

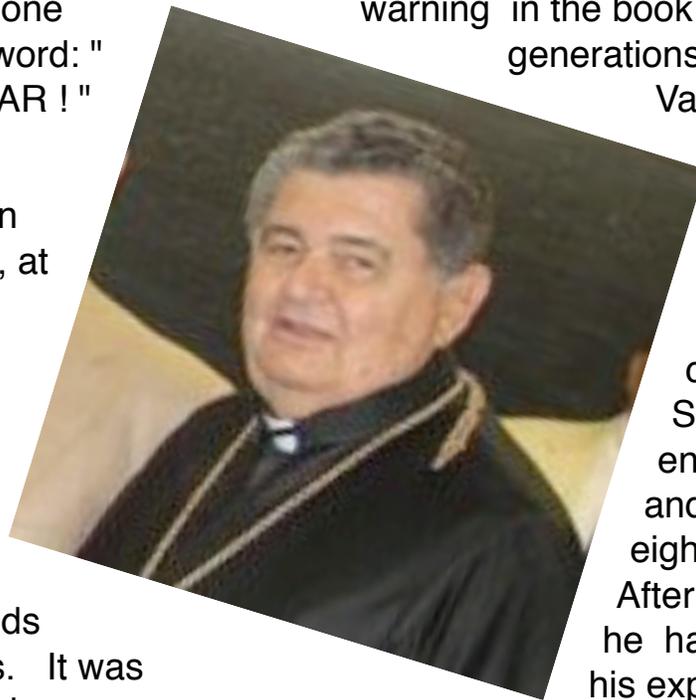
A PASTORAL MESSAGE FROM FATHER PETER

HAPPY NEW YEAR These words will be on the lips of all after the mid night on the 31st of December and all day of the 1st of January. Children will extend this greeting to their parents, parents to their children, friends to their friends. Every heart will have but one wish, love but one word: "A HAPPY NEW YEAR !"

This is a wish so general, so common and universal -- yet, at the same time is peculiar and most significant. It expresses the innermost cravings of the human heart.

Our heart must needs crave for happiness. It was made to be happy; hence, we crave for it with every fibre of our being.

If people at times have been disappointed, it was because they mistook the shadow for the reality. Like children, they were chasing soap-bubbles, running after beautiful butterflies. No sooner did they catch them than the bubbles vanished and the butterflies, crushed by ungentle hands, was but a little dust.



Let us not be deceived. Only God can satisfy the human heart in its search for happiness. My heart is so small. With the palm of my hand I can cover it. It is so great, so big that the whole world cannot satisfy. Solomon, the wisest man that ever lived, wrote his warning in the book of Wisdom for all generations to come: "

Vanity of vanities, and all is vanity in this world, except to love God and keep His commandments".

St. Augustine enjoyed the world and its pleasures for eighteen long years. After he found God he has written down his experience for you

and for me, saying, " My heart was restless until it found rest, O God, in you!"

I wish to all of you that may the coming NEW YEAR be blessed with health, happiness, joy, prosperity and spiritually uplifted.

Fr. peter