



Mayor's Monthly Newsletter

Written by Mayor Justin Ray

jray@ci.jersey-village.tx.us

Mayors Newsletter December 2017

Christmas Blessing and Continued Calling

Hello Neighbors, Residents and Friends

I want to wish all of our neighbors and residents a very Merry Christmas. The Ray Family children aged two, five and eight are in full Santa mode and it makes for a rambunctious yet joyful month at the Jersey Village executive mansion. I have to admit I am Christmas guy. I enjoy the holiday spirit and all the carols, presents, decorating and food that comes with it. I am also a student of our nation's government and its traditions, including holiday traditions. One American tradition is the holiday Christmas message by the President of the United States.

President John F. Kennedy Christmas message 1962: "It is the day when we remind ourselves that man can and must live in peace with his neighbors and that it is the peacemakers who are truly blessed. In this year of 1962 we greet each other at Christmas with some special sense of the blessings of peace. This has been a year of peril when the peace has been sorely threatened. But it has been a year when peril was faced and when reason ruled. As a result, we may talk, at this Christmas, just a little bit more confidently of peace on earth, good will to men. As a result, the hopes of the American people are perhaps a little higher. We have much yet to do. We still need to ask that God bless everyone."

President Ronald Reagan Christmas Message 1981 "On Christmas, we celebrate the birth of Christ with prayer, feasting, and great merriment. But, most of all, we experience it in our hearts. For, more than just a day, Christmas is a state of mind. It is found throughout the year whenever faith overcomes doubt, hope conquers despair, and love triumphs over hate. It is present when men of any creed bring love and understanding to the hearts of their fellow man. The feeling is seen in the wondrous faces of children and in the hopeful eyes of the aged. It overflows the hearts of cheerful givers and the souls."

Presidents Kennedy and Reagan routinely expressed vision, confidence, and optimism in their speeches to the Country. Both presidents often acknowledged the tasks ahead and the need for a unified nation to meet those challenges. I gravitate towards those sentiments when I reflect on the important works we are doing in Jersey Village. As I reflect during this Christmas season I am thankful for the numerous blessings we received this past year. We held strong during a devastating flood that thankfully minimally impacted our community. Our first responders once again provided a safe community for our families this year. We have been blessed with strong resources, a committed City staff and an engaged citizenry.

We must also acknowledge the continued tasks ahead. We must maintain a unified commitment to bettering our Community. That involves a steadfast focus on flood mitigation and public safety. We need to continue pursuing economic investment in Jersey Village and improving City facilities and amenities. We need to stay focused on maintaining and improving the quality of life facets of the City. I look forward to sharing our progress on these ambitious endeavors throughout 2018.

Until then, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Justin Ray
Mayor, Jersey Village, Texas