

Dear Family & Friends,

Christmas this year will probably be a little different from last year . . . hopefully, we will be able to celebrate the Christmas Masses in church. Here in Colombia everyone follows the protocols about mask wearing . . . and everyone who can is getting the vaccines and now the boosters. (I was able to get the Moderna booster here in Colombia!). I have been praying for all of you during this stressful time. May the Advent Season be filled with longing for the good things to come.



The only big news this year is that after the successful gastric sleeve surgery in 2020 and losing 130 lbs., I had surgery in May to remove the excess skin. It's a bit of a transformation!



2018

2021

In July the parishes here in Medellín were able to reopen more fully for Mass, and I began helping out in parishes again. I still celebrate Mass in Spanish (and in English) in my home on Facebook every Sunday at 3:00 pm Colombia Time and Eastern Time Zone in the USA. I am also the chaplain to the Volunteers at the local hospital. In the meantime, I try to keep in touch with everyone by means of my blog (ncmtnpadre.com), and through my daily reflections (on Facebook and by email and text messaging—let me know if you would like to receive them).

My home is filled with Óscar's collection of nativity sets . . . I counted over 360 this year! Everywhere you look there is Christmas—but I will be looking for you, my family and friends, under my Christmas tree this year, because you are the best gift of all!

For those of you in the United States, please keep using my old cell phone number, (828) 713-1344. I can still receive calls here in Colombia, and it's a free call from your cell phone—you can reach me anytime—"the Padre's in." May this Christmas bring healing to our world and to our hearts. And may the Blessed Virgin Mary, Saint Joseph and the Christ Child bless you and all your loved ones this Christmas and throughout the New Year 2022!

With much love,

Morris
Christmas 2021



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