LIKE THE DEWFALL
The Greek word, epiclesis, means a special outpouring of the Holy Spirit. In every Mass, just before the consecration of the bread and wine, the priest prays for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the bread and wine. In Eucharistic Prayer II, the priest prays, “Make these gifts holy, we pray, by sending down your Holy Spirt upon them like the dewfall. . . “

What does the phrase, “like the dewfall” mean? To desert people, like the Jews, our older brothers and sisters in the faith, the dew on the ground and on the plants was life giving. The dew could be gathered for drinking. The dew carried within itself the “bread from heaven”, the manna that was their daily bread. The dew on the ground could be quietly absorbed and it could give life to the plants that were rooted in the soil. Like the dew, the Holy Spirit descends upon the bread and wine that we have offered and placed on the altar and is the agent of their transformation as they become for us the Body and Blood of Jesus. The epiclesis, along with the words of consecration, change the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of our Lord and Savior. What a great gift is the Eucharist! We thank the Holy Spirit for His part and preparing the gift of the Lord Jesus for us “like the dewfall”!

THE DIOCESAN CHRISTMAS CONCERT
For your information, Bishop Serratelli invites us to the Christmas Concert at the Cathedral today, December 2, at 4 pm. All are welcome. By the way, we will commemorate the 200th anniversary of the composition of “Silent Night.”

CONGRATULATIONS TO DAVID GALDI
Congratulations to Dave, Kathy and Taylor Galdi. Dave has been accepted into the aspirancy program for the permanent diaconate of the Diocese of Paterson. Please pray for Dave as he discerns this vocation and then as he begins his studies and formation. Please also pray for Greg Szpunar as he continues in his formation.
God bless.
Father Nick