

Pastor's Column

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In the Season of Thanksgiving—A Lifetime of Gratitude

In this month of November, in a special way, due to the national holiday of Thanksgiving, we turn our thoughts to thankfulness and gratitude. Hopefully, gratitude is not a seasonal “thing”, but a way of life for us.



Our lives as Catholics are based on the Eucharist. We are a Eucharistic people. The word Eucharist means “thanksgiving.” We begin and end each day with a prayer of gratitude for all that God has given and continues to give, if we are only aware!

As we make our way to Thanksgiving Day, may it be a time that propels us to be a thankful people not only in season, but also all year long.

What prayer will you pray as family and friends gather together around the Thanksgiving Dinner Table? I encourage you to make sure that a prayer is said before the meal is served!

In the event that you are looking for a special prayer to be prayed, I share with you the “The Canticle of the Creatures” by St. Francis of Assisi:

Most High, all powerful, good God, all praise is yours, all glory, all honor, and all blessing.

To you, alone, Most High, do they belong.

No mortal lips are worthy to pronounce your name.

All praise be yours, my God, through all you have made, and first my lord Brother Sun, who brings the day; and through whom you give us light.

How beautiful is he, how radiant in all his splendor; of you, Most High, he bears the likeness.

All praise be yours, my God, through Sister Moon and the stars; in the heavens you have made them, bright, precious, and fair.

All praise be yours, my God, through Brothers wind and air, and fair and stormy, all the weather's moods, by which you cherish all that you have made.

All praise be yours, my God, through Sister Water, so useful, humble, precious and pure.

All praise be yours, my God, through Brother Fire, through whom you brighten up the night.

How beautiful is he, how cheerful!

Full of power and strength.

All praise be yours, my God, through our Sister Mother Earth, who sustains us and governs us, and produces various fruits with colored flowers and herbs.

All praise be yours, my God, through those who grant pardon for love of you; through those who endure sickness and trial.

Happy are those who endure in peace, by You, Most High, they will be crowned.

All praise be yours, my God, through Sister Death, from whose embrace no mortal can escape.

Woe to those who die in their sins!

Happy those she finds doing your will!

The second death can do them no harm.

Praise and bless my God, and give God thanks And serve God with great humility.

As you plan your calendars for Thanksgiving Day, remember that we have Mass on Thanksgiving Day, November 28, at 9:00am.

Fr. Mike