



Bishop W. James Thomas, II, D. Min.
Senior Pastor

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Greetings, CBC Family & Friends,

On this holy night, the Eve of the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, you are in my thoughts and my prayers. You are probably cooking, planning for family and friends, enjoying one another, wrapping gifts, or getting the little ones ready for Santa Claus' arrival (if that is your thing). However, I did want to stop for a moment and personally wish you a very Merry Christmas.

Tonight, we reflect on the miracle of His birth—a gift of love and grace that changed the world forever. Personally, it is my custom to attend Midnight Mass every Christmas Eve. For me, it helps me to keep Christ as the focus amidst all the hustle and bustle of the season. However, whatever way you choose to celebrate this sacred night, take a moment and thank God for Jesus.

As we stand at the threshold of this sacred moment, we are reminded that the birth of Christ is not just a historical event but a living invitation for us to get closer to God. In the simplicity of a manger, our Savior chose to enter the world in humility, showing us that greatness comes not from power but from service, sacrifice, and love, and His light continues to shine through the darkness.

I know you have other things to do, so let me quickly say that, for many, this has been a rough year, and if you are like me, you are remembering those whose presence will not be with us this year. But let us be encouraged by the fact that God is faithful, and His presence is with us right now. Find a way to praise through your problems, laugh through your tears, and shout through your sorrow. If you think about it, God has been with us every step of the way. If He had not been, we never would have made it.

May your heart be filled with His love this Christmas and beyond. Remember those who are not as blessed as you are tonight.

May the peace and joy of Christ fill your homes, your hearts, and your lives this holy season.

In Christ's Love,

Bishop W/James Thomas, II, D.Min., Senior Pastor

BTW: We thank each of you for your cards, gifts, and your genuine display of love. We love you!

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