

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE December 24, 2019 Media Contact: Maria Lemakis 314.792.7635 marialemakis@archstl.org

Archbishop Robert J. Carlson's Christmas Message Offers Prayers of Comfort, Compassion, Forgiveness, and Hope

"The message of fraternity and love from the Baby Jesus transcends the test of time."

ST. LOUIS – In his annual Christmas message, the Most Reverend Robert J. Carlson, Archbishop of St. Louis, reflects on the image of the Nativity Scene, and what the Baby Jesus and His Holy Family mean for all of the faithful. As part of his message, he shares the following:

"The message of fraternity and love from the Baby Jesus transcends the test of time. We must respond to that love with celebration, prayer and charity as we share that love with others. Despite our failings, we are commissioned with the beautiful duty to offer comfort, compassion, forgiveness and hope. We do that by showing care and concern for family, friends, and strangers—by striving to love all of humanity as Jesus does."

Archbishop of St Louis

Most Reverend Robert J. Carlson

Archbishop Carlson's video message can be viewed and downloaded on the Advent and Christmas landing page at archstl.org/Advent-Christmas. If you wish to share it on your media platforms, the Archdiocese of St. Louis kindly asks that you please direct your audience to archstl.org to view the entire message.

Please direct questions to <u>Maria Lemakis</u>, Multimedia Manager or to <u>Peter Frangie</u>, Executive Director of Strategic Communications and Planning.

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