

December 5, 2023

Advent Greetings, Holy Spirit School families,

We have begun the season of preparation leading up to Christmas, and I wanted to extend an invitation to you to join me and our parishioners this Saturday evening after Mass for a showing of a Jesus movie from an earlier generation. It's called *Jesus of Nazareth* and was a TV mini-series from the late 1970s. It was shown at Easter of the year on two separate weekends, Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. It was a ratings hit then and has remained so all these years by way of DVD and special presentations on TV during the holy seasons

You know that I'm a big fan of *The Chosen*. It's a wonderful presentation of Jesus in his humanity. Jesus was, after all, fully God and fully man. But, that earlier movie emphasized His godliness. It was very well done and artistic in nature. The music was very inspiring, and the man who played Jesus looked more like Jesus and Jesus did. Just kidding of course but I've heard that they chose the British actor Robert Powell because he looked very Christ-like. As a matter of fact, his image is a standard image found on the walls of houses all around the world.

We do many types of things to celebrate at Christmas, but certainly one of the better things you could do would be to take at least your older children to see this movie. I would hope that it would have the same effect on them that it had on me back 40 years ago. And that was a very positive effect that helped me grow in my understanding of Jesus and the sacred scriptures. It is a visual Bible study on DVD.

The movie will be shown in two parts with the second part next Easter. Each segment is a little over three hours long. We will feed you with pizza and pop and popcorn. If you come, why don't you bring some Christmas cookies?

~Fr. John