered passions, and strengthen our weakened human nature. Lent is thus a great opportunity to grow closer to God and to bolster ourselves spiritually against the devil's deceptions and our own weakness.

We are grateful for your prayers, generosity, and sacrifices on our behalf, which make it possible for our work to continue. Daily we remember you in our prayers. God is never outdone in generosity, and we trust that He will reward you abundantly for the kindness you show us. God bless you.

In the Sacred Heart,

*+James Carroll, C.S.B.V*

The Most Reverend James Carroll, C.S.P.V



*Basketball at St. Pius V School*