

# Dear Padre,

## Why is a US secular holiday like Thanksgiving on the Church’s liturgical calendar?

Since November 1969, the Proper Calendar offers a Thanksgiving Day Mass for US dioceses. While it also includes Independence Day, no suggestion is made for other civic holidays (Memorial Day, Labor Day, etc.). Instead, the *Roman Missal* provides “Masses and Prayers for Various Needs and Occasions” that are suited to these observances (*Ordo* #5, *GIRM* 368–378).

In the United States, November is associated with giving thanks to God. In 1623—three years after the Pilgrims sailed to this land on the *Mayflower*—a severe drought threatened their crops. Consequently, a day of prayer was observed, an abundant rain saved the harvest, and a Day of Thanksgiving was established. In 1863, President Lincoln issued a proclamation for “Thanksgiving and Praise to Our Beneficent Father” on the last Thursday of November (later moved to the fourth Thursday).

However, thanking God isn’t just a one-day event; it’s meant to be a perennial practice. Recall the lesson of the ten lepers healed by Jesus, only one of whom returned to thank him. (See Luke 17:11–19.) People who don’t take their blessings for granted return thanks to God in prayer. Therefore, offer brief prayers of gratitude to God throughout the day, every day, for such gifts as your health and faith, the freedoms allowed in this country, “thy daily bread,” and the Eucharist—a word that means “thanksgiving.”

“Become what you pray”—a grateful disciple of our Lord! ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
November 24	November 25	November 26	November 27	November 28	November 29	November 30
St. Andrew Dũng-Lạc, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs	Weekday	Weekday	Thanksgiving Day (US)	Weekday	Weekday	First Sunday of Advent
Dn 1:1–6, 8–20	Dn 2:31–45	Dn 5:1–6, 13–14, 16–17, 23–28	Sir 50:22–24	Dn 7:2–14	Dn 7:15–27	Is 2:1–5
Lk 21:1–4	Lk 21:5–11	Lk 21:12–19	1 Cor 1:3–9	Lk 21:29–33	Lk 21:34–36	Rom 13:11–14
			Lk 17:11–19			Mt 24:37–44



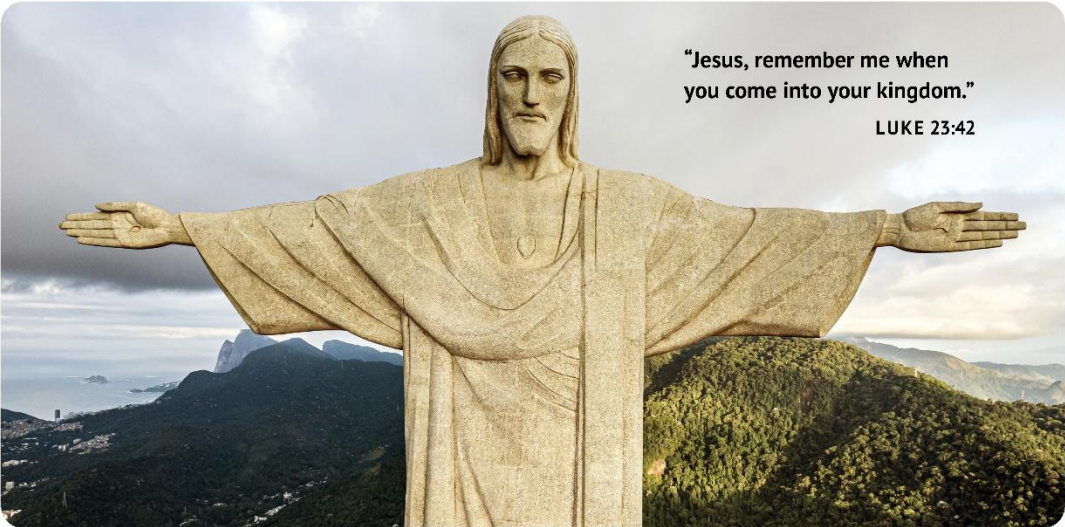
### A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

**Listen to [Christ’s] offer of love and become his one family: in the One Christ, we are one. This is the path to follow together, among ourselves but also with our sister Christian churches, with those who follow other religious paths, with those who are searching for God, with all women and men of good will, in order to build a new world where peace reigns!**

HOMILY, MAY 18, 2025

# Our Parish COMMUNITY

November 23, 2025  
*Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (C)*  
2 Samuel 5:1–3 / Colossians 1:12–20 / Luke 23:35–43



## The Hero King

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**S**ome think of a myth as something once presumed to be true but discovered to be false. For example, we say it’s a myth that Christopher Columbus discovered America. There is, however, another quite different meaning to “myth,” as in a story that helps us understand life and how to negotiate it. Such myths are often centered around heroes who overcome great odds for the sake of the greater good. *Star Wars* and Luke Skywalker is one such myth. *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy and Frodo Baggins is another. These are myths capturing the need for courage and commitment to the good at the hero’s own expense. We often find ourselves wishing we could be like these heroes.

The biblical story of the Hebrew people can be thought of as such a myth, culminating in the story of Jesus. It differs from those other myths in that this story is not fiction. It is a saga that helps us understand and negotiate life as we live it. It culminates with the sacrificial death of the one we call King of the Universe. This King is a servant-king, one who gives his life for us so that we might live. Despite being urged by religious leaders and soldiers and the thief on the cross to save himself, he resists. Saving himself is not what he is about. Jesus is the King whose true myth we tell whenever we come together. ●

**Editor’s note:** This is Fr. Joseph Juknialis’ final reflection for *Our Parish Community* bulletins. The new liturgical cycle begins next Sunday, November 30, 2025, and we will welcome three new reflection authors: Miguel Dulick, Ann M. Garrido, and Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR, the president and publisher of Liguori Publications. We thank Fr. Joe for his three years of insightful reflections and wish him well.

### Reflect

**What does servant-leadership mean to me in my job, my community, my home?**



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April Stephens, Alicia Brown  
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Gatlin, Tom Flynn  
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**Altar Servers:** Caleb Knox, Zach Knox

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Bill Wehmeyer 425-941-9171

**WELCOME! NO MATTER WHAT YOUR PRESENT OR PAST STATUS IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH, NO MATTER YOUR PERSONAL HISTORY, AGE, RACE OR BACKGROUND, YOU ARE INVITED, WELCOMED, ACCEPTED, AND LOVED AT ST. GENEVIEVE CATHOLIC PARISH.**

**RECONCILIATION: (Confession)** available, following Mass, on  
Sunday and Wednesday – please contact Fr. Pedro, before mass, to confirm  
availability. Also by appointment.  
**BAPTISM:** Please contact the Deacon or Pastor, at least one month prior to  
desired date.  
**SACRAMENT of MARRIAGE:** Please contact the Deacon or Pastor  
at least six months prior to desired date.

*Please remember St. Genevieve Parish in your Will*  
**THANK YOU for your donations!**

**Weekly Budget: \$1,255.00**  
**11/09/25: \$1,214.00**  
**11/16/25: \$683.25**  
**Building Fund Donations: \$0.00**

**\*\*\*\*\* UPCOMING EVENTS \*\*\*\*\***

Wed, Nov 26, *Thanksgiving Vigil Mass*, 5:00 PM (No morning mass)  
Mon, Dec 8, *Feast of the Immaculate Conception*, Mass at 11:00 AM  
Thurs, Dec 18, *Advent Reconciliation Service*, 5:00 PM  
Wed, Dec 24, *Christmas Eve Vigil Mass*, 4:00 PM  
Thurs, Dec 25, *Christmas Day Mass*, 11:00 AM  
Wed, Dec 31, *No Mass*  
Thurs, Jan 1, *Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God*, 11:00 AM



**BUILDING COMMITTEE**

People with ideas about the new parish hall, especially those with building  
skills, are welcome to Contact the Building Committee.

**PARENTS:** Please do not allow your children to play on/around the new block  
retaining wall. Thank you!



**The Cove is, again, in need of toilet paper. Donations can  
be left in the basket at the side door.**

**MANGER MALL** is coming soon. Drop off your unwrapped gifts at the  
church from **Oct 30 – Nov 30** or at the Cove until **Dec 4. THANK YOU!**

**Mass Schedule:**

**Sunday, Nov 23 @ 11:00 am Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus  
Christ, King of the Universe Rosary @ 10:20 am**

**Wednesday, Nov 26 @ 5:00 pm Thanksgiving Vigil  
Rosary 4:20 pm**

**Sunday, Nov 30 @ 11:00 am, First Sunday of Advent  
Rosary @ 10:20 am**



**Liturgy of the Word**

**2 Samuel 5:1–3** The shepherd David is anointed king.  
**Psalms 122** “Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.”  
**Colossians 1:12–20** God has made us worthy to share the lot of the saints in light.  
**Luke 23:35–43** “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”

**Our first reading today takes us back to** when the elders of the twelve tribes of Israel anointed  
David king. In the second reading we hear an early church prayer, extolling Jesus in words like  
the ones we recite today in the creed. The Gospel offers two very different ways in which the  
men condemned with Jesus viewed the inscription on his cross. In harmony with the good thief,  
may we sing out in today’s responsorial psalm, “Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.”  
**Question of the Week:** As Christ is king of both this world and the next, how do I allow him to  
rule my life right now? What can I do to model the self-sacrificing love he proved on the cross?



Jesus Christ King of the Universe Monument - Poland



Christ  
and the  
Good  
Thief



Christ  
Crucified



**ANNOUNCEMENTS**



**The 2025 Bishop's Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA) is now!** Please prayerfully consider how you  
can support the work of the Diocese. Donation envelopes are at church entrances and in the pews.

**\*\*\* 2025 ACA Goal: \$17,773 \*\*\***

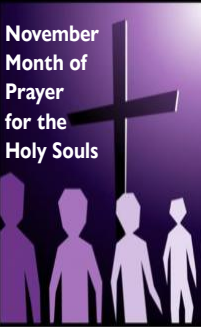
**Parish Progress Report – Week Eight | 11-16-2025**

**Total Pledged: \$21,494.06 % to Goal: 120.94%**

**MANGER MALL REMINDER:** Complete the Registration form, return it **BEFORE Wed, Nov 26.**  
Be prepared to pay \$1.00 per item for each registered child, with an allowance of \$2.00 total per child.  
**\*\*\* Registration forms are available at The Cove, on Thursdays, from 1 to 4pm.**



**CAFFEINE & CALORIES:** The weekly social hour continues, after Mass.



**Please Remember in  
Your Prayers**

**Don Haley**  
**Haley Family**  
**Joseph Carbajal**  
**Mark Crum**  
**Wannita Knox**  
**Roland Cruz**  
**Duncan Bronson**  
**Brooke Stendera**  
**Lupe Garcia**  
**Bill Wilburn**  
**Sheila Kerr**  
**Jonathan Kessler**  
**Fr. Sean Thomson**  
**Thomson Family**  
**Evangeline Grace Knox**  
**Melissa Larson**  
**Howard Burcham**  
**Terry & Barb Anderson**  
**Bernice Morgan**



**Repose of the  
Soul of**

**Fr. Paul Fitterer, SJ**